Faculty Meeting Minutes  
November 14, 2014

I. Call to Order: Mark Sargent called the meeting to order at 3:33.

II. Devotional: Heather Keaney gave a devotional based on reflections from *Playing God* by Andy Crouch. We are created in the image of God and should not deny the creative power that God has given us. Rather, we should find ways to use our power creatively. Sabbath is about trusting not resting.

III. President's Report:
   1. Jane Wilson gave a staff presentation on Gratitude. There is a desire that more faculty connect their work to the staff.
   2. President’s Council has reformatted its meeting to take a more thematic approach.
   3. We are making headway on getting approval on the living-learning center. We have $12 mil to go.
   4. Fletcher Jones gave a $750k grant to remodel Bio/Chem building. Only 4 of 15 applications were funded and only one (Westmont’s) was fully funded.
   5. The Martins have given another $1mil to the Martin Center.
   6. Part of the NAICU met last week. They are working hard to set aside a proposed federal college ranking system based primarily on starting salary after graduation.

IV. New Faculty Introduction: Megan Sterling from Art Department introduced herself to the Westmont faculty.
   1. Megan was born in Germany and traveled a lot with father.
   2. She participated in track/cross country and is an avid hiker.
   3. In her art she portrays the tension between control/comfort and our need to trust in God (something beyond ourselves).

V. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of October 17, 2014 were approved by consent.

VI. Senate Report: Mark Sargent reported on the recent work of the Academic Senate.
   1. The Senate has produced a definition of a credit hour that can be found [here](#).
   2. The Senate is developing better protocols:
      a. A proposal form that outlines the track of the approval process and required documentation.
      b. Off-Campus Programs review -- both pilot and ongoing programs.
   3. The Senate is developing a Syllabus Guideline and Template which will distinguish between required components, best practices, and aspirations vs. outcomes.
   4. In addition, the Senate reviewed
      a. Requests for replacement positions and approved adjustments to several majors.
      b. Data on GPAs – Westmont average GPAs fall near the middle of those from surveyed institutions.
      c. Data on Mayterm. What are students taking over summer and transferring to Westmont?
      d. Academic/Co-Curricular Partnership.
e. Assessment related to Information Literacy, Critical Thinking, and Abstract Reasoning

5. WCSA is taking a more active role on the Senate. Issues brought to the Senate by WCSA include a consideration of PE credit and weighted GPA.

VII. **Budget and Salary Committee Motion**: The motion to reduce the number of faculty members on the Budget and Salary Committee from six to five as approved without dissent.

VIII. **Student Care Presentations**: Stu Cleek

1. The Student Care Team (Cleek, Cooper, Noble, Hernandez, Balram, O’Hara, Hardley) meets weekly to discuss student care needs with the goal of providing better continuity of care and threat assessment.
2. A link to the Care Team is on the Student Life web page.
3. Any questions about accommodations based on disability should be directed to Sheri Noble.
4. Questions:
   a. Are counseling services impacted so that a referred student cannot see a councilor? *Yes, right now there is a heavy load. Students are limited to 8 sessions per semester to accommodate more students. A care report can expedite access for a student.*
   b. Do we know how many times Westmont students are victims or perpetrators of assault? *Stu can provide numbers. Best recollection is that over the past five years, 1-3 sexual assaults and a handful of harassment incidents have been reported. Campus Security and Student Life seem to have different numbers.*
   c. When do advisors or faculty get drawn in to the Student Care process? *Generally, this happens rather early on. The Student Care Team will try to assess whether a problem is in a single class or whether the issue more general.*

IX. **Adjournment**: The meeting was adjourned at 5:02.