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Minutes

Faculty Senate

3-10-2020

March 10, 2020

Faculty Senate

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Minutes from the Faculty Senate meeting held on 3/10/2020 Room 4440, Booth Library

the minutes summarize the proceeding, and do not constitute a verbatim transcript

I. Call to Order

- Chair of Faculty Senate, C.C. Wharram, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm
- Senators in attendance: Wharram, Barnard, Holly, Hugo, Stowell, Brantley, Gosse, White, Eckert, K. Shaw, VanGunten, Scher
- Guests: JJ Bullock, DEN; B. Gillespie, Civic Engagement and Volunteerism

II. Approval of Minutes.

- Wharram: thanks to Brantley for taking the minutes at our last meeting
 - Motion (Stowell/Barnard), unanimously approved. Holly and Hugo abstain

III. Committee Reports

- Executive
 - Wharram: meeting on 3/2: we discussed coronavirus, recalling students from Italy. Administration taking this seriously. We also need to be aware of “contagion of fear.”
 - Stowell: president still considering waiving rec center fee for faculty
 - Holly: white supremacy fliers came up
 - Wharram: president met with students; they are concerned about their safety
 - Wharram: attended CUPB meeting: EIU asked for 6.6% increase in appropriations, 5% likely. First in many years that we won’t see a decrease in tuition revenue (because student #s increasing).
 - Holly: VPSA search concluded phone interviews, preparing to invite candidates to campus
- Elections & Nominations
 - Stowell: please vote by Friday. We will distribute results after Spring Break
- Student Senate
 - No report (Khamisani not feeling well)
- Student and Staff Relations
 - Brantley: nothing to report. Next meeting on 3/11
- Awards Committee
 - N. Hugo: nothing to report now, but soon
- Faculty Forum
 - White: textbook forum last week went well
- Budget Transparency
 - Barnard: we are responding to faculty inquiry regarding trends in tuition revenue, especially from online classes and dual-credit. Will gather data soon
- Ad-Hoc diversity equity inclusion committee
 - Brantley: we met last week. Good turn-out, representation from students, staff, faculty
 - Wharram: impression from students: resolution good, but action needed too. Maybe a listening tour? Barnard discussed trauma/mental health services for students.
 - Wharram: teach-in idea also discussed
 - Wharram: and just received word of rally tomorrow, 4pm, library quad
 - Wharram: motion to approve use of faculty list-serve to promote rally?
 - Motion (K. Shaw/Eckert), unanimously approved

IV. Business

- Provost's Report
 - No report (Gatrell on leave)
- Textbook Rental Committee & Task Force Update
 - Stowell: any questions?
 - Gosse: important for nursing students to keep books until through board exams (longer than typical rental period)
 - Stowell: agree. Possible with digital. Perhaps inquire if textbook rental can extend loan period
- Mental Health events
 - Wharram: president's lecture on April 2nd. Should we have forum too?
 - Holly: let's not risk splitting interest with two events
- Other Business?
 - White: Coronavirus? Administration's response (at executive meeting)? Universities are closing
 - Holly: the meeting was 3/2, a long time ago in evolution of Coronavirus
 - Gillespie (guest): there are discussions in Student Affairs about what events to cancel.
 - Scher: no cases downstate so far. Lots of fear.
 - K. Shaw: attended lecture on campus. Mean age of infected is 59 yrs. Lots of panic/fear
 - Wharram: lots of misinformation out there
 - Stowell: (I'm) concerned about ability of faculty to go on-line
 - Senate: (consensus) yes, (followed by more discussion about coronavirus and universities closing)

V. Adjournment

- Motion (Barnard/Eckert) to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Adjourned at 3:05 PM.
 - Holly: see everyone in August (laughter)

Submitted by Senate faculty recorder, D. Holly