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Minutes

Faculty Senate

1-24-2023

January 24, 2023

Faculty Senate

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Recommended Citation

Faculty Senate, "January 24, 2023" (2023). *Minutes*. 1171.
https://thekeep.eiu.edu/facsen_mins/1171

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Agenda

Faculty Senate 2022-2023

January 24, 2023

Members Present: Teshome Abebe, Todd Bruns, Amy Davis, Matt Inverso, Stephen Kozlowski, Nichole Mulvey, Andy Parrish, Md Farhadur Reza, Grant Sterling, Jeff Stowell, Anne Thibault Geen, Larry White

Guests: Provost Jay Gatrell, Josh Grube, Ryan Gibson

- I. Approval of Minutes from November 29
 - a. Motion Senator Sterling motion, second Senator Inverso; passed unanimously
- II. Senate Reports
 - a. Executive (Bruns/Stowell/Mulvey)
 - i. Senator Stowell met with President Glassman due to Senators Bruns and Mulvey attending the Presidential Search Interview Faculty Session.
 - ii. Dr. Glassman as for suggestions for the Presidential lecture series and topic discussion. Faculty Senate (FS) suggested providing recommendation related to faculty burnout.
 - iii. President Glassman also requested an opportunity to come to a FS meeting prior to the end of the semester.
 - iv. The Senior Diversity Officer search committee will be meeting soon with candidates.
 - v. The search for general counsel for EIU is closes next week. FS noted thanks to current general counsel Laura McLaughlin and appreciation for her service. FS wishes her the best in her future plans.
 - vi. IBHE has recommended a general 7.5% increase in higher education funding. At the same time, President Glassman is on a committee that is making recommendations on equity academic funding related to those who are Pell eligible (and we are falling in the middle in the state of Illinois). Both funding models would put us around the same amount.
 - vii. IBHE is also recommending that GEER funding (a federal initiative) continue through state funds and continue to support student success.
 - viii. EIU has received state appropriations for mental health in the sum of \$135,000 (which is about 1/3 what was asked for). What this will be used for is TBD since this may be only a 1-year funding initiative.
 - ix. The Illinois Governor's budget approval is expected to be provided February 15th so we hope to know soon about how this impacts EIU.
 - b. EIU Think Tank (Bruns)
 - i. Tentative meeting is set for February 3rd. The committee is currently doing a group reading related to faculty burnout and the future of higher education. They are discussing implications for the future of EIU.
 - c. Shared Governance Chairs (Bruns)

- i. No report, as they have not met this semester.
- d. Elections & Nominations (Stowell)
 - i. Motion Stowell, second Scher to approve nominated individuals to fill the two vacancies on Booth Collaborative Advisory Committee for Spring 2023.
 - 1. Nominations included:
 - a. Grant Lakeland – CLAS
 - b. Trevor Burrows – At large
 - ii. Spring elections are underway. First call is open and interested individuals are required to submit by February 1. Reminders will be sent.
- e. Student & Staff Relations (Neal/Davis)
 - i. Senator Bruns shared a report from Student President Lucy Ade regarding concerns that students were abruptly required to pay for printing this spring. Student Senate will likely be putting together a proposal to allow each student to print a certain amount for free before being charged.
 - ii. A main focus of Staff Senate discussion has been in regard to the tunnels on campus and need for repair as a primary expense and concern.
- f. Faculty Forum (Sterling)
 - i. No report. Group will convene virtually and are discussing academic integrity and/or general education.
- g. Awards (Scher)
 - i. Distinguished Faculty Award timeline is approaching, and Senator Scher will be reaching out to get the committee assembled and review applications around February 15th.
- h. Ad-hoc Academic Honesty and Student Standards (Thibault-Geen)
 - i. Senator Thibault-Geen met in December with Brittany Floyd, Interim Associate Dean of Students. Ms. Floyd discussed limitations of her office and how she would appreciate faculty educating students on academic integrity. She reported that from her office's perspective, there is a broader issue of use of any kind of the plagiarized resource. Her office also does not have investigative resources, which may be required with current resources students have access to (e.g., ChatGPT).
 - ii. The committee discussed possibilities of how to deal with these services that does not violate academic freedom of students. They will be updating student standards code.
 - iii. Senator Abebe started a discussion regarding code of conduct as related to when students leave or drop the class. It was suggested that FS invite Brittany Floyd or a representative from her office to discuss their role and the faculty's role in student conduct concerns, with a focus on educating both faculty and students.
 - iv. ChatGPT (Scher/Reza)
 - 1. A number of topics and concerns were discussed regarding ChatGPT and presumably other kinds of programs that will

continue to become available to students and their impact on higher education in general.

2. Ryan Gibson, who was present for the discussion, noted that D2L has recently enabled the ability to detect ChatGPT in its system with TurnItIn. Ryan will work to get this information out to faculty.
3. It was noted that it is nearly impossible to stay ahead of ChatGPT and universities may need to consider how to address this as a long-term solution to education.
4. We need a multi-faceted approach that includes education of students, flexible teaching and assessment, and academic integrity.

III. Provost's Report

- a. Provost Gatreel has been working with the VP for Student Affairs office on IGP 157.1 to expand to include all working environments (classroom, library, online, etc.).
- b. Strategic planning continues with 4 main areas of focus. The committee is continuing to refine the approximately 40 initiatives with town halls planned near the end of February/first of March in final draft forms.
- c. Enrollment fall to spring retention rate is consistent, with approximately 760 international students. More specific information will be shared soon.
- d. General education assessment is underway and committees are being formed. One area to be specifically addressed is related to how the catalog is laid out and ease of access for students.
- e. B.S.A.A. was passed at CAA and colleges can now start to consider programs to bring forward.
 - i. Senator Bruns asked for clarification regarding general education requirements in this newly approved program type. For example, there is no requirement for World Languages in this new pathway. Provost Gatreel noted that many current programs do not require foreign language. It is also anticipated that the students who seek this degree are on a different career path than those who would more traditionally take the full liberal arts requirements. This program is also consistent with other degree completion programs and what other institutions are doing.
- f. The Library Dean search is underway and will continue through February.

IV. Signing Ceremony – Amendment to Distinguished Faculty Award

- a. A picture was taken of the faculty senate commemorating the passing of the amendment to fund the Distinguished Faculty Award starting in the 2022-2023 year.

V. Guest Speaker: **Information Technology Director Ryan Gibson**

- a. Ryan gave updates of what was done last year by IT.
 - i. During summer and fall, 28 classrooms were updated with full technology changes and those are on an 8-year revision schedule.
 - ii. Multi-factor analysis for all students was implemented and this has greatly enhanced our security posture as an institution.

- iii. All video/camera systems were updated around campus.
 - iv. IT worked with the school of technology to secure grant funding and implement an academic service cluster for disciplines that require increased technological computing power. This has allowed students to complete the program successfully.
 - v. IT used to have 2 student workers and now has 13 student workers (not taking away from full-time employees) and these students now better reflect the diversity of the students the office serves and allows for increased efficiency for their office.
 - vi. Teams voice is being tested as an alternative to phones. That is what every school in higher ed in Illinois is doing. Right now, it is in testing and uses Consolidated. This will be done on a case-by-case basis as this transition occurs in the future.
 - vii. It is currently working on removing local administrators from servers. This is required to increase security at all higher education institutions.
 - viii. There will be an annual required phishing training for all EIU employees that is quick and efficient. This is required to meet malware standards.
 - ix. Senator Stowell asked about funding for faculty replacement computers. Ryan stated that this lies within the departments and how they use their own budgets. Senator White asked an additional question about where IT is in the replacement process for the initial large purchase of new computers for faculty. Ryan stated they are working as quickly as they can through the list by age of computer and are making progress.
- VI. Due to time constraints, Senator Sterling made a motion to table the remaining discussion ad agenda items until next meeting, second Senator Mulvey.
- VII. Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.