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Minutes

Faculty Senate

11-29-2022

November 29, 2022

Faculty Senate

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Agenda & Minutes

Faculty Senate 2022-2023

November 29, 2022

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

Guests: Ellen Corrigan, Stacey Knight-Davis, Provost Jay Gatrell, VPBA Matt Bierman

- I. Approval of Minutes from November 15
 - a. Motion made by Senator Abebe, Second by Senator Inverso, to approve minutes from last meeting. Motion passed unanimously.
- II. Senate Reports
 - a. Executive (Bruns/Stowell/Mulvey)
 - i. The executive committee met with Provost Gatrell on Monday, 11/28/2022. President Glassman was unable to attend.
 1. Provost Gatrell has submitted proposals for B.A. for Applied Arts and Sciences and proposals for EIU foundations changes to CAA.
 2. Candidate interviews for Assistant VP for Academic Affairs are this week (Wednesday and Friday) and faculty are encouraged to attend. The Dean of Booth Library search just closed, and the committee is meeting this week to discuss candidates.
 3. Presidential Search Committee continues to meet and initial interviews will take place in December.
 4. For many years, the HLC has recommended EIU put in place a process for reviewing its mission. This semester, CUPB (as a diverse representative body) will be meeting to change its bylaws to include a 2- or 3-year repeated EIU mission review as part of their ongoing duties.
 5. Additional discussions regarding Textbook Rental Services and fee structures to support online access to textbooks occurred. Provost Gatrell suggested improving familiarity with Open Access resources as an upcoming priority.
 6. Commencement speakers for the December graduation were obtained through Alumni Relations. There will be changes to spring commencement; specifically, the graduate school will have its own ceremony so hooding of master's degree candidates can occur in a timely manner. More information will be shared soon.
 - ii. EIU Think Tank (Bruns)
 1. The committee will be meeting this Friday, December 2nd to develop future plans and meeting schedules. A couple of books were shared as resources that may be used to drive planning.

- iii. Shared Governance Chairs (Bruns)
 - 1. No report
 - b. Elections & Nominations (Stowell)
 - i. There is 1 COE opening for CAA for Spring 2023 and we have at least one person interested in filling that spot.
 - c. Student & Staff Relations (Neal/Davis)
 - i. Student Senator Kowalewski was unable to attend, and Senator Bruns gave a brief report on their behalf.
 - ii. Student Senate Speaker elections are tomorrow, and the last meeting of the semester is also tomorrow.
 - iii. No report on staff relations
 - d. Faculty Forum (Sterling)
 - i. The forum on faculty burnout was well attended with 20 people online and 15 people in the room. The senate thanks the panelist and attendees for participating. A link to the recording is available on the senate website.
 - e. Awards (Scher)
 - i. No report
 - ii. Senator Bruns shared that he was contacted by Jonathan Mackenzie from Foundation to sign a memo for including the monetary awarding of the Luis Clay Mendez award. Senator Bruns noted that this will become part of EIU history and again recognized Senator Scher for his work in making this change possible.
 - f. Ad-hoc Academic Honesty and Student Standards (Thibault-Geen)
 - i. The committee's first meeting is this Friday.
- III. Provost's Report
 - a. Provost Gatrell gave a few other details related to the items covered in the executive board meeting yesterday.
 - b. The new budget has passed and EIU is planning to dedicate funds to a variety of learning hubs like the Student Success Center, the Latinx hub, and WYSE program.
- IV. Topic: Campus Climate Survey results (Stowell)
 - a. Senator Stowell briefly discussed shared results of the campus climate survey which was implemented by the Quality Initiative Committee of Senator Stowell, Angela Vietto, Sace Elder, Catherine Polydore, and Lucy Li (Grad student). A climate survey was last completed in 2013 through office of Civil Rights. The survey used this year continues to be in development given its narrowly focused content on racial and ethnic diversity issues on campus. The survey is planned to expand to other forms of diversity in the future. This survey would have been completed by Senior Diversity Officer, but since the search last year failed, the committee was asked to moved forward with the survey. Faculty and staff response was 37% and student response rate was 12.6%. The committee will not be sharing results with PC, all Senates, Council of Chairs, etc. The results are viewed as a baseline for improvement; next semester the committee plans to

continue refinement of the survey and engage focus groups. Qualitative data will be analyzed to determine what we can do better on campus. Senator Stowell noted that plans for other issues of diversity will hopefully be addressed with a new office and leadership position next year.

- V. Guest Speaker: VPBA Matthew Bierman
 - a. Initial introductions were made between senators and VPBA Bierman, who has been on campus since June. VPBA Bierman described his office as a service unit for the campus that focuses on supplying resources to meet needs. Some of the principles of the department include allowing staff and faculty to connect to student success, work with purpose, improve collaboration and communication, and engage in efficient operations (decrease cumbersome processes). VPBA Bierman noted EIU is finally reaching financial stability and now hopefully we can turn that chapter to focus on positive momentum. While there is still some uncertainty related to the enrollment cliff, we are working to be ahead of the curve. VPBA Bierman noted that some of the challenges we face are deferred maintenance backlogs and working to identify top issues, keeping up with technology (cyber security attacks daily), and efficiency of systems with fewer staff. Some of the opportunities for growth he sees include being more strategic and inclusive in budget planning as well as training and development for staff that runs these services.
 - b. VPBA Bierman then fielded questions regarding reserves, filling gaps in funding from impasse, advocacy in Springfield, etc.
- VI. On-going Discussion Items (*discussed if time permits*)
 - a. Faculty Forum – Coda (Bruns)
 - i. What Did We Learn?
 - 1. The recording of the forum will be shared via email again. Several positive comments were shared about recognizing each other's contributions and the benefits of discussing concerns. It was noted that much of burnout is related to doing extra work, that not being recognized, and there doesn't seem to be an ending to this extra work need.
 - b. Sterling Motion, Abebe Second to adjourn at 3:27 p.m.