Faculty Senate Minutes

April 1, 2013

SU 313 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

**Present:**  Amy Belcastro, Deborah Brown, Dave Carter, Kate Cleland-Sipfle, Sherry Ettlich, Doug Gentry, Fredna Grimland, Kevin Sahr, John King, Rich May, Mary Russell-Miller, Kasey Mohammad, Steve Jessup, Ellen Siem, Larry Shrewsbury, Robin Strangfeld, Jamie Vener, Jody Waters.

**Absent:** Todd Carney, Prakash Chenjeri, Gerry McCain, John Richards.

**Visitors:**  Dan DeNeui, Steven Thorpe, Raj Parikh, James Klein, Mary Cullinan, Susan Walsh, Josh Danielson, Torii Uyehara.

**Agenda**

The meeting was called to order at 4:04p.m.

**Approval of minutes from March 11:** The approval of the March 11 minutes was tabled pending distribution of the March 11 minutes.

**Announcements**

* Waters made announcement on behalf of Brett Ainsworth of the PEBB meeting tonight in SU 319 from 6:00-7:30 to discuss changes in benefits. Other opportunities for information and feedback will arise through the term if you can’t make tonight’s meeting. A webcast from Pendleton will also be held at some point.
* Chenjeri sent word that on April 11 and 12, the Philosophy program will co host the 23rd Annual Statewide Kinsman Ethics Conference. Over 200 health care workers will be on campus for the conference, and both Prakash Chenjeri and Devora Shapiro will present papers.
* The campus theme series will continue on Thursday, April 18, with “The Joy of Mathematics,” presented by Kemble Yates.

**Comments from President Cullinan**

* President Cullinan has been to Salem twice in the past two weeks. She testified twice and also met with legislators and the Governor’s staff. Legislation is being proposed for a new structure that would replace the Chancellor’s Office. This model would include an Office of Postsecondary Education that would encompass OSAC, community colleges, and the universities.
* She stressed again that discussions about governance are distracting; our primary goal is to ensure that state allocations begin returning to former levels.
* PERS remains a huge issue. Representative Buckley presented a plan, but it will meet with opposition.
* Tuition assistance for service members has been reinstated, but how much the other pieces of federal higher education funding will be affected by sequestration is still not clear.
* Marc Tramonte began today as SOU’s Executive Director of Marketing and Communications. He has worked for both Apple and Microsoft, and his expertise will be valuable to SOU.

**Discussion:**

* Grimland asked why some legislators are proposing to replace the Chancellor’s Office with an office headed by a Director. President Cullinan said she has not received a clear answer to this question.
* Vener wondered if the director and deputy directors in the proposed office would be appointed positions. Yes, President Cullinan expects that they would be gubernatorial appointments.
* Thorpe wondered if there is still talk of PSU and U of O having their own boards. Yes, that is quite likely. However, even if some universities have their own governing boards, there would still be shared services among the public universities.

**Comments from Provost Klein**

* Provost Klein attended week seven of the legislative session in Salem, where he spread the word about the many changes occurring at SOU. He was asked repeatedly about how our campus feels about issues of governance.
* Klein will meet with Department Chairs on Wednesday.
* Two reports are due to the system: 20/40/40 Report and the Diversity report. SOU currently has 18% ethnic diversity. We are in the middle for the state of Oregon, similar to OSU and U of O, but lower than Portland State.

**ASSOU Report**

Josh Danielson thanked Senate members for allowing ASSOU to present class raps to their students. The student rally will take place on Tuesday, April 25. Their goal is to take 155 students to Salem.

**Advisory Council Report**

King reported that the last AC meeting included a frank and full discussion of Prioritization now that reports are in. Now what? What do quintiles mean? What’s the process for making determinations?

**Information Items:**

**Prioritization Update: Dan DeNeui:**

* 183 reports have been submitted on the Academic side. Many hours have been spent by the members of each team. The final Academic Support deadline has been extended to May 15 since more programs have been identified, which created additional work. Support Programs will meet their May 1 deadline.
* Informational panels will be held on April 18 and 19 to give faculty an opportunity to weigh in. In the first week of June, UPB will make recommendations to President Cullinan. PP and G reports are a look back in order to move forward, so there will have to be some “translation” between what they recommend and how to move forward. Capacity Report will also be useful.
* Students are expressing concern that their program/degree/certificate will be cut. That will not happen. All prior programs will be honored.
* DeNeui has heard concerns about what could happen to a program that ends up in the fifth quintile. These programs will be considered for consolidation or reconsideration. In the long term, some may be phased out.

**Discussion:**

* King wondered if reports will simply have ranking or will they include commentary. DeNeui explained that reports will be from a “wide-angle” view and will include ranking plus observations.
* King believes that more institutional feedback must exist. DeNeui wants open forums to look at all of these areas and think creatively.
* Sahr inquired about who can view the reports when they are available. All campus can access these reports, and DeNeui will send notification out as an all-campus message when they are available.

**Prior Learning Assessment**: **Raj Parikh and Steve Thorpe:**

* Parikh and Thorpe gave a condensed version of a longer presentation previously given to the HEC and adapted by Thorpe and Parikh (see attached PowerPoint).
* Credit for Prior Learning is an international movement, not something unique to Oregon or to SOU.
* Students with credit for prior learning complete Bachelor’s degrees at a higher rate than those without.
* Much discussion ensued about the amount of workload this system would create for faculty.

**Discussion:** Gentry and Ettlich, both having experience with this process, confirmed that this process is labor intensive. Belcastro warns that not all courses are created equally.

**Discussion Items:**

There were no discussion items.

**Action Items:**

There were no action items.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.