**Faculty Senate Minutes**

**Special Session**

**February 3, 2014**

**SU 313 4:03 - 4:35 p.m.**

**Present:** Jackie Apodaca, Amy Belcastro, Deborah Brown, Todd Carney, Dave Carter, Kate Cleland-Sipfle, Carol Ferguson, John King, Byron Marlowe, Richard May, Kasey Mohammad, Pete Nordquist, Garth Pittman, Vicki Purslow, John Richards, Mary Russell-Miller, Kevin Sahr, Larry Shrewsbury, Robin Strangfeld, Jamie Vener, Elizabeth Whitman, and Erin Wilder.

**Absent:** Sherry Ettlich, Steve Jessup

**Visitors:** Lee Ayers

Started at 4:03 PM

Dave Carter handed out a document that showed the Academic Reorganization outcomes for the Divisions, along with how many senators we would have from each Division. On the backside of the document it showed what the profiles of each division could potentially be.

Carter: Based on the Academic Reorganization, how can the Faculty Senate be well balanced across the university?

Belcastro: What happens if there is a failed search? Because her Center is at that point now.

Carter said he would bring that question to Klein.

Carter: Any questions or issues about the structure?

Belcastro wanted to know how we would be looking for chairs once we are in our Centers and if there was a timeline for this.

Carter: My understanding is the material for the Division Leaders is going to be discussed at the Chairs meeting on Wednesday, and once that material gets hammered out, then they get to the Program Chairs after that. I know the initial paperwork is in place, the draft of the roles and responsibilities of these Chairs. But then at that point it’s up to the Directors for the FTE release. If there is a particular unit that has three smaller departments (now called programs), it won’t have 3 Chairs, but perhaps 2 Chairs sharing responsibility for those 3 programs.

Belcastro: That would take place this year?

Carter: It’s my understanding that this second half would be taking place this Spring term so that the regular normal plan is in place as of Fall.

Brown: As a Chair I have been told that will take place March 31st.

Richards: My understanding was that the savings were to come from the Division Directors taking somewhat fewer responsibilities than a Dean at a lower salary, and chairs becoming Coordinators taking less course release than the old Chairs. Have we seen any budget statement capturing those savings?

Purslow: So the Division Directors are going to do less work than their Dean counterparts, the Chairs are going to do less work than their current counterparts, I would like to know who is going to do the work that isn’t getting done, and who has detailed that?

Richards: Well, the duties of the New Directors were in the job description.

Purslow: Yes, but so is “5% of other duties as assigned.” I know how they work! I was in administration. I mean, 5% of those duties that are “as assigned” is 95% of your job.

Carter: Perhaps we could come up with a round of questions that we could ask directly to the Provost around academic reorganization, that hasn’t been publicized or isn’t common knowledge.

Belcastro asked about when we would get the House Proposal that we had been promised last Fall term.

It was Carter’s understanding that University Studies had met on Friday, and Curriculum Committee had met today, and I believe the proposal went forward to both committees.

Ayers, who sits on both committees, said:

University Studies received the proposal on Friday and they agree with it “in concept” so we can start the work on the 200 and 300 level courses. It hasn’t been voted on yet. Ayers understanding of it is that they knew there would be a lot of questions, concerns, and considerations. So rather than try to get it all hammered out at once, because of the “three-legged stool” (thinking about the assessment aspect, the university studies aspect, and the curriculum aspect), to put it out there and start gathering all the questions and concerns to address those, and bring it back through the loop, and then bring it to Senate. Nothing is ready to come to you yet.

Belcastro: So it’s not a proposal yet, it’s a draft of a working document.

Ayers: I think that’s an accurate way to describe it.

Purslow: Lee, could you demand a budget? Because every other program that goes forward has to have a budget. And the latest version that I saw, about a week old, still does not have a budget.

Ayers: I’ve never seen a budget for it.

Purlsow: Yeah, nobody has. That’s the big mystery, and we’ve asked for that months ago. And I just don’t know how we could approve any curriculum that is so late it’s absent a budget, without a very thorough discussion of this body.

Ayers: That’s a good point.

Purslow: It is required on the curriculum paperwork, I think it’s item “D” or “E”, and that’s where all the budgetary stuff goes.

Ayers: I can move that forward to David Oline.

Sahr made a motion to make a formal request from the senate that we need to see the actual budget for the reorganization and we need to see where the savings are. A second was made by Nordquist. It passed with all in favor, no objections and no abstentions.

King wanted an accounting for who will be doing the work that is being reduced from the workloads of the chairs and directors.

Brown said that with the movement of our OC’s to service centers, Sue told them at a Chairs meeting that the Program Chairs would take up some of those duties.

Carney was concerned about what these questions will actually accomplish and end up clouding the real issues. He doesn’t feel that asking for more information is going to accomplish anything, except give them more time to do what they have already started to do.

Ferguson felt it was important to ask for the budgetary items to document that we have done that, and then to document if we got anything back.

Pittman moved that we go into Executive Session and a second was given by at least three senators. All were in favor, no objections and no abstentions.

Ended at 4:35 PM