Faculty Senate Minutes

Meeting March 2023

Copen Hall – Faculty Lounge

8:15 AM

Members Present: Adam Compton, Roger Ward, Mitzi Miller, Lashawna Powers, Ashlee Jackson, Jessica Robinson, Tatiana Taylor

Members Absent: Alisen Anderson, Lori Hackwell

Minutes from December, January special meeting, and February reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes by Mitzi, second by Roger Ward. Motion carries. Minutes will be posted to faculty/staff page on neo.edu

Old Business:

* Stafford update
  + Board approved fee changes, will take place immediately for fall enrollment
  + Roof on Shipley for this summer for sure. Recent hail damage may allow us to complete more under the same deductible.
  + Maintenance is looking at safety mechanisms that will help to lock doors in an emergency.
  + Science has gotten a 400,000 dollar donation that will create a scholarship fund and help with costs for lab science requests.
  + Examity—faculty would like the fee of those proctors rolled into the online fee. Poll your department to see how often we are using the Examity NOW and then how much we think it would be used if it was rolled in and free to students.
  + Rededication of the baseball complex will be April 28 to put up new plaques for large donor. There will be a Peoria Tribe day will be planned as well to thank them for a donation to help with the press box.
  + Faculty overload resolution was presented and will be taken to executive council for further discussion.
* Budget Committee
* Administration Advisory Committee update
  + Payment plan information was posted and emailed to students. **Faculty should post it in Canvas and try to announce in classes how students can start with payments.**
* Administrative Withdrawal policy update—a policy is being drafted for how faculty can drop students.
* Weeklong Thanksgiving – Stafford’s response—he will take it to the executive council to discuss. Not opposed at first, but probably would not be in place for next year as the calendar is already set.
* Football interference with academics
* Faculty overload—Overload new proposal to raise pay was presented to Dr. Stafford. No news yet, but it is sent in to be looked at.
* Online students need dedicated tutors – proposal

New Business:

* Firearms on campus resolution—The new statement would keep the current language that Dr. Stafford would have the discretion to allow students or faculty to carry firearms on campus.
* Background check policy for faculty & staff—For new hires and people changing positions. Staff association wants clarification if your credit will be checked and if it will hurt their credit score. Most important for people in the business office.
  + Questions about the cost were brought up and how many of these checks we would be completely, this could get very expensive.
* 2nd week Spring classes –starting AFTER spring break will actually leave these classes with only 7 weeks.
  + Motion to recommend we adjust the 2nd 8 week schedule to include spring break as a week of work for 2nd 8 weeks. Motion by Tatiana Taylor and second by Jessica Robinson. Motion carries.
* ChatGPT – what support do faculty have from administration if a student denies using AI?—just questions to administration on how we will be supported when this becomes a problem.
* Student drop procedure
  + Motion to recommend that we create an electronic system for students to be able to drop their classes. Mitzi motions and Adam seconds. Motion carries.
  + Motion to recommend that we would like a full time athletic advisor to help enroll for athletics. Motion by Adam, second by Mitzi Miller. Motion carries.
* Enrollment waitlist –See if there is a way we can create a waitlist for classes that are already full. Can this be done automated through Banner or will Shay have to keep a running list?

Motion to adjourn by Mitzi, second by Lori Hackwell. Meeting adjourned at 9:18.