Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting
September 30th, 2014

Meeting called to order at 2:12PM by President Rosser-Mims.

Members Present: Tammy Esteves, Jonathan Taylor, Richard Voss, Trellys Riley, Jason Orrock, Ruth Elder, Margaret Gnionska, Vijaya Gompa, Zhiyong Wang, Lane Eckis, Amanda Paul, Maureen Casile, Catherine Allard, Johanna Alberich, David Carlson, Christi Magrath, Gina Mariano, Dionne Rosser-Mims, Tonya Conner, Jeffrey Ickes, Joel Campbell, Dianne Eppler, Ron Shehane,

Members Absent: John Jinright (notice), Deborah Rushing (notice),

President's report:
1. Senators are encouraged to be innovative; address bolstering enrollment, improving curriculum, "be efficient, support efficiency"
2. Travel reimbursement via direct deposit; Greg Price/Dr. Bookout = process will change in near future.
3. For information on other information tech projects, visit http://it.troy.edu/itupdate/index.html#
4. Student Appreciation Day; ad hoc committee will be looking for volunteer committee members. Please send email to Dionne if interested.
5. Dr. Ingram has completed campus visits focusing on retention. Thanks to those attending those sessions.
6. Visit faculty senate blackboard site often for updates, discussion forums, etc.
7. For future meetings, we will ask more SVCs to address senate. Next meeting will feature Walter Givane and Donna Schubert. November's meeting will feature Dr. Hal Fulmer. Dr. Glynn Cavin, associate SVC for distance learning will speak in January regarding new updates to online campus.
8. Exec Committee drafted resolution to amend senate meeting reports

Executive Committee Reports:
1. Committee on Committees: Blackboard forums to be updated.

The following report submitted by Dr. Boyte-Eckis

> Reminder:
> As a common repository for information I want to point out some keynote items under the Faculty Senate Blackboard site, which all faculty members have access to.
> 1. Under the "Contact Your Senator" link is the roster of all Faculty Senate members and your assigned committee roles. This is for your benefit as well as the entire faculty. They can easily contact you via email or post a comment in the discussion forum area.
> 2. Under the Important Links you will find a link to all standing committees at Troy University where you can keep up-to-date on the various roles and functions of each committee.
> 3. New to the Blackboard site this month is the creation of the "Groups" icon link on the left. It is a new tool link created for each of the internal Senate sub-committees (Academic Affairs, Educational Technology, Elections, and Faculty Welfare). As of now, each group is set for you to self-enroll so please make sure you visit this tool, where each sub-committee can collaborate, generate discussions, share files, etc., This is not to replace the fact that faculty are urged to contact their senators on important matters,

but should a faculty member contact you regarding a welfare issue and you are on the elections committee this is a proper place to alert the committee of someone's concern.

4.   Lastly, the Executive Committee uses the Web Ex tool often to conduct meetings. It is a wonderful tool especially when many of us are logistically challenged. It can be utilized with or without ones webcam on your computer, or you can also phone in using a specific code and be connected with the meeting. Dr. Esteves and I will be setting up a few times to invite you to attend a short training session of sorts. We will email out a set of dates and times later this week.

2. Elections - CA&S Dr. Joel Campbell elected to faculty senate. Dr. Valkyrie elected to Undergraduate Academic Council for COE, Dr. Figliano elected to University Research Council in COE, Graduate Academic Council – Dr. Dr. Bowron, and Dr. Vanderbleek were elected for COE. Dr. Christine Martin was elected to represent CHHS.
3. Academic Affairs – Proposal to use EchoSign for PDPs is under discussion.
4. Faculty Welfare – meeting yet to be scheduled. Faculty Morale Survey needs to pass IRB approval.
5. Ed. Tech- Faculty One-Stop page launched. Please visit, if you've not seen it.

The following report submitted by Dr. Esteves:

Educational Technology – Recently one of the key initiatives from last year was implemented, the Faculty One Stop (simply located at trojan.troy.edu/faculty). It has just about everything faculty are looking for, although I would like to see it connect to the instructional technology faculty development information. I had an initial phone meeting with Greg Price and we are in the process of pulling the 2014-15 committee together and scheduling an initial meeting so will have a full report by our next Faculty Senate meeting.

Global Campus – I did not get a chance to report this at the last Faculty Senate meeting because those of us who were on the phone could hear you but you could not hear us! The big news to report for Global Campus is that we have a new Vice Chancellor, Don Jeffrey; a familiar face to TROY but new to Global Campus. Other than that, the only thing to report on is the distal faculty study which will be covered later in the meeting.

Distal Faculty –

In April 2014 eTROY commissioned a report with Eduventures to study this issue. A survey was sent out to 193 institutions and 16 completed surveys (8%) were received. Of those 16, four were selected based on their responses for in-depth interviews: St. John's University, Ohio University, University of Dayton, and Fort Hays State University. The interviews were conducted to learn more about policies and procedures they have in place for dealing with "distal" faculty. (For the purpose of this study, "distal" was defined as full-time faculty who are tenured or tenure-track and teaching at a distance.)

Their key questions were:

- What policies do online institutions adhere to for supporting distal faculty
- What resources do online institutions provide for their distal faculty members

Much of their responses simply focused on the online teaching aspect, such as providing dedicated instructional support, software/hardware, and utilizing Quality Matters.

Primarily it was seen that most of the institutions only have a few faculty that are similar to how we define distal and so they tend to take it on a case by case basis.

Some things to note, however:

- 3 of the 4 required virtual office hours
- 2 provide course development stipends for developing online courses; 1 also provides a mentor to assist
- None of the 4 offer reimbursements for costs such as internet, phone, PO Box, or workspaces.
- Most of them do not offer any type of professional development opportunities for faculty at a distance.

All in all, not very helpful. It appears this will be an area where we will be making potential policies that will work best for our circumstances. More research remains to be done.

The following report submitted by Dr. Voss:

Dothan Campus

Troy University signed a reverse-transfer agreement with Wallace Community College this past week, to enable former Wallace students who have transferred to TROY to transfer credits back to Wallace to complete their associate's degrees. Wallace Community College operates mainly in Dothan, with an additional campus in Eufaula.

Sorrell College of Business:

In collaboration with the City of Dothan, Houston County, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, and CapSouth Partners, the Sorrell College of Business in Dothan spearheaded the fifth annual Economic Summit in Dothan on September 17. Following this year's theme of entrepreneurship, the summit featured a Shark Tank competition to highlight local entrepreneurs. Dr. Skip Ames, who organized the summit, selected the entrepreneurship theme to complement the Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Innovation at the Dothan Campus and to raise local awareness of the new entrepreneurship concentration in the BSBA Global Business program, which started up in Dothan this term.

SGA:

Dothan Campus SGA President Sarah Gwarek is leaving this week to accompany her husband at a new duty station, so the SGA is currently undergoing a reorganization. In other news, the SGA recently introduced a committee system, to take fuller advantage of the SGA senators, who are serving in greater numbers this year. The committees include events, public relations, finance, information technology, photography and video, and advertising.

Troy Campus – Greatest concern is financial constraints on university and travel reimbursement. Jr. Faculty are allotted only $300 for travel to conferences for paper presentations. It is expected for faculty to attend only one conference per year. Faculty Welfare committee to address this concern.

Phenix City campus report – Registrar exchanges with Troy campus.

Oct 22-24- Water Resource Conference at Phenix City campus.

Proposal for new Student Success Center @ Phenix City Campus.

Troy Campus SGA – student SGA passed resolution allowing prayer at public events.

Old Business:
    See report on Distal Faculty (above)
New Business:
Dr. John Dew's presentation on recruitment:
I.   What's going on in our region:
    a. Number of HS students graduating is flat. Only growth is in Florida.
    b. Number of students attending community colleges is down. This is important to us because a number of non-traditional students enroll in Dothan/Montgomery/Phenix City.
    c. Competition online is fierce. Before long, every school will have programs offered online to some degree.
    d. Penn State and other major universities are creating an entire university campus online.
    e. Community colleges in our state are offering classes online.
    f. Military and veteran enrollment numbers going down. This impacts us as well.
II.   New starts for Fall 2015
    a.   We will archive at end of October, so numbers are incomplete.
    b. New starts for Troy campus are slightly up. Our ability to recruit traditional students remains strong.
    c. Flow of International students is healthy.
    d. Strategic planning will begin shortly for recruiting for Fall 2015. Dr. Dew predicts record enrollment for Troy Campus next fall.
    e. New starts in Montgomery are up (both undergrad and graduate). This is good news.
    f. New starts in Dothan are steady, but graduate programs are up. Credit goes to faculty, especially in new social work master's program. If resources are available, we'd like to add this program to Montgomery/Phenix City.
    g. How can we apply what we've learned to masters' programs in business/criminal justice in Montgomery/Phenix City?
    h. We had strong academic programs in Phenix City, but due to economic conditions, demand was flat.
    i. New building on the River will be a boost to Phenix City enrollment.
III.   Global Campus:
    a. New starts will be down due to declining military students and increased competition online. No one program has been disproportionately affected; impact is spread evenly.
    b. University of Southern New Hampshire is saturating our market in online advertising.
    c. Our unique strength = various locations where we have faculty/staff on the ground than can establish a clear presence for us in the market.
    d. Who knows what the future of online learning will be?
IV.   We think we can get growth out of traditional high school and community college students transferring online. Specific action planned around specific programs is very important.
V.   For every student we retain, that's one less student we must recruit.
VI.   Latest US NEWS; our overall graduation rate is 34%. That's not a good group to be in. Everything we can do to help students stay in and maintain our quality standards is important. The personal touch is important. Student appreciation day is a welcome idea.
VII.   Interaction between faculty and prospective students is key. Faculty are appreciated!
Questions:

1. Cohort Model – SACS accreditation issues? Are we relying too much on adjunct faculty? Response: New blended curricular approach means over 50% of coursework taught by full time faculty.
2. Horizon Scholarships? -(Response by Dr. Ingram) These encourage students to take a second course towards their graduate degree by giving them a scholarship. Then give them a scholarship to reward their last semester. These 800 scholarships will be available only to non-Troy campus students. (Dr. Dew) – These changes are new and aren't expected to impact enrollment until Fall 2015.

Resolution 1-2014-2015 Campus Reports
WHEREAS the Faculty Senate seeks to adopt a reporting structure that addresses issues of interest to faculty related to both the campus where they reside and the college in which they serve,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that reporting categories at the full Senate Meetings will be expanded to include both Campus Reports and College Reports.

Resolution passed

Audio of this meeting to be made available soon.
Comment on use of WebEx for meetings superior to V-Tel.

Meeting adjourned at 3:16PM.