

## **Approved Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting**

**November 14, 2017**

Meeting called to order at 2:03 PM by President Margaret Gnoinska.

**Members Present:** Brittney Armstrong, Jennings Byrd, Dianne Eppler, Margaret Gnoinska, Bill Heisler, Kelly Johnson, John Jinright, Rob Kruckeberg, Jon Lewis, Dabney McKenzie, Charles Mitchell, Paige Paquette, John Roufagalas, Jeff Simpson, Danush Wijekularathna

**Members Absent:** Alberto Arteta, Sherrionda Crawford (notice), George Crowley (notice), Doug Davis (notice), Patrick Faircloth, Trey Fitch (notice), Gary Manfready, Gina Mariano, Carolyn Russell, Michael Slobodchikoff (notice), Joe Teng (notice)

**Others Present:** Dr. Glynn Cavin (Associate Vice Chancellor for Troy Online), Dr. Debbie Fortune (Director of Center for Excellence in eTeaching), Ms. Samantha Johnson (Marketing), Dr. Earl Ingram (Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs), Ms. Linda Jordan (Instructional Design), Dr. Curt Porter (Associate Vice Chancellor for International Programs), Ms. Donna Clark Schubert (Associate Vice Chancellor of Marketing), Mr. Josh Yohn (Marketing)

Opening Comments by Dr. Margaret Gnoinska.

- a. Dr. Gnoinska noted that there have been a lot of events on campus including International Education Week which included a panel discussion on revolution and memory in conjunction with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Russian Revolution. Other events included a talk by Holocaust survivor Riva Hirsch and study abroad workshops.

Guest Speakers Donna Clark Schubert (Associate Vice Chancellor of Marketing) and Ms. Samantha Johnson (Marketing)

- a. The marketing department is planning a complete overhaul of the Troy University Web site. There was a proposal and bid process by which VisionPoint was chosen as the outside firm to redesign the Web site. The timeline to have this project completed is by Fall 2018. All aspects of both troy.edu and trojan.troy.edu sites will be considered and they will now be consolidated into a single Web site. The Web site was noted to be too organizational driven rather than user driven. They hope to make it more user friendly which they hope will drive enrollment.

Guest Speaker Linda Jordan (Instructional Design)

- a. She noted that she is the point of contact for the CAS and has worked with Dr. Leora Waldner (Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences for Strategic Innovation) in the development the CAS Communication Hub on Canvas. If any colleges are interested in creating something similar, they should contact Dr. Deb Fortune.

## **Committee Reports**

V. Executive Committee (Dr. Gnoinska)

- a. The Executive Committee is working on processing the results of the Faculty Survey. The report will go to Dr. Ingram in early 2018.
- b. After discussions with Troy Online, it has been agreed that faculty will now have the choice of using the predesigned Canvas syllabus or uploading the syllabus as a pdf document.

VI. Committee on Committees (Dr. Paquette)

- a. The **Undergraduate Academic Council** met on November 8<sup>th</sup>. The committee discussed and approved the following changes and additions of courses and programs.
  - a. **College of Arts & Sciences** added "General Topics" courses in both philosophy and history. The college has also added a Cyber Security minor. The A&S representative provided information about cybersecurity courses and programs to the committee.
  - b. **Sorrell College of Business** discussed the addition of language to the specialized requirements for SCOB. The committee approved a new Human Resource Management minor for the business curriculum.
  - c. **College of Communication and Fine Arts** brought a new social media practicum in journalism before the committee. Representatives from the English department discussed the addition of four new courses which will be incorporated in the TESOL minor and discussed other changes to this minor.
  - d. **College of Health and Human Services** discussed updates to the Exercise Science Program. Representatives also discussed a change to the minimum GPA requirement for the Social work program from 2.25 to 2.5.
- b. Dr. Gnoinska expressed concern that most university standing committees seem to not have minutes.

VII. Elections Committee (Dr. Kruckeberg)

- a. CCFA Special Elections Update
  - a. The College of Communications and Fine Arts held its special elections. James Ortiz was elected to the Graduate Academic Committee. Jon Lewis was elected to the Faculty Senate.

VIII. Academic Affairs Committee (Dr. Heisler)

- a. Dr. Templeton has completed a test run of modifications to the Graduate Recommendation form that will permit students to waive the right to view faculty recommendations for graduate study. The test was successful, but Dr. Templeton has asked the programmer to make a change to the way the waiver option is accessed. She hopes the changes to the form will be fully operational for faculty by the end of the fall term.
- b. Dr. Heisler reported the results of a meeting held with Dr. Deb Fortune, Kim Donaldson, and Dr. Gnoinska on October 30 to discuss issues and potential changes to the syllabus in Canvas. Recommendations resulting from the meeting were

presented to the Faculty Senate. The recommendations were approved unanimously by the Faculty Senate by a voice vote. At that point, Dr. Ingram informed the Senate that they could only recommend the changes to the Academic Steering Committee for adoption.

The Faculty Senate agreed to forward the approved recommendation to Dr. Cavin for consideration by the Academic Steering Committee:

WHEREAS: Members of the Troy University Faculty Senate have expressed a number of concerns about the utility of the syllabus template contained in the Canvas LMS, the Troy University Faculty Senate, by unanimous vote, recommends the following:

1. That faculty be provided the following options for placing their syllabi in Canvas:
  - a. Using the syllabus template as currently provided in Canvas;
  - b. Deleting the syllabus template currently provided in Canvas and inserting a traditional syllabus in pdf format under the Canvas syllabus navigation tab; or
  - c. Using the syllabus template currently provided in Canvas and adding a pdf link to a traditional syllabus.
2. That faculty employing a traditional syllabus in lieu of, or in addition to, the syllabus template in Canvas ensure that all syllabus information required by the Faculty Handbook be included in the syllabus.
- c. Faculty senators were also informed that, if the recommendation is approved by the Academic Steering Committee, there would be no quality review of the traditional syllabus by Ed. Tech. Any faculty member posting a traditional syllabus in Canvas would be responsible for the accuracy of its content.

IX. Faculty Welfare Committee (Dr. Jinright)

- a. No report.

X. Educational Technology Committee (Dr. Arteta)

- a. No report.

XI. Ad Hoc Student Appreciation Day Committee (Dr. Faircloth)

- a. No report.

XII. Dothan Campus (Dr. Manfready)

- a. No report.

XIII. Global Campus. (Dr. Fitch)

- a. No report.

XIV. Montgomery Campus (Dr. Roufagalas)

- a. There will be a Blanket Drive and a Food Drive on November 16.
- b. There will also be a Toy Drive at the Rosa Parks Museum.

XV. Phenix City Campus (Dr. Crawford)

- a. United Way Kickoff- Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00pm @ River front Campus in Room 311. The kickoff will include a guest speaker, as well as multiple raffle opportunities (Turkey/Ham, dinner and a show @ Epic Restaurant, etc).
- b. Adopt a Family for the holiday season. Interested? Contact Katelyn Kilpatrick @ 334-448-5137 or [kkilpatr@troy.edu](mailto:kkilpatr@troy.edu).
- c. Office of Student Services is offering a free training for faculty, administrators, staff and students: The Inclusion & Acceptance Program. Topics to be covered are racism, LGBTQIA2S, spirituality and radical inclusion. There will be limited seating, interested individuals must RSVP by November 22<sup>nd</sup> @ the following email address: [prusie@troy.edu](mailto:prusie@troy.edu).

XVI. Troy Campus (Dr. Crowley)

- a. No report.

XVII. Old Business

- a. See committee reports.

XVIII. New Business

- a. Dr. Porter (Associate Vice Chancellor for International Programs)
  - i. Noted that International Education Week has become a bigger event each year and hopes that it will become increasingly less about International Programs and more broadly integrated into the larger university.
  - ii. As part of International Education Week, there would be a soccer tournament as well as roundtable discussions on Chinese students, Russia, and Study Abroad.
  - iii. Tomorrow there will be the Taste of the World event.
  - iv. Troy is also hosting 26 Chinese scholars for 3 months.
  - v. Thursday will be the ISCO Festival.

- b. Dr. Gnoinska noted that she met with Stephanie Hooper of Troy for Troops. Ms. Hooper encourages more faculty to go through the Green Zone training. Contact her if you are interested.

Adjourned at 3:59 pm.