

Council for Academic Issues

November 30, 2016
Wales 203B
Minutes of Meeting

Attendance

Jeremiah Godfroy, Mary Donnelly, Henry Bartlett, Mary Seel, Scott Corley, Brian Loy, Mark Ryan, Holly Jones, Diane Kelly, Tairi Mead, Joe Julian (Sub for Major Barnett), Joan Lubar, Lisa Strahley, Rey Wojdat, Ken Mansfield (Sub for Timmy Bremer), Lisa Hughes, Scott Kavulich, Sue Slivan, Donna Rehak, Robert Greaves, Beth Mollen,

Guests

Dani Berchtold, Christen Baumbach

Members Absent

Destiny Louissaint, Mark Ryan, Francis Battisti

Members Excused

Denise Abrams, Dawn Kutz, Amy Brandt

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m.

II. Establishment of Quorum/Approval of Alternates

Quorum was established and alternates were approved.

III. Adoption of Agenda

Amendment—under new business we must discuss the matter of chair elect. The proposed agenda stands approved as amended.

IV. Approval of Minutes—October 26, 2016

Beth Mollen and Tairi Reed were marked absent but were excused. Change minutes to reflect diluted solution and excused absences. Minutes were approved with amendments.

V. Announcements/Correspondence/Reminders

None—other than an issue with Dr. Drumm about what was said related to budget deficit related to back pay of faculty. Mike Sullivan will come to address financial/budget issues.

VI. CAO/Chairperson Report/Updates

a) CAO: Francis Battisti/Danielle Berchtold

Michael Sullivan will attend CAI at the next meeting. He is making his rounds to discuss budget issues. Controlled Environment Agriculture program with Cornell is moving forward. Starfish regional conference coming up and many other meetings are scheduled for various committees/groups.

b) CA: Mary Donnelly

SA is currently in the middle of elections. They are reviewing the plan for diversity but have not passed it yet. Not enough time, not much happened. Francis spoke about reorganization of academic affairs which will probably mean belt tightening. They talked about Health for Haiti among other things. Debbie talked about experiences with Francis in Columbia and the Hunger Banquet is coming up in December. Committees related to safety and security and chemical hygiene were reconstituted.

c) FCCC: Rachael Hagerman

Haven't done anything much. The next meeting will be in January of 2017. They are working on resolution regarding childcare. They would like to see more funding for childcare.

d) SLAC: Rachael Hagerman

They did not have the last meeting because of registration. There is a meeting this week and they will have the final report for Francis. They will be looking at the 2016-17 reports that were due a few ago. A letter came from Middle States reaffirming reaccreditation. Must submit progress report next Oct. More documentation is needed related to strategy, planning, and budget processes among other important items where progress needs to be made. Middle States conference is next week. Not sure if this information will be communicated to us. Concern expressed that institutional research is not doing what they should be doing. The office is laying more on chairs and should be doing more related to work that has to be done for Middle States. The annual report is different than the five year report. There have been changes within the requirements for Middle States. What resources have been provided to do all of this work? To date, just some release time but that is all.

VII. Reports from Committees/Working Groups

a) SG Chairs

SG did not meet last week because of the snowstorm.

b) Textbook Committee

They received clarification from Dr. Battisti related to open educational resources. The textbook committee is to explore options and provide support for faculty. There were issues with out of print textbooks. It is up to the instructor to decide what to use. Best practices can be suggested, but that is all. The textbook committee has been dealing with many different issues. Each issue is unique. Follett makes decisions for the local bookstore along with the publishers. There are some things they don't control at the local store level. There is still much concern related to how the bookstore is dealing with textbook orders.

VIII. Old Business

None

IX. New Business

a) Campus Closings

A concern about last Tuesday's closing due to the snow storm. Some students didn't know what to do because the campus opened at 10:00 and some had 9:30 classes. It seems that decisions should be made that align with the start of classes. Notification was very late and some students were already on their way to campus. A suggestion was

made that possibly there shouldn't be delays in school opening; that there should simply be closings. Some would like decisions about closings made earlier. However, it is difficult to tell what snowstorms will do. There needs to be communication about what students need to do whenever the school opens late. Something like a link in the communication about the closing would be reasonable. This issue needs to move to another group such as COI.

b) Nominations for Chair Elect

Denise Abrams is expected back next semester to serve as chair for spring 2017. The chair elect spends the spring semester learning the ropes. The chair of CAI is an ex-officio member of about seven other committees. As chair you report too and serve with several other bodies. The chair elect serves with the chair for the remainder of the academic year. The chair elect will become the chair for the 2017-2018 academic year. Lisa was nominated but this is her last year so she cannot do it. Brian turned a nomination down because the compensation is not nearly enough. Maybe compensation should be revisited. Is there a motion to continue the meeting? This is something that needs to be investigation. Mary will spend the next few weeks looking into what other campuses do. Motion to adjourn by Rey and seconded by Brian.

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Next meeting on Wednesday, December 14, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

Henry Bartlett