Meeting convened at 3:38 p.m.


Guests present: Atkinson, Board, Breden, Busse, Caceres, Carrozza L, Carrozza N, Carvalho, Cintron, Cratty, Custer, Favale, Figueroa, Friedmann, Gaetieri, Garcia, Guck, House, Hultgren, Kain, Leszko, Mitchell, Murphy, Nair, Oberndorfer, O’Neill, Paolello, Peck, Puleo, Richards, Sant’Anna, Simon, Warren

I. Minutes

A. March 11, 2015 – approved with one change

II. Announcements

A. Presidential Search Update – Dr. George Kain
   a. Search is moving forward according to timeline; on-site visits at the end of April

B. Senate President’s Report
   a. Reminder that decorum should be adhered during meetings of the Senate and its committee.
   b. The first Transform Steering Committee meeting focused largely on its charge, powers, and responsibility. The TSC meets again on April 17. There is concern that the faculty/staff voices are still not being heard.
   c. The PIN report that had been assigned to the EMC has now been reassigned to the new Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Advisement and Registration.
   d. Senators are reminded that there will be two Senate meetings in May. The first will be the 2015-2016 Senate and will focus on the election of officers. The second will be the final meeting of the 2014-2015 Senate.

C. WCSU Representative to the BOR FAC – Dr. Patty O’Neill
   a. FAC voted on resolution that asked President Grey to remove all initiatives from Transform and allow for reevaluation

D. Announcement – Dr. Vijay Nair
SENATE

a. Connecticut State Conference – AAUP has recognized President Schmotter with the Walter Brady Award for the Advancement of Higher Education in Connecticut to be bestowed May 14 at the annual AAUP Spring Meeting.

E. E-Device Committee Update – Dr. Matt Dabros
   a. The committee will soon be issuing faculty and student surveys to gauge current use, perceptions, and policies.

F. Faculty Handbook Ad Hoc Committee Update – Dr. David Martin
   a. Reviewing samples from other Universities.
      i. Committee will be suggesting a change to the format of the handbook. Work will continue through the summer.
      ii. Ask your departments if they have any input for the committee. If yes, send to Dr. Martin.

III. Unfinished Business

A. Draft Values Statement – Dr. Joan Palladino
   a. SGA voted to support values statement
   b. Committee is revising statement based on feedback – vote in May

B. University Ombudsman – Revised Description – Dr. Patty O’Neill
   a. RESOLVED THAT THE UNIVERSITY SENATE ENDORSE THE REVISED DESCRIPTION OF THE OMBUDSMAN.
   b. Amendments
      i. Motion to Amend: Part A (3rd paragraph) – delete “on” and replace “in order to” with “and.” Approved (Schlicht)
      ii. Motion to Amend: Paragraph 2 – strike “or the administrative faculty”
          Failed to pass (Robertson).
    c. Motion approved as amended.

IV. New Business

A. Proposal to Change Admission Committee Requirements for MS in Nursing Program – Dr. Laurel Halloran
   a. RESOLVED THAT THE UNIVERSITY SENATE APPROVE THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE ADMISSION COMMITTEE REQUIREMENTS FOR MS IN NURSING PROGRAM. Motion to approve (Rosenthal)
      i. This represents a policy change and will be voted on in May

B. Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Advisement and Registration – Dr. Dan Barrett
   a. RESOLVED THAT THE UNIVERSITY SENATE FORM AN AD HOC COMMITTEE TO REVIEW ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT AND REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE THESE SYSTEM PROCESSES. Approved as amended (Schlicht)
SENATE

i. Senator Olownia read a prepared statement of support

ii. Amendment

1. Replace last sentence of bullet #2 with “Recommendations for improvements will be based on sound academic principles, available research and customer/student service efficiencies.” Failed to pass (Schaab)

2. Replace last sentence with “Recommendations for improvements will be based on sound academic principles, available research and faculty, staff, and student service efficiencies.” Failed to pass (Schlicht)

3. Replace last sentence with “Recommendations for improvements will be based on sound academic principles, available research and service efficiencies.” Approved (Schaab)

C. Reports

a. Promotion & Tenure – Dr. Bill Petkanas (accepted)

b. Distance Learning – Dr. Robin James (accepted)

c. Academic Leave – Mike Palica (accepted)

d. Nominations and Elections – Dr. Galina Bakhtiarova (accepted)

V. Adjournment

Adjourned at 4:35

SENATE RESOLUTIONS – April 15, 2015

RESOLUTION R-15-04-01:

RESOLVED THAT THE UNIVERSITY SENATE ENDORSE THE REVISED DESCRIPTION OF THE OMBUDSMAN.

APPROVED

RESOLUTION R-15-04-02:

RESOLVED THAT THE UNIVERSITY SENATE FORM AN AD HOC COMMITTEE TO REVIEW ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT AND REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE THESE SYSTEM PROCESSES

APPROVED