

General Faculty Meeting Draft Minutes
Approved October 22, 2014

Wednesday, September 24, 2014

4:00 pm Sininger Hall 100

1. **Meeting called to order at 4:06 with a quorum.** (30 voting, 1 non-voting)
2. **Approval of Agenda: September 24, 2014** - approved the addition of 1 item
3. **Approval of Minutes: August 27, 2014** – approved with 1 abstention
4. **Faculty Senate Chair Report**
 - a. The Faculty Forum committee is chaired by Dr. Derkas and includes, Dr. Ross, Dr. Petronis, and Dr. Lyon
 - b. The list of Senate Committees with any openings was distributed. Faculty should review and submit any corrections to Dr. Romine.
 - c. The Executive Committee is meeting with chairs of each committee to review their needs.
 - i. There was a discussion about the need for participation. This can be done via a proxy, send comments, etc. There was some discussion about changing the handbook to allow only two unexcused absences before being kicked off a committee.
 - ii. Meeting minutes should be sent to the senate secretary
 - d. Jean Hill put together some information about changes to NMHU scholarships. There is reduction in amounts, but there was no input from faculty about these changes.
5. **Old business**
 - a. Center for Teaching Excellence update
 - i. Dr. Kempner gave a presentation about the history of the CTE, and survey results which arose from concerns at the last General Faculty meeting.
 - ii. 85% agreed that the CTE should be formed, with a majority approving the proposed model. The proposal was designed to be flexible with strong faculty oversight.
 - iii. Historical information about other faculty development activities was added to the document.
 - iv. There was discussion about lack of administration support in the past, but currently Dr. Aguilar seems to be strongly in support of it.
 - v. There was no charge to committee to look into location. The survey shows that most people are neutral about location. It was generally felt that there needs to be a central location, but will also have to be dependent on what's available. The new director may have ideas on what kind of space is required.
 - vi. Proposal needs to be approved by faculty before moving ahead with location decision and hiring process.
 - a) Motion made to vote on accepting the proposal, to move ahead with hiring a director, with location to be determined at a later time. Motion passed unanimously.
 - vii. The Advisory Board will have to be formed in order to move ahead.
 - b. Changes to the Dean Section of the Faculty Handbook
 - i. Major changes were under the sections on selection process and absence of dean.

- a) The senate voted to put this out to a vote of the full faculty. There will be 30 days for faculty input, and then a vote can take place.
- ii. Discussion centered on:
 - a) Concern about searches continually failing and the interim dean staying indefinitely. An attempt to address this is under section e1.
 - b) Lack of Shared Governance is an issue.
 - i.) This will be discussed at the next Union meeting. The HLC looks closely at this issue.
 - c) There is some language change to bring it in line with what we can do, and to be in agreement with the union contract.
 - d) The President is willing to work on a selection process for the deans, but does not want to include it in the handbook. The next BOR meeting is October 10th. All faculty are encouraged to attend and voice their concerns.

6. Other

- a. Discussion regarding Vote of No Confidence of the President
 - i. Need to document issues, especially around Shared Governance
 - a) Lack of communication, lack of decision-making
 - ii. President Fries has 2 years left on his contract.
 - a) BOR members will change in the next year, but they never solicited input last time his contract was up. Senate did submit a formal objection.
 - iii. The review of administration which is sent out every spring is never shared. The evaluation needs to be revised and selected results shared with the faculty. It should be completely anonymous.
 - iv. A list of issues should be drafted in order to present at BOR meeting. Faculty Senate should sign off on it.
 - a) List of concerns to take to the BOR should be sent to Dr. Romine who will take it to the next Faculty Senate meeting.
 - b) Discussion of a SurveyMonkey survey and an emailed PDF file for people who want to turn in paper copy survey to generate a list of concerns and specific examples of lack of leadership or when faculty voices are not being heard.
 - c) Tomorrow, Dr. Romine will send out an email solicitation for concerns and examples that will be open until Wednesday and then the Executive Committee will use those results to create a SurveyMonkey survey.

7. Announcements

8. Adjournment 5:17