Faculty Senate Meeting – December 8, 2004
Humanities – 205

Present: Frank Adams, Joe Blankenau, David Bohnert, Kathy Conway, Cameron Geisert, Siobhan Kelly, Glenn Kietzmann, Jean Lutt, Jeryl Nelson, John Renzelman, Vic Reynolds, Karen Walker, Todd Young

Absent: Ron Whitt

The Faculty Senate meeting was called to order by Todd Young at 7:00 a.m. Several handouts were distributed for discussion and review. The minutes of the November 4 meeting were approved via email. (Meeting scheduled for November 19 was cancelled.)

Committee Reports

President’s Cabinet - Todd Young
- VPAA position is formally advertised. One faculty member from each School has been selected to participate in the search—Jean Blomenkamp, Jeryl Nelson, Ron Whitt, and Todd Young.
- WSC billboards hopefully will be displayed soon—watch for them!
- The WSC campus morale study has been completed

Academic Council – Jeryl Nelson –
- The draft for evaluation of online courses is in progress.
- General Education committee members presented the three models.

AQIP – Frank Adams
- The final AQIP document has been placed online.

Announcements

Todd reported from the Deans Council that there would be a reduction in the number of scheduled freshman visitations during the summer. There are plans for a kiosk to be placed in the student center for informational purposes. Also, students exploring WSC via the internet will soon be finding a more appealing, exciting web site that should reflect the interests of students today (based on a survey that ranked college websites across the nation). This will also reflect some of the items/pictures placed on the promotional billboards.

Old Business

- Online course evaluation (handout). J. Nelson pointed out the three specific sections of the form. He also indicated that the committee tried to keep it closely related to the on-campus evaluation tool. Any comments or suggestions should be forwarded to Jeryl before the end of this semester so they can proceed with the next phase.

- Faculty Handbook review. One more representative is still needed from Education and Counseling. They will be starting to work on the handbook next semester.

- Faculty Constitution/By-laws review. Todd presented a draft (handout) for all to review. Some suggestions were made but final recommendations will be made later when everyone has had time to read it thoroughly.

- Visit with Stan Carpenter. The Senators agreed to proceed with this meeting, which is anticipated to take place sometime spring semester. Issues and concerns to be discussed are still being discussed with faculty.

- Approval of 2005-2006 Calendar. The following questions/issues were discussed:
  1) Martin Luther King Day replacing the Easter Monday. A faculty survey was conducted via departments a couple years ago and determined that Easter Monday was the preferred holiday. However, it was changed to Martin Luther King Day in January anyway.
2) The scheduling of graduation on Saturday rather than on Friday. Concern for graduate students having to take a personal day of work off was expressed by several. Exams scheduled on the same day as graduation is a concern.
3) June classes ending two days after the July 4 holiday created concern for students having to come back on campus for those days.
4) Uniformity across the State College System seemed to bring up issues with other colleges—holidays, class sessions, etc.

New Business

- Teaching Excellence Award. Senators are to stop by the VPAA office to evaluate the candidates’ portfolios. The Senate’s recommendation is due Jan. 21st, 2005.
- WSC Who’s Who Proposal. The Who’s Who Committee submitted a request to establish an award for student excellence. After much discussion, the topic was tabled until the issue can be discussed with all departments.

All other agenda items were tabled due to time constraints.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 a.m.

Please submit your second semester schedules to Todd so a meeting time can be determined.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Lutt, CTIS Department