

Faculty Senate Minutes
November 17, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 4:09 p.m. All departments were in attendance except Athletics, Business Administration, and Library.

I. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the November 3, 2009 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as corrected.

II. Report of the Faculty Senate Chairperson

Faculty Senate Chair Börger-Greco reminded senators of the need for faculty to attend December commencement in regalia.

III. Report of the Student Senate President

Student Senate President Wrobel reported that senators are working to help students stay informed about budget issues. Ms. Wrobel indicated that an Active Shooter program was conducted as part of the Marauder Watch initiative.

IV. Report of the Graduate Student Association

Graduate Student Association Representative Randolph reported on a successful luncheon, allowing graduate students to provide feedback to Dean DeSantis and noted a canned food drive to support an emphasis on community service.

V. Report of the Administrative Officers

Provost

Provost Prabhu commented on Act 50, the transfer articulation being mandated by the PA state legislature. This law requires that AA and AS degrees be accepted with a minimum of 60 credits. He noted that there is no funding to aid implementation and that the planned time line is short. Dr. Prabhu indicated that there is a need for faculty to participate in related discussions with faculty from other PASSHE schools and community colleges. These program area panels will provide important direction to the PDE about how to effectively integrate this mandate on top of the previous 30-credit transfer articulation started in 2006. Dr. Prabhu noted the suggestion of articulations based on competencies rather than in a course-by-course fashion. Related discussion was held touching on the integrity of General Education, completion of bachelor's degree in a parallel field with only 60 additional credits, the need to adhere to requirements of accrediting bodies, interest in creating a system that meets student needs, and concern about a sense of uniformity among higher education institutions.

Dr. Prabhu reminded faculty that Millersville has a local agreement with APSCUF to allow continuing education courses on campus with fewer than 12 undergraduate/6 graduate students.

Associate Provost for Academic Administration

Associate Provost Burns shared that 250 faculty have successfully used the online textbook adoption process for spring classes, adopting more than 1000 textbooks for almost 800 courses. He welcomed feedback on how the process worked for faculty and students.

Assistant Vice President for Academic Services

Vice President Redmond reminded senators that registration for spring classes was nearly over and requested all faculty encourage their students to register.

VI. Reports of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees

APC

Senator Mowrey introduced a document outlining the trial use of an electronic add/drop registration system for the Winter 2010 session as approved by APC. [see Attachment #1] The goal is to better accommodate student needs related to processing refunds for dropped classes, difficulties finding faculty to sign drop/add requests in person, different terms for different classes, and issues with offices being closed over holidays. Discussion was held, noting the importance of maintaining size caps to ensure space for students in classrooms, the need for students on wait lists to be given priority based on the order they added their names, and the possibility of some sort of electronic signature or faculty approval. A concern was raised about testing procedures that become expected by students without sufficient review and approval. Faculty were encouraged to provide feedback on the process.

GCPRC

(1) NEW GRADUATE COURSE

RDED626: Literacy Leadership, 3 credits. Proposal for a course focused on the role of the reading specialist as a literacy leader.

(2) NEW GRADUATE COURSE

RDED798: Advanced Theoretical Pedagogy of Reading, 3 credits. Proposal for a course focused on advanced theoretical pedagogy of reading and the supervision of literacy instruction.

(3) CHANGE IN GRADUATE CURRICULM

ELED, Reading Specialist certificate. Proposal to include the new RDED626 course into the program to fulfill NCATE/IRA standards.

(4) CHANGE IN GRADUATE CURRICULM

ELED, Reading Supervisor certificate. Proposal to include the new RDED798 course into the program to fulfill NCATE/IRA standards.

UCPRC

Senator Smith reminded faculty of the extended period for adding a D label to current courses and encouraged participation in an upcoming social addressing teaching D courses.

VII. Reports of the Faculty Senate Special Committees

None

VIII. Proposed Courses and Programs

Second Readings

(1) CHANGE IN GRADUATE POLICY

The proposal to change the Course Repeat policy change to fit with PASSHE commonalities and also to remain consistent with the MU policy that graduate students are dismissed on earning a third C was approved without dissent.

(2) CHANGE IN GRADUATE POLICY

The proposal to modify the policy on Advisement to better refer to the variety of graduate programs on campus was approved without dissent.

(3) CHANGE IN GRADUATE POLICY

The proposal to change the Withdrawal from a Course policy to addresses the existence of out-of-term courses was approved without dissent.

IX. Faculty Emeritus

A Moine/Luek motion that Dr. Celica Milovanovic be granted the honorary title of Associate Professor of Classics Emerita was approved without dissent. [see Attachment #2]

X. Other/New Business

None

Meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Aimee L. Miller
Secretary of the Senate

Action Summary:

The minutes of the November 3, 2009 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as corrected.

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A Moine/Luek motion that Dr. Celica Milovanovic be granted the honorary title of Associate Professor of Classics Emerita was approved without dissent.

Attachment # 1

Members of the APC voted to approve and recommend the following project for trial use during the Winter 2010 Semester.

The success, etc., of this process will be assessed by the Registrar's Office for potential use during future semesters.

Pilot Project: Electronic Drop/Add for Winter Session 2010 (as submitted by the Office of the Registrar):

The Registrar's Office would like to use Banner web registration to do drop/add online as a pilot test of the process for the Winter Session 2010. Drop/add for winter courses starts on the first day a Winter class meets and ends on the work day following the first day of class.

Here is how it would work: we would leave the Banner online registration system turned on through the end of drop/add for each winter course. Students could drop/add online on their MAX accounts rather than getting faculty signatures. During the 2 days of drop/add, students could add a class if there is a seat available and if they meet the course prerequisites and any other restrictions or limitations for that course. Students could drop a course online without a signature.

What does it mean for faculty? Faculty would not need to sign drop/add cards. Faculty would have to check their winter class lists on Banner Web for faculty to monitor any changes due to the drop/add process. This might also have implications for instructors/IT needing to set up or change a student's access to Blackboard for online classes. Faculty might be concerned about a student being able to add a course on the first or second day of a class, especially if the class only meets for 1-2 weeks, because of missed class time.

Advantage: students will not be turned away if there is space in a course, so students will be able to get into classes they need and more resources will be generated for the university. It is also a convenience issue, since most of the winter session courses are online and students are not physically on campus for drop/add.

Rationale:

- Most of the Winter Session courses are on-line or blended; therefore it makes sense for students to be able to drop/add online instead of seeking faculty signatures.
- Banner online drop/add is flexible – the drop deadline can be customized for individual courses, based on the duration of the class. This is especially critical during winter, when there are many variations on delivery mode and meeting schedule.

- The new refund policy is significantly different from the old one, and it would be easier to set it up and enforce the deadlines if we use the online system for this purpose. For fall/spring the refunds are determined by week of the semester, but for summer/winter sessions courses meet on different scheduling patterns. Drop/add and refund deadlines for summer/winter are determined by the course meeting dates rather than the term start/end dates. This complicates our ability to administer the drop/add and refund periods because it would require support staff to figure out deadlines for individual courses manually, on a case by case basis.
- A few winter courses start during the holiday break, when offices are closed and unavailable to process drop/adds or refunds. If students can drop/add online, they can still make schedule changes on these courses and have their accounts adjusted appropriately.
- We plan to extend the drop/add period until midnight on the drop deadline date, so that students attending late afternoon or evening classes have time to attend class, make a decision to drop, and qualify for a refund by the deadline. Currently students come in the next work day and have to appeal to a staff member for an exception to the deadline.
- Online drop/add during Winter sessions would free up staff time in the Registrar's Office to attend to other business during a "crunch time" between fall/spring semesters.

If the Winter Session pilot is successful, we would like to use it for summer sessions 2010 for many of the same reasons. We would like to move to electronic drop/add for fall/spring terms as well, but I am aware that it would require a change in academic policy because of faculty signatures.

Attachment #2

To: MU Faculty Senate
From: Department of Foreign Languages
Date: November 4, 2009
Re: Emerita Recommendation for Dr. Celica Milovanovic

Whereas: Dr. Celica Milovanovic retired on Aug.28, 2009 after 23 years of teaching, research and service at Millersville University, and

Whereas Dr. Milovanovic single-handedly maintained the program in the classics (BA till 1997, Latin minor thereafter), teaching a wide variety of classes and offering countless individualized instruction sessions, and

Whereas Dr. Milovanovic distinguished herself as an outstanding classroom instructor, drawing large numbers of students to all her classes and in particular to the Classical Mythology course, and

Whereas Dr. Milovanovic pursued a long-term research activity in ancient literary theory and the literature of Early Christianity and published a number of articles in the leading journals in those fields, and

Whereas Dr. Milovanovic served the University in a variety of functions, as the department chair for two years, and member of university-wide committees, such as Faculty Grants, Sabbatical, Promotion and Tenure, multiple searches etc., and

Whereas Dr. Milovanovic was well liked by her students and respected by her colleagues,

Therefore, let it be resolved that Dr. Celica Milovanovic be granted the honorary title of Associate Professor of Classics Emerita.