Faculty Senate Minutes October 20, 2009

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

I. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the October 6, 2009 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as written.

II. Report of the Faculty Senate Chairperson

Faculty Senate Chair Pro Tempore Mowrey introduced a discussion on behalf of Chair Börger-Greco of the evaluation of low-enrolled programs requested by the Chancellor's Office. It was noted that deans and department chairs are working with the administration to respond. Issues commented on were the role of programs within the General Education curriculum and the division of departments like Foreign Languages into individual degree programs.

III. Report of the Student Senate President

Student Senate President Wrobel reported on election of a new vice president and numerous campus activities. Ms Wrobel expressed appreciation for faculty and staff who have led information sessions with Student Senate. She also reported on the upcoming ground breaking for SMC renovations.

IV. Report of the Graduate Student Association

Graduate Student Association Representative Randolph reported on students attending the Black Graduate Student Association conference and Graduate Studies' 50th year celebration

V. Report of the Administrative Officers

President

President McNairy reminded faculty that costs still need to be cut across the campus and system. She stressed that the current and coming climate is the most severe in a long time and requires dialogue on how to adapt to global economic impacts but protect our quality of education.

Vice President for Finance and Administration

Vice President Bruszewski announced campus information sessions about the budget situation. He also noted a website with related information and a feedback mechanism and an upcoming meeting with sister school finance vice presidents in Harrisburg. Mr. Bruszewski discussed anticipated changes to the budget for this year and coming years. It was noted that all PASSHE schools are getting some maintenance and construction funds. The issue of how the budget affects the quality of education was discussed. Also highlighted were revisions to the way monies are distributed based on Key Performance Indicators. The advisability of laws that regulate how funding is allocated to building versus expenses was questioned, but these are state laws that cannot be negotiated.

VI. Reports of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees

Bylaws

Chairs of standing committees were reminded that they should be working with someone from the Bylaws Committee on updates and reformatting of bylaws documents.

VII. Reports of the Faculty Senate Special Committees

None

VIII. Proposed Courses and Programs

(1) NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSE

MATH204: Algebraic Foundations for the Middle Level Teacher, 3 credits, G2. Proposal for a course as part of a three-course preparation for Middle Level Mathematics to help teaching candidates for Grades 4-8 satisfy PDE Chapter 49-2 requirements with a greater strength in appropriate mathematical content was approved without dissent.

(2) NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSE

MATH205: Geometry for the Middle Level Teacher, 3 credits, G2. Proposal for a course as part of a three-course preparation for Middle Level Mathematics to help teaching candidates for Grades 4-8 satisfy PDE Chapter 49-2 requirements with a greater strength in appropriate mathematical content was approved without dissent.

(3) NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSE

MATH230: Data Analysis and Probability for the Middle Level Teacher, 3 credits, G2. Proposal for a course as part of a three-course preparation for Middle Level Mathematics to help teaching candidates for Grades 4-8 satisfy PDE Chapter 49-2 requirements with a greater strength in appropriate mathematical content was approved without dissent.

IX. Rediscover Millersville

Associate Provost Burns shared information about the draft of the Middle States self-study document. Dr. Burns reminded faculty of the upcoming site visit, noted online access to review the document and provide feedback and corrections, and indicated that hard copies are available in the library for review. He noted that the emphasis of the document is on compliance with the standards but that the appendices have a lot of the supporting material collected by working groups. Dr. Burns urged faculty to attend one of the three community forums.

X. Other/New Business

None

Meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aimee L. Miller Secretary of the Senate

Action Summary:

The minutes of the October 6, 2009 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as written.

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