Faculty Senate Minutes  
Monday, September 12, 2005

In attendance: Barry Parker, Beverly Howard, Bob Namvar, Carol Minton, Betsy Morris, Gilberto Perez, Jeff Cate, Jennifer Newton, James Heyman, John McCarthy, Mary Buck, Nathan Lewis, Nathan Lewis III, Nicole MacDonald, Richard Mobley, Susan Studer, Rachel Timmons

I. Meeting was opened with prayer.

II. Senate members were introduced.

III. Faculty Senate President Richard Mobley reviewed general policies and procedures of Faculty Senate.

IV. A review was presented of the activity of the Senate during the previous year. Agenda items that are to be carried over from the 2004-2005 Faculty Senate sessions:

- Handbook updating. The Faculty Senate will continue to serve as the Handbook committee. No Sub-Committee to fulfill this task, unless a specific issue needs a focused study and recommendation to be made.
- Continue to address emergent and critical problems related to the proposals for future integration of technology with instructional needs.
- To discuss and negotiate the transitional retirement policy and benefits.
- Continue to discuss the tuition Waver Benefits and policy.
- Student evaluations form and faculty evaluation process as a whole.

V. New Items of Business based on a tentative list of proposed agenda items:

- Over-reliance of student evaluations related to both promotion/tenure issues and merit pay
- Issues related to enhanced demand for research and publication
- Issues accompanying “incredible university growth and organizational spread”
- Faculty Senate role in developing a “culture of research”
- Student grading assistants for large classes
- Preparedness for the event of a major public disaster
- Securing outside speakers
- Hosting conference for faculty development
- Training and orientation for adjunct professors
VI. Motion made, seconded, and passed unanimously to find out if there is an approved university plan in place for major public emergencies.

VII. Motion made, seconded, and passed unanimously to find out if there is an ongoing procedure for individual emergencies or behavioral incidents.

VIII. Senators were requested to contact their colleagues in their schools or departments and email Richard Mobley three items they would like on this year’s Senate Agenda- ranked first, second and third.

IX. Faculty Senate President Richard Mobley addressed his concern that the new on-line Faculty Handbook does not reflect the new approved Sabbatical Leave policy.

X. Senate Adjourned at 3:55 PM

Respectfully submitted by Bob Namvar, Faculty Secretary/ Treasurer