CBU Faculty Senate: Minutes of February 11, 2008 Meeting

Members Present: Studer, Timmons Hinrichs, Walker, Skubik, Alderson, Hernandez, Buchholz, Nelson, Morris, Moore, Short, Renfro, Lewis, Brook, King, Marse,

1. Meeting opened with prayer.

2. Reports:
   a. Faculty Senate Minutes from 1/28/2008 approved unanimously
   b. Faculty Forum Funds Committee: Ben Stein film event on February was a success and cost was less than original estimate.
   c. Board of Trustees approved changes to CBU Faculty Handbook. Faculty Senate also received a letter of commendation from Chair William Hall on behalf of the Trustees, Executive Council, Provost’s Office and the Academic Affairs Committee.
   d. Schedule change of MWF classes to begin “on the hour” in Fall 2008 was passed with a 68 “Yea” and 7 “Nay” via e-mail to Dr. David Pearson’s office.

3. Review of Faculty Handbook: Minor grammatical and spelling changes were made to Handbook Sections 3.504-3.510

4. Old Business:
   Faculty Workshop Committee reported to Senate its findings from survey of CBU Faculty last semester. Findings are attached as Appendix.

5. New Business:
   a. Senate elections: nominations for the 2008-09 CBU Faculty Senate will go to Lisa Hernandez. Beginning in March 2008.
   b. Assessment/Evaluations Committee: A meeting with Phil Martinez was held and the following was reported: it is unlikely that students can be required to do course evaluations, current evaluations should be aligned with current CBU assessment plan, and any changes should be research-based.

   Action: Assessment Committee will continue work on a modified course evaluation form and report back to Senate during last meeting March.
   c. Campus-wide recycling was raised as a concern both environmentally and as a potential fund raiser for ISPs, campus clubs, etc. Efforts are already in place and growing on campus.

Meeting was then adjourned. Next meeting: February 25, 2008 @ 2:30 PM in YC B-219.
Appendix

CBU Faculty Senate Recommendation for 2008 Faculty Workshop

Prepared by Barry Parker, Ph.D. and Michael Marse, M.A. for the approval of the CBU Faculty Senate on February 11, 2008.

These recommendations were drawn from an informal qualitative survey of the CBU full-time faculty during the fall of 2007.

Overall recommendations:

• Format and quality of content is more important than topic selection
• The overall purposes of the faculty workshop should be
  o Growing together as a faculty, introductions, getting to know one another
  o Invigoration and encouragement for the coming year
  o To facilitate a kind of “mini-conference”

Specific methods recommended:

• Group breakout sessions on a variety of topics, and with a variety of pedagogical techniques.
• Utilization of both guest speakers and panel presentations on a variety of topics. Guest speakers should be qualified to speak on a specific topic of interest to the faculty.

Specific methods not recommended:

• Series of single speakers on a variety of topics to the entire faculty.
• Information that is so general as to not apply/not draw the interest of a substantial segment of the faculty (especially in general sessions)
• Information that could be more effectively shared at a departmental meeting
• Activities that make too much use of one specific pedagogical technique (i.e. use of artistic reflection, general session role-playing)
• Heavy student involvement (feedback was mixed on this point, but heavy student involvement seemed to receive a negative impression)

Length recommended for the workshop:

• 1-2 days, either as two full days, or as consecutive morning sessions (there was some opinion that the current format is too long).
Other recommendations:

- The “whimsy” is very popular.
- The “breaks” are sometimes not long enough to allow sustained discussion between sessions.
- The use of multimedia should be maximized, though reading off of PowerPoint should be minimized.
- Speakers and activities should draw from a diversity of departments and disciplines. (Current attitude, to whatever extent it is true, is that the School of Education has too large a role. It should be pointed out, however, that many of the suggested topics would fall under their purview.)
- The praise/worship is excellent, but should take into account a variety of Christian traditions reflected in the faculty.

Suggested topics:

- Speakers from English and Communication to discuss basic standard for papers and presentations across disciplines.
- Speaker from IT or Conferences and Events to discuss technology use and troubleshooting.
- Dealing with diversity
- Detection of learning disorders
- Classroom management techniques
- The “millennial” generation
- New theories and practice of distance and learning
- Grants and funding