The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Freymiller at 3:03 p.m. on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 in the Centennial Room of Davies Center.

1) Minutes of March 4, 2014 were approved as distributed

Without objection, the order of business will be changed to the order reflected below.

2) Appointment of members to the Comprehensive Parking Review Work Group
   - Jason Anderson, Sasha Showsh, and Bob Eierman have submitted their names for consideration
     - Without objection, these names will be forwarded from the Executive Committee to Vice-Chancellor Hanifin for possible appointment

3) Liberal Education Reform
   - It is believed that we have reached an impasse in moving LE Reform forward, so the Liberal Education Core motion needs to be brought back to the Executive Committee to try to find an alternative to that motion
     - The Chancellor respects the shared governance process and has faith in the faculty/staff
   - It is important for the university to know the attributes, experiences, expectations, and essential pieces that are expected of our graduates and what it means to be a Blugold
     - That conversation has been a part of what has been happening
   - The Chancellor wants our students to be able to attain a four-year degree in a four-year time frame if that is their goal
   - The Chancellor asked the Provost and others: How does Liberal Education improve outcomes for students? Why is this the case? How can it be achieved? How does this change improve outcomes for our students?
   - Chancellor is looking for feedback and advice
     - We need to make it clear and communicate clearly and that the Liberal Education Core not hinder our ability to graduate students in four years
     - LE and one’s major should not be separate
     - We need to be thoughtful about what it takes to attract the kinds of students we want and we need to be clear about what we want them to get out of it
     - The challenge is to think carefully
   - A subcommittee consisting of the University Faculty members of the Executive Committee will negotiate a modification that is acceptable to both the administration and the Senate and that modification will be brought to Senate for action
   - IAS with faculty status will participate on this subcommittee
   - An alternative framework was presented for discussion
   - Concern was expressed about the inability for others to come forward with proposals
   - The alternative framework is basically the model that the “all chairs” group endorsed, and they are a diverse group
The timeframe is wrong and this seems to be moving too fast to go to Senate
The alternative framework is a good starting point that can be modified
Previous studies did not ask representatives of departments/programs to lay out full four-year degree plans
  • It is assumed that the alternative framework would work/align with this criterion
  • Would allow for more seat capacity
  • Comparable to our current General Education plan for graduating students in four years
There needs to be a mutually agreeable alternative to be brought before the University Senate
Can University Senate debate the modifications brought forward?
A modification needs to pass this year because faculty need time to revise curriculum
Comments/Suggestions/Concerns were discussed
If this subcommittee develops a mutually acceptable modification, Executive Committee would present that modification to the full Senate for action, and if it were approved by University Senate it would go back to the Chancellor; if no mutually acceptable modification is reached, or if a mutually acceptable modification were defeated by the University Senate, the original recommendation would go back to the Chancellor for his final action
A subcommittee comprised of University Faculty members of the Executive Committee should meet with the Chancellor, or his designee, to reach a mutually acceptable modification
If a mutually acceptable modification passes and if any department or unit believes that it is not working at a future time, then changes would have to be made through APC or

A motion was made to use the next two weeks to continue negotiation for amendments and then vote each amendment up or down to determine what will go forward to the University Senate, seconded

Amendment to include a deadline of April 10th when motions/amendments should be circulated

Motion to postpone consideration of this motion as amended, seconded

Moved and seconded that a subcommittee of University Faculty from the University Senate Executive Committee be convened immediately following adjournment of University Senate on April 8, 2014

Vote on Motion that a subcommittee of University Faculty from the University Senate Executive Committee be convened immediately following adjournment of University Senate on April 8, 2014: PASSED

Vote on postponed motion as amended: FAILED

4) Academic Year Calendar Motion
  • Deferred until next meeting

5) Review of tentative agenda for April 8, 2014 meeting of University Senate approved as distributed

6) No Open Forum

7) No Announcements

Meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Submitted by,

Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate