Meeting Minutes – BSC Faculty Senate

Location: Dickason Hall-Tierney Auditorium
Date: 11/15/19
Time: 11:00 am

Attendance:
Debra Vest, Michelle Taylor, Kelli Sarver, James Pruett, Carol Cofer, Vanessa Godfrey, Amanda Quesenberry, James Walters, Terene Stiltner, Amy Bennett, Mike Lilly, Darrel Malamisura, Bill Bennett, Amanda Banks, Sean Connolly, Rodney Montague, Darrell Thompson, Don Bury, Geoff Hunter, Dr. Ted Lewis, Amanda Matoushek; Faculty Senate Chair.

Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order by Amanda Matoushek, Faculty Senate Chair at 11:04am. Michelle Taylor moved to accept the minutes, Bill Bennett seconds the motion. The previous minutes were approved, with no corrections.

Committee Reports:
1. Curriculum: Mike Lilly stated that on 10/29 the Curriculum Committee met. The committee voted unanimously to approve two proposals. One is the Master’s degree program-Engineering Technology and the other is the Bachelor of Science in Allied Health Education. Mike Lilly asked for a motion to approve both of the degrees by Faculty Senate. Vanessa Godfrey made a motion, Bill Bennett second the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

ACF Report:
Mike Lilly stated that at the last meeting, most of the discussion was on personnel policies. That ACF representatives are being denied the right to participate in Faculty Senate meetings. At this time, budgetary issues have not been discussed, but he knows it will be in the near future. Higher Education Day will be in February where the budget will be discussed.

BOG Report:
Carol Cofer discusses the Policy 42 which deals with the hiring process at the college. This includes all employees that fall directly under the supervision of the president. That these positions would not have to go through the normal hiring process, but be hired immediately by the president. Carol stated that she questioned this policy during the last BOG meeting with concern that we may be violating federal hiring policies and the EOC. The BOG decided to table the policy and inquire from legal counsel if this is legitimate. Carol requested from the BOG that the answer from the lawyers be presented in writing. The BOG plans to discuss this policy again at the December 10th meeting. Amanda stated that she had done some research and that most colleges in the state have about the same hiring policy as we do. She did not find any that said the president could make the decision, but found that a few have extremely vague policies that may allow the president to make the final decision. At that time, Amanda asked the senate if they would like to create a statement to send the BOG about our concerns of the policy. Vanessa suggested that we be added to the BOG agenda to address this situation.
Old Business:

Low enrolled classes: Dr. Ted Lewis stated that he has developed a committee to tackle the issue of low enrolled classes. He does not feel that an Independent study is a good way to run a low enrolled class. The committee will develop a way to deliver these classes, especially those that students need for graduation. Michelle Taylor is on the committee and is in the process of benchmarking other colleges. He wants a solution that will make it consistent across the board with all classes. Dr. Walters stated that he has seen a rough draft of one option, but was told that it had been thrown out. Dr. Lewis said that there are actually a few policies that are in the works and that nothing had definitely been decided on. That the main goal is to get the students graduated and compensate the faculty as fairly as possible.

8 week classes: Amanda stated that she had done some research on the comparison 8 week vs 16 week classes and the student success. She did not find any significant information that stated the 16 week courses for better for students, especially freshmen. She presented the senate with graphs that took each school and compared their 8 and 16 week class success. At the present time, there was not a lot of data because we are not offering an abundance of 8 week classes. Of all the schools, Business had the greatest number of failures in 8 week classes.

Other Business:

Supervisor Evaluations: Dr. Walters, who is a part of the Upward Evaluation Committee, stated that he had sent out emails that included the evaluations and was asking for feedback. He said to date, that he had received only positive comments about the evaluations. He hopes to have a model for proposal in the near future. Dr. Walter’s states that the evaluation can be used for any supervisor.

Block Schedules: Dr. Lewis stated that President Capehart wanting the faculty to look into block schedules. This puts the students on a path for graduation. He states that when advisors are making schedules, it puts a predictability on the registering process and helps with the low enrolled classes.

Erma Byrd Center: Debbie Vest asked Dr. Lewis what the future holds for BSC at the Erma Byrd Center. He stated that we are losing a lot of money at that campus. We are paying $250,000 a year rent for our spaces. At the present time, ¼ of our enrollment is at the center, due to the SNAH. He states that we will remain a presence in the Beckley area, although, maybe in a different location.

College Accreditation: Carol Cofer stated that a date has been given for the college accreditation which is 4/2022. She asked that we be given all reports that are to be used for the review process. Dr. Lewis said that Sarita Rhonemus is now over the Assessment/Accreditation process and will begin to develop committees.

Active Shooter Training: Mike Lilly stated that several of his Criminal Justice students are very concerned that we have not had active shooter training for the faculty and students. He hopes that something can be done to remedy this issue. Kelli Sarver asked if our doors all lock from the inside, that Concord had recently changed all their doors to be able to lock from the inside if there was a situation. Dr. Lewis stated that it is not required, but recommended to have fire, natural disaster or lock down drills. He stated that he will speak with Shelia Johnson about the concerns and hopes to get a process in motion.

At this time, Darrel Malamisura called for a motion to go into executive session, Geoff Hunter seconded the motion. Darrel discussed the issue of low enrollment and class overloads.

Adjournment:

With no other business, Amanda asked for a motion for adjournment. Vanessa Godfrey made the motion to adjourn and Darrel Malamisura seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

AM/ab