Meeting Minutes – BSC Faculty Senate

Location: Google Meet
Date: November 5, 2021
Time: 11:00 am

Attendance:
Vanessa Godfrey, Kelli Sarver, Roy Pruett, Bill Bennett, Amanda Matoushek, Rodney Montague, Amy Atwell, Amanda Quesenberry, Sarah Beth Miles, Vincent Mateescu, Deb Chakrabarti, Tina Nicholson, James Quesenberry, Young Kim, Diane Belcher, Michelle Taylor, Tammy Martin, Cravor Jones, Mike Lilly, Darrel Malamisura; Faculty Senate Chair.

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

Committee Reports:
1. **Curriculum**: Met November 4th for the last meeting of semester. Approved one proposal to change a topics course to a a real class. Darrel states he will send it out to the senate for comments.
2. **Assessment**: Meeting November 9th.
3. **Planning and Budget**: Has not met
4. **Professional Development**: Has not met.
5. **Promotion and Tenure**: During the recent meeting they discussed about adding new policies to the faculty handbook.
6. **Faculty Right and Responsibilities**: Has not met
7. **Student Academic Appeals**: Has not met
8. **Enrollment Management Council**: Has not met
9. **BOG**: Met November 4th. The meeting focused on the proposed funding formula that the HEPC is working on. It’s only for 30% of the total higher education budget. He states that in the upcoming year, the legislation is proposing to abolition HEPC and the community college system.
10. **College Council**: Has met.
11. **Student Disciplinary Appeals**: Has not met

ACF:
Mike Lilly stated that the senate needs to vote on the ACF proposals that were recently sent out. He suggested that they be voted on electronically by email.

New Business:
Questions were sent to Cravor Jones and Tammy Martin concerning scheduling and financial aid, they joined this meeting to clear up any concerns that were had by the faculty senate. Mr. Jones stated that he did not have any analysis for how well block scheduling was doing in helping students adapt to college. He stated that it is a very process that the college is doing and that possibly after a few years there would be enough data. Rodney Montague
asked that if and when the data is analyzed could the faculty be involved in the process and conclusion.

The next question was why were some of the classes in the blocks not lining up with the dynamic schedule. Cravor said that the schedule for spring 2022 was rolled from spring 2021 and that they didn’t realize that the classes were not in alignment until a few weeks after the schedule was posted. He states that at this point, it still does not match up. There is also a concern with not enough staff to teach all the classes listed in the blocks. The dynamic schedule still lists some classes as “staff” because there are not enough instructors for the classes. Mr. Jones stated that for spring/fall 2022, the college is waiving ACT/SAT scores. Those that have not taken these exams will be placed in “L” classes. That means a greater need for more classes that require the labs.

Tammy Martin was asked about the issue with students who have not paid for their classes and are dropped from their courses. After a certain date, if a student has not paid for their classes, they are dropped from their courses. If they pay, they are then reinstated in their classes. Unfortunately, it may be several weeks before they pay and are put back in the class. This becomes a problem because they have missed a lot of assignments, tests, etc. Another issue is they are dropped off of the instructor’s roster, but placed as suspended in Moodle. Tammy Martin states that the students are supposed to speak with the instructor to see if they still feasible to make up any work and pass the class. Marvienne Johnson is also supposed to be contacting instructors to see if the students can be put back in the class. There is also an issue with student athletes being dropped from classes. Special attention needs to be paid to any of these students who may be away from the college participating in sports and not attending class. It can become a violation with the NCAA if a student athlete is dropped below the 12 hours for fulltime. If they are participating in sports, they are considered as excused absences. Bill Bennett asked about students being excused that work with the athletics, like assist the athletic trainers, video the games, etc. Tammy Martin stated that she thought that they were excused, but Darrel stated that Dr. Lewis says they are not excused. Kelli Sarver stated that there is also a problem with students who are injured and can’t participate in their sport. Some of the students feel that they are also excused from their courses which is not true. Young Kim said he had a problem with the coach scheduling meetings during his class time. Darrel suggested that you place in your syllabus exactly how long a student can be suspended and be allowed back into your class.

The next question for Tammy Martin was about the number of students who had to pay out of pocket for carrying 16 hours or more. She stated that every student that came to her about having a hardship for paying for classes she assisted in any way that she could to get payment. Currently, there is an emergency fund that assists students with any difficulties. The fund was $10,000 and was used for books and tuition. Rodney Montague stated that new students are not being relayed the information about the 16 hour fee. He has had several students ask him to take them out of a class because it put them over the 15 hours and they had to pay. Tammy Martin says they are working on a “cost of attendance” worksheet to be posted online. Students can plug in numbers to get knowledge of how much it will cost for tuition by the semester or year. Rodney proposed that students have an orientation on how to create and use the worksheet given at the beginning of each semester. Tina Nicholson stated that students who come directly out of high school into the Nursing program have 16 hours for the first two semesters and 17 hours for the last two semesters. Darrel stated that students are asking to be dropped to 15 hours or less instead of discussing the issue with financial aid.
He suggests that all students have a declared minor to assist in the federal guidelines not paying for classes in the degree.

Darrel asked Tammy how students were reimbursed for withdrawing from a class. She stated that if a student withdraws before the 60% mark, the school must return a portion of that money to the federal government. At that time, the student is sent a bill for the time they were in class. She stated that the refund period is in the college catalog.

Vincent asked about the classes during the winter intersession not counting toward spring hours. Tammy said that was true, the classes are not counted as spring hours. The winter intersession is the same as a summer session.

Darrel said there was a question of cheating during online exams and the need for live proctoring. He says that he uses a different type of online proctoring and is an additional fee to the student.

Old Business:

Darrel stated that if anyone has any new proposals for enrollment increases, cohorts, etc., please get that to him soon. He will send it to the college planning committee to see if it will be worthwhile.

Adjournment:

At this time with no other issues, Darrel asked for a motion to adjourn. Mike Lilly made a motion to adjourn, Roy Pruett seconds the motion, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.