

Meeting Minutes – BSC Faculty Senate

Location: Dickason Hall-Tierney Auditorium

Date: March 6, 2020

Time: 11:00 am

Attendance:

Don Bury, Geoff Hunter, Darrell Thompson, Michelle Taylor, Tamara Ferguson, James Pruett, Amanda Banks, Carol Cofer, Rodney Montague, Vanessa Godfrey, Kelli Sarver, Amy Bennett, Amanda Quesenberry, Darrel Malamisura, Bill Bennett, Amanda Matoushek; Faculty Senate Chair.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Amanda Matoushek, Faculty Senate Chair at 11:06am. Amanda called for approval of the previous meeting minutes. Michelle Taylor moved to accept the February minutes, Darrel Malamisura seconded the motion, all were in favor. The previous minutes were approved, with no corrections.

New Business:

- Covid-19:** Sherri Williams states that she has contacted the hospitals in the region and the Mercer County Health Department about plans for the pandemic reaching the area. At this point, there is not a true plan in place at any of these locations if people begin showing symptoms of the virus. When Sherri began researching the disease there were only 14 countries afflicted with the disease, currently there are 86 countries that are now plagued with the virus. The CDC has issued a Level 3 travel, meaning do not travel to the countries where the disease is present. As of 3/5/20, Mercer County does not have any available testing kits, and suggests that we screen out students after returning from spring break with three questions: 1. Have they visited a level 3 area. 2. Has anyone been in contact with a person who has traveled to a level 3. 3. Do you have any symptoms; cough, temperature or sore throat. If any students answer yes to any of the questions or present with symptoms, you should send them home. They are then asked to call the health department and get a number to call the CDC because the state of WV does not have any testing kits at the present time. The kits are supposed to be to the state health department by Monday, March 9th. When students return, your classroom should be stocked with hand sanitizer, gloves and bleach wipes. We are to ask our students to take a minute to clean their desk before class begins and to clean after the last class of the day. As of today, there are 18 states in the US that have confirmed cases of the corona virus. Sherri says they are setting up a link on the BSC webpage for Corona Virus information. There will be a Safety meeting on 3/12 to discuss the issue further. She stated that they are in talks of cancelling any trips from the school that are abroad.
- BState Now:** Erik Root, who will be supervising the new online program, talked about the online platform for offering certificate programs. He was given a list of questions that the faculty senate had developed with concerns about the new system. He states that the new programs will not be taking away from anything that if offered now. He is testing the platform which is Moodle, but separate from what we are currently doing. He stated that he has worked with many platforms and that this one is extremely good. He is a contract worker hired in January and reports to Ted Lewis. His office is 312 in Conley Hall. He states he was the president of the ACF at one time and worked a lot with online education. His experience includes contact producer, writer, developer of online programs and a professor. At the time, he only has 4

certificate degrees in the works: Entrepreneurship, Cyber Security, Non-profit Management and Energy Management. Dr. Lewis stated that he hopes to obtain students from across the US who are looking for certificate degrees in these subjects. Dr. Root stated that BSC faculty can apply for the teaching positions if they qualify. Dr. Lewis stated that it would not be added to your current teaching load, it would be as an adjunct. Carol Cofer stated that during a recent BOG meeting when the idea of BState Now was introduced, she was told that there were many qualified faculty currently instructing at the college that could take on the new certificate programs. Amanda Matoushek stated that there is currently a minor in Cyber Security and an Entrepreneurship degree and hopes that by creating the certificate programs it will not take away from the programs currently offered. Geoff Hunter asked if there will be collaboration between the current programs and the certificate programs that are similar. Dr Root stated he hopes there will be collaboration between the programs. Dr. Lewis stated that for a student to receive financial aid there must be a minimum of 18 hours in a program. The student is not required to follow a set schedule, they can begin classes at any time. Darrel Malimasura asked if we were paying for a new Moodle system when we already had a current one. Dr Root could not answer that question. Amanda Banks stated she just checked online and that all Moodle platforms are free. Amanda Matoushek stated she will invite Dr Root back to a follow-up meeting when the programs are further along to answer additional questions. Kelli Sarver asked what the ETA for BState Now might be. Dr. Root stated he hopes that it is up and running by the summer.

3. **Summer 4 Day Compressed Work Week:** Dr Deirdre Guyton stated that the classified council met in February to propose a compressed summer work week. It will still add up to 37 hours and run Monday through Thursday. It will begin Monday, May 11th through the last week of July. She is asking for support from the faculty senate in making this happen. There are 3 options for the employees: 7am-5pm Monday through Wednesday and 7am-430pm on Thursday. 730am-530 pm Monday through Wednesday and 730am-5pm on Thursday. 8am-6pm Monday through Wednesday and 8am-530pm on Thursday. There was a concern about not having Moodle support on Friday. Dr. Lewis stated that there would be people on campus to help with any problems.
4. **Faculty of the Year:** Amanda Matoushek stated that in the past we had given this award at graduation, but in the past year our ceremony had drastically been shortened and the award was no longer given at that time. She asked if we would like to award this honor at the Employee Recognition and Retirement event or give it at Faculty Institute? Everyone agreed that it would be better to present the faculty of the year award at the Employee Recognition event. She says she will be sending out an email for nominations for this honor because it will be some time in April. Amanda Quesenberry stated that the Employee Recognition dinner is April 29th.

At this time, Darrel Malamisura asked that we go into executive session. Don Bury seconded the motion.

ACF Report:

Mike Lilly was unable to stay for the meeting, so he left his current ACF meeting minutes with Amanda for anyone that would like to read them.

Committee Reports:

1. **Curriculum:** Amanda Matoushek stated that there are many curriculum proposals that need to be voted on. Darrell Thompson asked what was the change in the Math courses. Amanda

stated that the Math 101L classes would change from 3 lecture hours and 2 lab hours, to 3 lecture hours and 1 lab hour. She said there was also a change in the cut scores to determine who needs to take the "L" classes. Michelle Taylor made a motion to approve all curriculum proposals, minus the ones that have been tabled for later discussion. Tamara Ferguson seconded the motion. All were in favor, no one opposed, no abstentions. The motion passed.

BOG:

Carol Cofer gave the Academic Affairs report from 2/19 and the meeting was immediately turned over by the chair to Dr. Ted Lewis to administrate the meeting. The first order of business was BState Now. She stated she did not have an agenda in advance, but had prepared questions on the topic beforehand. Carol stated that she stressed the fact that Cody Chambers was doing a great job with our Moodle platform and that we did not need a new one. Dr. Lewis stated that he wasn't aware of what platform would be used at that time. Carol brought up the issue of leaving Blackboard for Moodle due to the cost issue and why were we possibly getting into the same situation with spending more money. The second issue at the meeting was the block scheduling. She shared with the group the concern from faculty of the 5 day format and how this would be a problem for our non-traditional students. She stated that the comment was made during the meeting that maybe faculty did not want to work on Fridays. Carol spoke up and stated that this was not the issue, the faculty was concerned with the students and their ability to attend class. Carol also reiterated about the fact that she was told during that meeting that the college had many qualified faculty that would be able to instruct for the BState Now program.

Old Business:

P & T Revisions: Amanda stated that the only change that was made from the last meeting was to add that if you were reapplying that you must submit a new portfolio. She asked for a motion to approve. Vanessa Godfrey made the motion and Rodney Montague seconded. All were in favor, no one opposed and no abstentions. The motion passed.

Faculty Senate Constitution: Amanda stated that we would discuss this issue at the next meeting.

Adjournment:

With no other business, Amanda asked for a motion for adjournment. Michelle Taylor made the motion to adjourn and Rodney Montague seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

AM/ab