

Academic Council Meeting
April 27, 2009
Library Room 302
4:00PM – 5:30PM

Those present: Dr. Frank Novotny, Dr. Ed Crowther, Dr. Robert Demski, Professor Margaret Doell, Dr. Carol Guerrero-Murphy, Dr. Mark Joyce, Dr. Kurt Keiser, Dr. Tony Laker, Dr. William Lipke, Dr. Michael Martin, Dr. Matt Nehring, Dr. Aida Sahud, Dr. Susan Varhely, and Dr. Brent Ybarrondo

Action Items:

Approval of April 13, 2009 Minutes:

The April 13, 2009 minutes were approved as written.

Minutes were approved as written following a brief discussion regarding discussion item “Exemplary, Meritorious, Satisfactory, Needs Improvement – Do they change as faculty get promoted”. Dr. Demski provided a copy of pages 15 and 16 of the Faculty Handbook to all present which referred to the Evaluation Standards for Tenured Faculty. Professor Doell will put something in writing and send to the membership through e-mail. It was agreed that this should be a future agenda item and that Faculty Senate and the Handbook committee should be involved.

Discussion Items:

Letter:

Dr. Guerrero-Murphy handed out a draft letter to be submitted to the President and Provost regarding sabbatical leave requests. After giving the committee members time to read the draft letter Dr. Guerrero-Murphy asked that she be given the marked up copies and other suggestions could be sent to her through e-mail. The letter needs to be delivered to the President and Provost prior to the next BOT meeting.

Assessment – GE and End of Year:

Dr. Novotny asked the chairs to follow through with the GE assessment.

Budget:

Dr. Novotny gave an update on the budget stating that there were no real new changes. Three administrative positions have been eliminated and the Graduate School will be funded by Extended Studies. There will be no budget for next year until the Long Bill is passed. Tuition increase will be either 7% or 9% and the tuition window will be closed. There are presently eight academic positions frozen but the Health and Safety position was not cut. Summer enrollment is up 33% compared to this same time last year.

Next Year:

Administration is looking at developing a Strategic Enrollment Plan. Dr. Novotny feels that there should be very strong academic input. There will be a two day retreat held and Dr. Novotny is looking for a representative to attend.

ASC is considering using the university model as a marketing tool.

Dr. Novotny is going to change how he operates and rather than being the rule enforcer he will be sending faculty members back to chairs. Dr. Novotny will respond to chairs as required. The chain of command needs to be followed. He will be looking at bigger picture items and working with others above him. He will have more of a presence in Denver representing ASC.

Dr. Novotny shared with the group that he had been asked by someone in Athletics to act as an elder statesman and travel with the men's soccer team. The last of thirteen trips would be October 9th, with one trip lasting 5 days and if accepted this would impact his time for academics. There was some discussion that if Dr. Novotny decides to accept the offer that perhaps Dr. Mumper or one of the chairs could run the AC meetings in Dr. Novotny's absence.

Dr. Novotny said that he gives his complete attention to academics. He indicated that while chairs do not always agree with his decisions, his actions are done in good will.

Dr. Novotny announced that RMAC will be here Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday of finals week. Some student-athletes will be unable to take their final exams at the scheduled times. Faculty and chairs should work with these students to make other arrangements.

Next Meeting:

This was the final AC meeting for this academic year. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 19, 2009 starting at 9:00AM and ending at 3:00PM and will be held in LIB 302. Dr. Keiser has offered to furnish lunch again this year.

At this point the meeting was open to chairs to share informational items from their respective areas.

The meeting adjourned at 5:22PM

Respectfully submitted by,

Dodie Day

Administrative Assistant