Academic Assembly
October 5, 2015
2:05 – 3:35pm, STCN 130

<u>MINUTES</u>

Present: Jeffrey Anderson, Eric Bahuaud, Sarah Bee, Rick Block, Terri Clark, Brooke Coleman, Claire Conway, Carlos de Mello e Souza, Bill Ehmann, Leticia Guardiola-Saenz, Mike Huggins, Arun Iyer, Kate Koppelman, Chuck Lawrence, Erik Olsen, Katherine Raichle, Rob Rutherford, Heath Spencer, Dan Washburn

Minutes taken by Rosa Hughes

I. Election of AcA President and Vice President for Faculty Handbook
    A. Motion to nominate Margit McGuire to President
        1. One year of service
        2. Approved with no oppositions or abstentions
    B. Motion to nominate Erik Olsen to VP for Handbook
        1. Approved with no oppositions or abstentions
II. Review of 9-28-15 Minutes
    A. Include flu shot discussion and Provost offer to check on it and update AcA
    B. Add Heath Spencer to attendance list
    C. Approved with two edits with no oppositions or abstentions
III. University Sponsored Academic Programs and Policy Review Committee Proposals
    A. Overview
        1. Both proposals are trying to create committee structures similar to the bubble chart subcommittees included in the Faculty Senate proposal
        2. While AcA finalizes committee structure, this is a transitional remedy
    B. University Sponsored Academic Programs (USAP)
        1. Currently no curricular process to deal with program proposals outside of the school/college structure (i.e., course for students returning from study abroad, freshman introductory course, Career Services courses that have co-designed curriculum with existing courses, Center for Environmental Justice and Sustainability courses, etc.)
        2. This proposal creates a structure for review that would take the place of the school/college curriculum committee and then proceed to PRC/AcA as per normal university review
        3. Remove Core and COPE (unclear if CDLI will fall under this or have its own review)
        4. English Language Learning Center (ELLC) historically has not been part of the English department
        5. "Freshmen 101" course is moving forward with development, would need to be reviewed under the USAP structure since it probably won't "live" in a school/college
            a. Asked deans for nominations of faculty to form committee to discuss goals, etc.
            b. Addressed to specific populations (e.g., first generation in college)
            c. May be linked to Learning Communities, across colleges and divisions
        6. Motion to approve USAP proposal, with the removal of Core and COPE
            a. Approved with no oppositions or abstentions
    C. Academic Policy Review Committee

1. Currently do not have a body to review university-wide policies (does not apply to school/college-specific policies) – used to be covered by Council of Associate Deans, which is no longer a formal administrative group
2. Proposal approved by Registrar and Council of Deans
3. Similar structure to the University Assessment Committee, with co-chairs from AcA and Academic Affairs
4. Motion to revise the draft to more closely resemble what was in the Senate model and bring back to AcA in two weeks
    a. Approved with no oppositions or abstentions

IV.   Proposed AcA Bylaws Modification
   A.   Removal of tenure requirement for VPs
      1. Discussion
         a. Advantage of tenure is the sense of protection from retaliation
         b. Disadvantage is consolidation of power, also difficult to find qualified and willing volunteers
         c. Different requirement may affect the succession of VP to President, since President still requires tenure
         d. Would be helpful for the VP to have a certain number of years of experience in higher education to try to prevent election of those who aren't aware of what the position entails, ultimately up to the wisdom of AcA
         e. Might be useful to have non-tenure track faculty in President position as well, open up to all stakeholders
      2. Motion to remove tenure requirement from both VP positions
         a. Discussion
            i.   A cultural change more than a procedural change – perhaps remove tenure requirement from one or both VPs now and then Presidency after a few years to gauge the change in culture
            ii. Concerns with the politics of PRC – may need the protection of tenure
         b. Vote: 3 approved, 13 opposed – not approved
      3. Motion to remove tenure requirement from VP Handbook
         a. Good first step to reflect the less political nature of the position, in comparison to PRC
         b. Vote: 14 approved, 2 opposed – approved (final approval vote on a future agenda)
   B.   President stand-in: member of body with most years of service
      1. Discussion
         a. Currently, VP is automatic stand-in for President in bylaws
         b. Proposal for member of body with most years of service to be the stand-in
         c. Historically, President and VP meet every week or two, and also meet with the Provost monthly – this change in procedure may disrupt the flow of the agendas
      2. Motion for VP to have the option to not serve as president in the case of an absence, in which case the stand-in would go to the member with the most service
         a. Vote: Approved with no oppositions or abstentions (final approval vote on a future agenda)

V.   Discussion of Nominations for Strategic Repositioning
   A.   Multi-year aspect
   B.   AcA needs a specific job description including a brief abstract and expected amount of time before seeking formal nominations

VI.   Executive Session