

# **FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**

January 13, 2015

Assembly Room McFall Center

**CALL TO ORDER:** 2:30 pm.

## **ROLL CALL**

Absent: Bruce Collet, Stefan Fritsch, Cindy Hendricks, Kahty Hoff, Kelly Kozlowski, Danielle Kuhl, Monica Longmore, Kelly Taylor

Quorum present.

Chair of Faculty Senate: Joel O'Dorisio discussed the upcoming need for nominations for Faculty Senate committees and Faculty Senate open seats. Notes on the past work of the Faculty Senate Committees will be distributed to give senators an idea of what work is carried out on the various committees. In addition, Chair O'Dorisio previewed the upcoming solicitation for the Faculty Senate awards.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Provost Rogers:

President Mazey was in Columbus for discussions of possible modifications to the SSI formula and was unable to attend.

- 1) Announced the recognition of BGSU by the Carnegie Foundation as a “Community-engaged University”
- 2) Presented the plan by President Mazey to establish an Athletics Advisory Committee reporting directly to the president. This committee would be tasked with general oversight of athletics and its role on campus. Similar committees are in existence at many other Division I schools.
- 3) RCM: Discussed elements of the introduction of the RCM/performance-based resource allocation budgeting model that is in the early phases of implementation.
  - The process of switching over to RCM will take multiple years for full implementation
  - A task force to begin the process of implementation is forming presently and will include representation of all constituent groups.
  - BGSU will invite the Education Advisory Board to campus to hold open forums on RCM budgeting on or around Feb. 25.
- 4) Enrollment: Undergraduate enrollment is up 8 – 10% over last year for applications, enrollments, and admissions. Also, we are at a similar pace to where we were two years ago. For graduate students the numbers are up 20% over last year and 16% over two years ago. Retention for fall to spring is up 1.4% over last year.
- 5) BGP: Out of 164 proposals, 153 have been reviewed by the BGP committee. Of those, 94 were approved, 36 are currently under final Provost review, and 23 were denied. The BGP committee sent back 11 proposals to the originators and are awaiting resubmission.
- 6) Capital Campaign: The college deans have completed case statements for each college to be used in the upcoming Capital Campaign.

Questions from floor:

How many first-time full-time students were lost from last fall to this spring?

Provost Rogers: About 202.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Arts and Sciences Degree Changes: Ted Rippey presented the background and rationale for the changes to the College-level degree requirements for the Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Fine Arts and Bachelor of Arts in Communication degrees. Arts & Sciences is simplifying degree requirements to improve advising and let students achieve a sense of connection between their education and their lives. The process of developing these changes has involved all levels of shared governance. A summary sheet of the changes was provided to the Senate.

Questions from floor:

Request for clarification of the math requirements.

Rippey: The requirements differ for each of the degrees.

How do these changes impact students who transfer between Colleges?

Rippey: The proposal will simplify the issues currently facing those students.

What courses will be certified for the multidisciplinary requirement?

Rippey: Those courses currently approved for “Group” credit will automatically be approved for the new multidisciplinary requirement.

What will be done for the other degrees in Arts & Sciences?

Rippey: The Bachelor of Arts degree modifications were approved by Senate last year; the others will be handled individually.

Why the decrease in English Composition requirements?

Rippey: The new BGP requirements now include these requirements, therefore the College does not need to require them separately.

The proposal specifies that students will not see an increase in required hours, but does this proposal decrease required hours?

Rippey: The new Arts & Sciences requirements will not force students beyond 122 credit hours. Some degrees (example: B.A.) may have more elective or open hours for students, while some degrees (e.g. B.S.) may have less elective or open hours.

Do science degrees have a chance to avoid taking humanities courses under this proposal?

Rippey: No, due to university BGP requirements.

Second: Allen Rogel. Motion to accept the degree changes proposed in Arts and Sciences passed; 55 votes to approve, 0 to disapprove, 3 abstain.

### Board of Trustees Chair Fran Voll

Chair Voll thanked the faculty for all our hard work. He then explained the process by which he was appointed to the Board of Trustees, starting with working on the Strickland campaign; the connections established at that time eventually led to the appointment. He discussed the role of the Board of Trustees to hire a good president and provost and to make sure that BGSU can pay the bills. The Board of Trustees depends on the president and provost to know what is needed and what is occurring on campus, so as to know what Board of Trustees actions may be needed. Many things come down from the State level to the Board of Trustees – recently the drive to ensure that students are “getting their money's worth.” The Board of Trustees has responded to this in various ways by putting things in place on campus. The demands from above change over time and the board must react. The Board of Trustees is focused on the best results for students now and in the future. Chair Voll commended President Mazey on work done on these issues as well; also Chair Voll made special recognition of the role of the Firelands Campus and the work done there.

Questions from the floor:

Does the Board of Trustees speak about the morale of faculty?

Chair Voll: The Board does appreciate the effort given by faculty. The Board is aware of the impact that the cuts in faculty have had on the remaining faculty in terms of workload and other issues. BGSU is “moving in a new direction now.” The Board of Trustees does have to address low-enrollment degrees and similar issues.

Does the Board of Trustees discuss the value of graduate programs?

Chair Voll: The Board of Trustees would like to see graduate programs and research grow and keep the numbers up.

Final comment from Chair Voll: We all should “do everything we can to help these kids.”

Chair O'Dorisio thanked the Board of Trustees and Chair Voll for the Board Innovation Grants, acknowledged the work done by the administration to put BGSU in a good financial position, and acknowledged all the work the faculty does on increasing retention.

Title IX: Barbara Waddell (PowerPoint presentation)

Opened her remarks by posing the question “How can we help our students, not just in the classroom?”

What is Title IX? It is a nondiscrimination standard for anything involving federal funds, including but not limited to financial aid, research grants, etc. It applies not just on the physical campus but in any situation involving a BGSU connection. It covers anything that might prevent or hamper students' educational activities, including sexual harassment and violence. Title IX covers athletics, sexual misconduct, pregnancy, bullying, stalking, etc. BGSU is obligated to investigate both on-campus and off-campus issues. ANY unwelcome conduct is considered to be harassment.

How does the Office of Civil Rights determine what is a “hostile environment”? A “hostile environment” is determined by the “reasonable person” standard, i.e. what a reasonable person would consider to be a problem.

BGSU is required to: report, investigate, adjudicate, and support victims of all Title IX violations. Any “Responsible Employee” of BGSU who hears of a Title IX violation is required to report it. “Responsible Employee” is defined to be anyone who 1) has authority to take action to redress sexual violence, 2) someone who has the duty to report violations, and/or 3) someone a student thinks might fall into categories 1 and 2, which essentially is all of us. If a “responsible employee” knows of a possible violation, contact Barbara Waddell or their immediate supervisor to ensure that BGSU properly carries out its responsibilities. Note that this requirement of reporting must include all available details and thus supersedes student confidentiality. This is to ensure due process, as the respondent has rights and must be able to get all information necessary for a defense. The first contact or conversation between the victim and a BGSU employee starts a 60-day clock for the complete process of handling the complaint. “Pervasive behavior” that is “generally known” to be occurring that could be a Title IX violation must also be reported and investigated, even if there is no direct specific complaint lodged. Federal law requires investigation and final adjudication of every complaint. Support of the victim is now required of BGSU in any Title IX case. Note that Title IX investigations are independent of any investigations by law enforcement.

What can you do? Stay informed, talk to your chair or dean about possible issues, refer any students who may be dealing with a Title IX situation to the Dean of Students, BGSU police, the counseling center, the Office of Equity and Diversity, or the SAAFE Center.

Questions from the floor:

How do we handle a student who comes to us but does not realize that we cannot guarantee confidentiality?

Waddell: Mention this limitation as soon in the conversation as possible, try to follow up with the student and/or refer them. Offer to go with them to the appropriate office if desired to take the next step in the process.

#### Working Session

Chair O'Dorisio reported the vote results for the Arts and Sciences Degree Modifications. He then asked the Senate to break into small groups to develop questions for the upcoming Senate address by Sheri Stoll. Questions will first go to FAAC for compilation, then be forwarded to Stoll. Sample questions were shared.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair O'Dorisio called the meeting to a close at 4:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Allen Rogel, Vice Chair, 1/26/15