SEC/PROVOST JOINT CONFERENCE
MINUTES

April 14, 2015
110 Olscamp Hall Conference Room

PRESENT: Peter Blass, David Border, John Folkins, Rachelle Hippler, Brian Kochheiser, Mariana Mitova, Joel O’Dorisio, Rodney Rogers, Bill Sawaya, Michael Smith, Arne Spohr, Kelly Taylor, Sheri Wells-Jensen

Vice Chair Allen Rogel called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
MOTION (Joel O’Dorisio): Approve the minutes from the March 31, 2015 SEC meeting. (Second: Arne Spohr). Passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Academic Honesty Recommendations: The change to housing academic honesty procedures in Student Affairs was passed in Faculty Senate at the last meeting. To keep the process moving Allen Rogel took the recommendations from the two academic honesty ad hoc committees (2014 and 2015) and created an integrated list of the recommendations and then identified the mostly likely group to handle the next steps. For next fall, an ad hoc committee should be formed to handle those recommendations for Faculty Senate consideration. A few of the recommendations are headed to Amendments and Bylaws. Two recommendations, #5 and #9, had been sent to A&B earlier but were not handled so they are being sent back. Under education initiatives is a recommendation to require inclusion of the Academic Honesty policy on all BGP syllabi with a question mark to the Provost. After discussion with the Provost, it was determined that an educational component would come from Academic Affairs. Provost suggested starting with John Fischer. Having a requirement of what faculty members should have on their syllabi did not seem as if it would be well received. Making it a recommendation for best practice under the faculty education model and to link to website of Craig Zirbel’s general education committee from last year. As far as the handing the process off to Student Affairs, Provost Rogers indicated he had been talking with Jill Carr.

Faculty Senate Budget: Provost Rogers provided the annual allocated budget of Faculty Senate that is used to support classified staff, full-time faculty course release, student workers, telephone, etc. Approval level is through the Provost, but mostly approved by Daniel Gebre, the budget director in the Provost’s office, because the amounts didn’t exceed the threshold for requiring the Provost’s signature.

NEW BUSINESS

Provost Updates:

1. There are three finalists for the position of Vice Provost of Strategic Enrollment Planning, which is open as a result of Joe Frizado’s retirement. The plan is to fill the position by July 1 or earlier. An open forum will be held for each candidate. Provost Rogers said the finalists were chosen from a strong pool.
2. Enrollment continues to be strong for the fall and the quality of the students is good. Transfer student numbers remain steady or flat. We need to find ways to capture non-traditional transfers.
3. E-campus will launch in fall with five programs and with two more in the spring.
4. We are still waiting on the state budget numbers.
5. This is going to be the “summer of inconvenience.” The Provost said the many facility projects this summer are going to have the campus torn up.
6. Faculty Excellence awards are today at 4:30, which is why the SEC meeting today was set to end at 4 p.m.

Athletic Issues: Chris Kingston has been invited to last Faculty Senate meeting, but he has not responded yet. Joel O’Dorisio had sent email to SEC members sharing the many things he has been approached about in recent weeks: MAC-ESPN deal, exploration for formation of a MAC faculty senate groups, federal lobbyist, and reporters from campus newspaper. Much discussion about making sure the Athletic Advisory Committee is re-energized and the implementation of the President’s advisory group that begins in the fall. Following a robust discussion by SEC members, with varying degrees of support, the members wanted to have a guided and productive discussion at Faculty Senate with the Athletic Director. Provost Rogers suggest we ask how we might leverage athletics. John Folkins shared that other athletic conferences have shared academic endeavors not just athletic ones.

ISSUES AND CONCERNS
President’s Panel Notes: Kelly Taylor shared notes from the President’s Panel held on March 26, 2015. Joel O’Dorisio said Faculty Senate has not sent any questions this year likely because we have had very open communication with the administration. He said for the future we needed to have a few questions for each meeting of the panel.

Vice Chair Election: Sandra Faulkner, who was elected as vice chair for next year, has resigned. Bill Albertini’s name was raised as a possible replacement. Joel said he would follow up.

CAA: David Border gave an update on the nursing curriculum proposal. Acting on SEC’s request, Border had invited the proposer down from University of Toledo. This lead to problems, one of which is that it is inappropriate for a non-BGSU faculty member or administrator to sign a BGSU form. As a result a new form was submitted under Associate Dean Nancy Orel. MOTION (Joel O’Dorisio): SEC rescinds the request to have Dr. Salvador, from UT, address CAA about the nursing program changes. (Second: Arne Spohr). Passed unanimously. The nursing curriculum change is on the CAA agenda for the next day.

The next issue for CAA has to do with the transition of graduate curriculum changes that have moved from a paper process to an online process, called OnBase, and poor communication with CAA about the process. Faculty Senate had not been responsive to graduate college requests but we did not have access to the system nor has anyone received any training. CAA needs to know with some confidence that what they are looking at has been through approval channels. David Border suggested some type of paper tracking sheet. The weak link in the communication process is from Graduate Council -- and UGC for that matter-- to CAA. He is proposing that everything be communicated to Jan Reinhard, the Faculty Senate administrative assistant for stability. SEC fully supports the electronic procedure for graduate curriculum changes but until the glitches can be fully worked out, SEC requests that the graduate college provide a pdf copy of the proposal to the Faculty Senate administrative assistant who can then circulate it to CAA, then SEC and, if necessary, the senators. Rachelle Hippler agreed to contact John Ellinger and Mike Ogawa to find out about the OnBase system to inform Faculty Senate with the goal of supporting the move to an online system.

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION (Rachelle Hippler): To adjourn. (Second: Joel O’Dorisio). Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Taylor, secretary, May 1, 2015