

## **Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**

### **Penn State Worthington Scranton**

**January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 P.M. by Faculty Senate Chair, Dr. Majid Chatsaz. Due to electronic malfunction, faculty were asked to email a summary of events for the record.

#### **Administrative Reports**

##### **Chancellor Report**

- First, Dr. Mary Beth Krogh-Jespersen welcomed faculty with a Happy New Year. In December, the committees submitted a full report on all goals. Those reports are on the strategic planning website. John Drake & Kelly Wagers have been very diligent in taking those full reports and creating a first draft of strategic planning. The strategic planning committee will be meeting weekly.
- Secondly, the Awards Banquet which will be held on Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup>. The Chancellor asks that you submit nominees early either through the website or by dropping the submission off to the Chancellor's office.
- There are two research funds available for summer plans or sabbatical. There is not a lot of writing but you will need to describe your research. The deadline is typically April 6<sup>th</sup>.
- There will be massive renovations this summer such as: the athletic fields and classrooms in the library.
- We will also finalize strategic planning.
- Penn State for the Future Campaign will be coming to a close. There is an attempt to have Matt McGloin come to the groundbreaking of the athletic fields.
- Faculty Activity reports, SRTE's, Commencement and the spring will be very busy.
- The Commencement speaker, a graduate of Penn State, will be Robert F. Beard who is the President and CEO of UGI Corporations.

##### **Chief Academic Officer**

- Dr. Patrick welcomed back faculty to a new semester.
- There are two successful FT 1 faculty positions that have been filled: Paul Frisch, Instructor of History and Kristin Durso, Instructor of English.
- In addition there is an active search for (4) faculty members: 1 in Chemistry, 2 in HDFS, 1 in IST.
- All the candidates have been identified at this point and most interviews have been scheduled for February. Please watch for these notices.
- As clarification and information on what has happened in the nursing program, the State Board of Nursing for Pennsylvania has placed the college's associate degree nursing program on

provisional status. This is not probation, it is provisional status. This is because of the overall pass rate for the college below eighty percent. Not just our campus but all of the five campuses combined that offer the associate program. This is a two year provisional status and processes have either been put in place and faculty are planning to assist students increase this pass rate. This does not affect the student's ability to access taking the licensure exam.

- Finally, you should have received an email about the Student Learning Outcome Initiative continuing into 2014. This should be completed by full time faculty members. Each full time faculty member should be completing this either in the spring, summer or all semesters. This does not have to be all three semesters, just one. One outcome you've selected to measure will then need evidence provided for next year's 2015 Faculty Activity Report. We are asking that you get the outcomes from the fall of 2013/2014 into the office as you bring in a hard copy of your faculty activity report. Gina Gray's learning outcome included taking a QR code and placing them on all of the exercise equipment. Then your phone can take you to an online video of how to utilize the equipment properly. She will be presenting this strategy at a conference. Dr. Hinchey and Griff Lewis have been taking a lead on this effort. You can use an outcome that you have utilized, because the best reason to redo the outcome is to see how it can be done better, or how your instructions can be better etc. If there was a flaw, you can repeat the outcome to get better results. Otherwise, if you have accomplished everything, please choose something new that you would like to learn about.

### **Assistant Chief Academic Officer**

**(No Report)**

### **Communication of The University Officers**

- The University officers could not attend this meeting due to bad weather. An email was received from Dr. Hinchey to read to you. The December meeting included that the chair of the health task invited comments and concerns saying anyone can contact any member to share concerns. Three resolutions were proposed that will be discussed and voted on next week, indicating there is some tension among members of the senate. Item one, faculty was within its right to ask that faculty on the task force be elected by the faculty senate and it criticizes both the chair of the senate and the administration for ignoring the requests. Item two, calls for vote counts to be publically posted after election of senate officers. Item three, would indicate that the task force and the administration that faculty senate considers an acceptable participation of any state employee in any questionnaire for survey that calls for the disclosure of medical or lifestyle information.

### **Standing Committee Report**

- Curricular Affairs Committee-No report
- Student Affairs-No Report
- Diversity Committee- Jim Hart stated that there will be a meeting for the first time in Dawson 10 Wednesday 1-29-14 and please bring ideas for the spring.

- Honors Committee- Dr. Hatch stated that if a student approaches you about the honors option please assist them. Also you can contact Dr. Hatch or Todd Adams with any questions.
- Undergraduate Research Committee- Dr. Milton Evans stated that the undergraduate research fair will be held Thursday April 10<sup>th</sup> from 6pm-to 8pm in our cafeteria. Our IT department and Mike Evans have been working diligently on revising our undergraduate research website on our Scranton website. This particular website will provide definite instructions and directions for students and faculty participation. Dr. Asif Ud-Doula discussed the regional symposium. The regional symposium is supposed to be more selective students that would involve a number of local Penn State campuses Hazelton, Wilkes-Barre, Lehigh etc. The Regional Symposium will take place on April 17<sup>th</sup> and will be a half-a-day event. Specifics have not been decided upon at this time.
- Kelly Wagers & John Drake both thanked faculty for their dedication and hard work with all of the strategic planning efforts thus far.

### **New Business**

- Caressa Gearhart announced that there is a revised copy for the Spring Faculty Advising Series. Also one additional session was added which is, Soldiers Returning to Higher Education. If you would like to present, please contact Caressa. New Student Orientation dates for the summer have been finalized and sent through email. Lastly, in the fall spreadsheets were sent out about students and your advisees with an average of less than 2.0. Caressa will be sending these lists out again. We ask you to contact these students.
- On 1-29-14, Alumni Speed Mentoring will be taking place. Students do not need to pre-register. They can just walk in and sign in. Free lunch will be served. This event assists undecided students or pathways that have not been discovered at this time.
- Jeff Mallas announced that basketball will be beginning soon. A list of the students will be sent out and we ask that you contact us when students are not doing well or attending class. Also students are mandated to give you a scheduled of their away games

### **No announcements**

- The next faculty senate will be Wednesday February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014. A motion to adjourn was made at 1240 pm by Dr. David Byman and seconded by Dr. Dale Holen.

Respectfully submitted,

Justina M. Ferguson MSN., RN

Faculty Senate Secretary

