

FACULTY CAUCUS MINUTES
Tuesday, January 17, 2017
2:15PM PH 300

Present: J. Baumann, K. Capone, L. Charbonneau, S. Dar, A Doughtie, A. Fried, A. Haines, R. Huyck, D. Kelly, A. Miller, C. Miller, R. Mink, A. Radlowski, N. Rosero, R. Santos, B. Scantlebury, G. Searles

CALL TO ORDER

The Caucus was called to order at 2:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from meeting on November 15, 2016, were approved unanimously.

CHAIR REMARKS

Prior Learning Assessment

C. Miller has been in contact with FCCC about what other institutes do regarding prior learning assessment. Most schools do not consider BOCES or dual credit, but rather experiences like working a lab or an internship. At MV, we also waiv the PE requirement for those with military training. Associate Deans assess prior learning. Vice President Eannace has encouraged us to investigate further, and C. Miller will attend the Academic Leadership Team this Thursday.

Faculty Lounge

C. Miller discussed our comments with Vice President Eannace, and has visited the space, and furniture is being donated by ROI. Age and quality of the furniture TBA. An optimistic goal is to have the lounge completed by the end of the semester, but no later than the Fall.

Presenter Form

The form is ready to go onto the Caucus website, and C. Miller is waiting to hear back from C. Ho. Once the form is completed, C. Miller will send an announcement about the form that will include information about using it.

POST LABOR DAY START

R. Pucine was present to answer any questions about the post-Labor Day start. The associate deans are learning towards the 55 minute sessions on M/W/F and 85 minute sessions on T/R. Each Carnegie hour requires 750 minutes/contact hour per semester. We are require to meet this minimum and are permitted to exceed it. The semester will begin the Wednesday following Labor Day and end on a Friday.

Concern: How will we schedules labs? Some meet for 2 hours, others for 3 or 4. Most likely, we will not be able to offer as many lab sections. Additionally, what about evening sections?

Response: Logistically, starting on the new start-times would work best to avoid conflicting with other class schedules. There could still be an evening schedule that starts at 6:00pm.

Question: When does the fall schedule need to be set?

Response: R. Libby is hoping to hear back from the associate deans by February 10th.

Concern: The amount of time being added to M/W/F classes (60 minutes total) is different from the amount of time being added to T/R classes (a total of 130 minutes).

Question: Why do the classes on T/R have to be the length they are?

Answer: They must be at least 81 minutes to meet the Carnegie Hour requirements.

MICRO-CREDENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SENATE

The team will meet with the Senate in February. Some suggestions for recommendations included:

- Micro-credentials are proposed by one or more departments, as well as CCED.
- One or more academic departments would need to support the micro-credential. Language similar to that used for programs could be used.
- If the micro-credential is not part of a program, how will students afford it? A work-around of a double major (in particular, general studies) could be used until SUNY or the federal government are willing to support micro-credentials with financial aid.
- Micro-credentials should be held to the same standards of academic rigor and standards of regular accredited courses.
- The capstone experience should be flexible, either a course or an internship. There are some concerns about appropriate compensation for faculty working with students on a capstone project. For example, mentors do not get paid for the Honors Program.
- The process should be formed in APSC and CWCC.

SUNY is still talking about micro-credentials. J. Roberts, the FCCC representative, has more information regarding a resolution being discussed about prior learning and micro-credentials. How do we express to SUNY our concerns about financial aid and our questions about whether micro-credentials can be used to measure completion?

INFORMATION PIPELINE TO CAUCUS

At the Special Meeting in December, there was a discussion about Caucus not being appropriately looped-in early enough on College initiatives that impact faculty. There should be a process for College representatives to come to Caucus when initiatives are in the early stages so that we can have a voice on their development, and not only after the fact. For example, discussions with the Calendar began in September. This topic seems of obvious importance to faculty, so why was it not brought to us sooner?

Most, though not all, committees & councils have faculty representation. Additionally, not all proposals discussed at these meetings come to fruition, and it isn't always clear where proposals will wind up going officially. Sometimes, they end up going nowhere, so it can be difficult to know when to bring up.

There should be some kind of established protocol for the administration and committees to consult with Caucus. They can choose to ignore our consultation, but the point is openness. Faculty want to be able to express an opinion about an initiative before it's last-minute and irrelevant. A suggestion was made to reach out to administration to express that we would like to be drawn into the conversation in the early stages of initiatives. Perhaps a regular reminder from Faculty Caucus could be sent until it becomes part of the College culture.

Waitlist Discussion

C. Miller asked R. Spetka to discuss the waitlist issue, and she will be at the next Caucus to discuss any questions we have. A list of questions/comments was gathered, including:

- Other institutions keep the waitlist open for the first week of courses, so instructors are allowed to remove students who haven't been attending and can let in those who have been attending.
- If you delete a student at Census, they are still on your roster.
- It would be useful to know how many people were on the waitlist.
- You can see the waitlist on Argos. Do faculty have the right to access Argos? Who should we talk to if we don't have access?

OPEN FORUM

There was some discussion about access to bathrooms. There are more stalls for men than women on campus. Some ladies rooms were turned into gender neutral bathrooms. The Senate Chair can send this issue to the Facilities Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The Faculty Caucus adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Senate Faculty Caucus will be Tuesday, February 21st at 2:15 p.m. in PH 300.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Radlowski