

Faculty Caucus Minutes

Tuesday February 15, 2022

2:30pm

Zoom

Present: M. Barlett, E. Bush, L. Charbonneau, N. Chrisman, S. Crocker, S. Dar, C. Ehrlich, M. Faitell, A. Fried, K. Getman, A. Haines, A. Hazen, R. Huyck, J. Ireland, M. Kuczynski, S. McCall, G. Melendez, A. Miller, C. Miller, A. Radlowski, R. Santos, L. Williams, R. Wittenberg

Call to order: 2:32pm

Approval of Minutes: Add M. Faitell's name to list of attendees.

S. Crocker 1st. G. Melendez 2nd

16 Approved, 0 opposed, 1 abstain

Guests: M. Milkovich, J. Heintz, A. Nolan, R. VanWagoner

Diversity Conversation: Two students were invited to share their experiences at the college. Each student was asked a series of questions followed by their response. Experiences that helped the students feel welcomed on the campus included events, the MVCC Hawk App, and when Resident Assistants and other staff reached out. Experiences that the students commented made them feel excluded were the same groups being celebrated (ie African American History) and feeling ignored when volunteering/participating in councils. Finally the students shared some changes they'd like to see like Professors talking more about inclusiveness and expanding the college's events to represent more groups.

PEER Program: J. Heintz and A. Nolan spoke about the PEER (Professional Engagement, Enrichment & Renewal) program. In place since 2019, it is meant to provide a glimpse as to what our colleagues are doing in other parts of the college, similar to a job shadow. It was not designed for teaching faculty although Heintz and Nolan said they would like it to expand to include teaching faculty. They spoke about some of the benefits for a faculty member and what a curriculum might look like. A question and answer session ensued.

KPI-President VanWagoner and M. Milkovich spoke about KPI's (Key Performance Indicators). There is a lot of data that has been collected, but is all of it important? How can we best make use of Institutional Research? What should we be measuring and what will help us to improve?

M. Milkovich and President VanWagoner then asked what "number" should we be collecting to measure student success? What "number" should faculty look to decide if they are a "good" teacher? Faculty was invited to provide suggestions in designing this "number." To be better, what data do we need?

Chair Report: Chair gave updates on questions about American Dining. Starbucks and ACC commons will remain closed due to lack of foot traffic. When the numbers warrant it they will reopen along with an all-you-can-eat style buffet (faculty will receive a flat rate).

VP Kahler shared grading proposal/information with the Deans.

New Business: The question of faculty being informed when new students are added to their classes was brought forth in an email by a faculty member prior to caucus. The current process will remain as is

because such a change would generate emails to faculty year round. Faculty will continue to check SIRS for updated rosters.

Chair reported that meeting with VP Kahler spoke of the online strategic planning being in process. Faculty was told that training, budget, enrollment, and a courses program are considered when determining online development for a course. Faculty expressed concerns about the returning to business as usual as many fall 2022 schedules mirror the pre-pandemic era. Faculty expressed that good teaching strategies have been learned through the pandemic and more online course options will meet the needs of all students. Many felt that faculty needed a say in how and in what is offered online. It was decided that a subcommittee should be formed to draft a resolution about faculty concerns.

Open forum topics: It was mentioned that the college website no longer has SUNY Gen Ed listed. A blank page appears. Why? Faculty caucus chair stated she would contact individual to find an answer and solution.

Concerns were expressed that faculty are being monitored in printer use.

Since so many faculty are being asked for Continuation of Learning Plans due to COVID, should a template be made?

All faculty caucus meetings for the semester will be on Zoom

Motion to Adjourn: A Radlowski 1st, S Crocker 2nd

Caucus adjourned at 432pm.

Roman C. Santos.