

Faculty Senate Meeting Feb. 5, 2008

Present:

K. Watson
D. Mielke
M.Sattem
G.Monahan
P.Johnson
G.Ramey
S.Tanner
R.Croft
V.Kelly
A.Evans
L.Espinosa
D.Timmerman
J.Johnson
R.Powers
J.Varon
S.Jenkins
T.Atkinson
K.Wenger

Others

N.Knowles
K.Loewen
G.Kiemnic
C.Peeke
K.Galloway
D.Heitzmann
Provost Jaeger
C.Johnson
D.Kaigler
R.Brakker

Called to order 3:04

Agenda:

1. Approval of minutes (3:00 – 3:05)
2. EPCC (3:05 – 3:20)
3. IFS election (3:20 – 3:30)
4. BART Discussion (3:30 – 4:30)
 - a. Mission Statement
 - b. Minimum class size
5. Cancellation of classes for the Spring Symposium (4:30 – 4:50)
6. Other items / Adjourn

Approval of minutes moved seconded and passed unanimously

Richard Croft is welcomed as the new A & S representative replacing Jeff Woodford who resigned..

EPCC (3:05 – 3:20)

Change Music program – see EPCC page
No changes from earlier A & S discussion
Moved seconded and approved unanimously

Change Physical Activity and Health see EPCC page
Dan explained the specifics of the changes increases the degree by 1 credit
Moved seconded and approved unanimously

Change in the Honors program- Add 201 and 301 moved from 5 to 4 tracks 2 classes and two projects
Moved seconded and approved unanimously

Change in the Music program form an SU course to graded
Moved seconded and approved unanimously

WR329 1 credit grant writing course. Possible to offer as variable credit at a later date. Not a UWR class.
Moved seconded and approved unanimously

Change to Special Ed to create a new prefix SPED all course are currently taught just changing the prefix
Moved seconded and approved unanimously

UWR courses added - Information item
WR 330 the Electronic Word
SOC 338 Sociology of Families

IFS election - Alternate (3:20 – 3:30)

Election of Interinstitutional Faculty Senate (IFS) alternate
Small OUS campuses have 2 senators
Large OUS campuses have 3 senators
The IFS meets every two months through the school year.
Policy role in getting a faculty member on the state board
The IFS is very useful for the exchange of info between faculties and institutions
IFS rep elected by the senate and we need to elect an alternate.
Jeff J. term expires in Dec 08 Janet H. term expires in 09
Nominate Kerry Loewen as the IFS alternate, nominations closed.

Kerry elected unanimously

BART Discussion (3:30 – 4:30)

Mission Statement

Discuss statements from the restructuring plan for campus and the submitted SOU statement.

SOU Mission Statement

Southern Oregon University is an inclusive campus community dedicated to student success, intellectual growth, and responsible global citizenship.

Plan is to propose changes to our statement from the BART plan. Why did BART change the campus developed Mission Statement?

Provost commented that not much changed because we need to remain very open to not get in a corner like SOU. Regional mission disconnected from the entanglements of the past we need to reconnect with our heritage. BART understood the angst around the change and wanted to be more flexible. Why liberal arts remove?. Removed to reduce the number of words heritage reflects the liberal arts balance flexible and focused. Concerned about the rural regional pigeon hole. Maybe indicate that we are beyond rural. Provost feels we must be the rural students champion and finesse the issue to serve urban students. Current demographic trying to dictate that we are multimodal.

We need specific goals and aims that will drive the Mission Statement. If we don't pay attention to the rural we are going to be hurt. Modify programs to serve broader range of students. Money is the issue for our student in being affordable. The faculty senate questions the process in developing the current statement. How does the faculty fit into the current process? According to the Provost the Repositioning Plan had to look at finding a sustainable 3% revenue, while costs are going up 6% this is not sustainable. We must pay attention to this new order of business. We need to be more responsive and do not have the luxury of the time we have had in the past with our response. Political requirements dictate that we have to tie our selves to the region. The Senate does not feel that the enrollment reality sustains the requirements of the political reality.

Motion to create a joint committee of Senate, Council and Provosts office to rewrite the mission statement. Moved and seconded approved unanimously

Need to create a joint committee with the council.

The new mission was cobbled. We needed to build on our rural strengths. How involved is the board in this mission statement process? How much is dictated to us? The board is run by widget masters. They have a hard time running OUS and are betting on pushing the regionals into consolidating services because they can't push anyone else. There are currently lots of interim provost and presidents, which makes for little resistance to the board. Threats to us are from above by the board. The timeline for revising the mission

statement is no later than May the Senate proposes to draft in March month and approve in April. For now the current board approved statement will go into the catalogue

Minimum class size

Comment- Low class size is a positive marketing tool. The Provost had some comments on the role of multimodal delivery, and probable enrollments and the model in general . Complicated algorithm where every program will get a two hour review for the accreditation and assessment process. With the of a model that will allow students to graduate in 4 years. What is the minimum number of courses and students that doesn't jeopardize student success. Offering a program where 1 course is required and only 5 are enrolled can't eliminate the class. Possible to run classes every 2 years rather than every year. Explore expanding service on campus and pay for it through online enrollment. For example the CPA prep courses are only online once and are in load. Ever circumstance is going to be unique, we will support both students and faculty. What are the logistics for an on campus course with an online offering. There won't be an analogous online course for every on campus course. With on campus courses what happens to the caps on enrollments? Provost indicated that we can't run low enrollment classes. Programs will be reviewed on an individual basis. What is reasonable for in load for faculty? Before we create a new section. A Multimodal approach has a long developmental road, we need to take a conservative approach.

Concern at what point is the institution going to say that a course is not offered? Need to look at what is the best for students and the faculty. Meetings with deans need to resolve the differences of opinion in where we are going. The institution needs to be very careful in its cost savings calculations. Timeline of discussion

Discussions with the departments or programs are ongoing. CPA example is a self-fulfilling prophesy of moving students away from the campus. The tipping point is to gave everyone off. One reason student take courses because they can't get the class away else. Need to be very careful in scheduling classes and our regular offerings. Some disciplines will never been strong online. We need much more efficient schedules. Temporary moves to increase efficiencies. What is the role of the faculty in adjusting the schedule. The senate needs to move the discussion to our constituents. We don't have a good count of how many are taking both on and off simultaneously, make it transparent to work for everyone. Rumor control sense of the senate any arbitrary minimum is unacceptable. What is the time frame for the transition. Next year we go with the current schedule catalogue goes out in two weeks. The implementation of significant changes will come to senate first.. We need to institutionalize the discussion of agenda topics strictly for open discussion.

Cancellation of classes for the Spring Symposium (4:30 – 4:50)

Virginia, symposium chair requests the closure of classes to increase the participation of students. Instructors have assignments structured around their participation in the Spring Symposium. The senate is demanding the faculty structure their classes in a certain way.

Faculty can choose to send a class to a particular session instead. We need to voluntarily encourage students see this as an essential important program. How would it work if faculty and staff are all going to the sessions and be on campus. Cancelling classes would actually work against participation. How do we cross the town gown barrier to support Spring Symposium. Make more classes part of the Spring Symposium. No intention to dictate the cancellation of classes. Get faculty and students to become more involved in the Spring Symposium. Require students to submit an abstract of different sessions. Need more faculty walking through Spring Symposium. What does it mean that participation has fallen, Absence of both faculty and administrators last year. Fewer sessions last year. This the Spring Symposium has not been an institutional priority and supported by the administration. This is an opportunity for institutional celebration. Promoted to the freshmen and sophomores. This is one of our highest priorities the capstone of what we hope for from a liberal arts education

Greg M. will draft a resolution for passage by the senate

Proposing a senate resolution in support of Spring Symposium

Other items /

Acknowledge Richard Croft as new A&S senate rep.

Develop a code of ethics for the senate- Rosemary will circulate some relevant materials

Next Meeting March 4, 2008

Adjourn - 4:45