College of Education

Minutes, Senate Meeting

Friday, September 9, 2016

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Present: Donald Bolger, Chair (HDQM), Donna Wiseman (Dean), Valerie Foster (Admin Prof Rep Non Exempt), Robin Walukonis (Admin Prof Rep Exempt), Dennis Kivlighan (Chair-Elect, CHSE), Michelle Espino (TLPL), Kelly Rolstad (TLPL), Blesilda Lim (At Large Admin Prof Rep Exempt), Robert Marcus (HDQM), Lucas Butler (HDQM), Andrew Brantlinger (TLPL)

Absent: Lawrence Clark (At large), Christina Winkler (Graduate Rep, CHSE), Lara Hodak (Undergraduate Rep, TLPL), Ana Taboada Barber (CHSE), Bob Lent (CHSE), Daniel Levin (TLPL), Paul Gold (At large), Kathryn Wentzel (HDQM), Kalia Patricio (Graduate Rep, TLPL)

II. Dean’s Report

• Dean Wiseman introduced new faculty and staff including the new Director of Communications, Audrey Hill, Assistant director of development office: Casey Hill, Assistant Dean of Finance, Hakim Scott.

• Dean Wiseman provided an update on the Board of Visitors and the 2017 Campaign

• Dean Wiseman discussed the annual College report to the provost, which included the declining numbers on Faculty workload (FTE), declining enrollment in courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels, declining enrollment in graduate programs including masters and doctoral programs, a dip in external funding which has rebounded slightly. In general, the college has seen a decline in Teacher Prep programs with the exception of the ECE/SPED program which has almost doubled in size. Discussion surrounded needs in the college to increase General Education and I-Series offerings and a need to move courses and programs to on-line and hybrid models particularly for outreach programs to professionals who are finding these models more attractive.

• Dean Wiseman conveyed information from the President and Provost that the state budget will add no new money for the campus budget, but will hold things “flat”. Meaning that Cost of Living Allowances (COLAs) and other increases are likely not to occur unless absorbed by the campus budget.

• Dean Wiseman discussed the fact that this is her 10th year as Dean and as announced by the provost would be a year of transition. The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, John Bertot, is in the process of interviewing
National Search firms that will eventually be contracted to conduct the search. Suggestions for Search Committee members have been made. At this point, no committee has been convened.

- II. Diversity and Inclusion
- Continuing the issues of diversity and inclusion from the previous academic year, the college is taking part in a pilot program for search committees that will aid in the search process to ensure a broader applicant pool and avoiding language and criterion that are likely to restrict or exclude underrepresented groups.
- The events sponsored by the College and the GSO last spring were discussed and the need to follow-up with those initiatives was generally supported.
- There was discussion of commissioning a diversity audit.
- Dean Wiseman discussed the “Thriving Workplace Initiative” that President Loh commissioned with Gallup. UMD is the first University to take part in the survey and as such data from the survey is difficult to interpret. Faculty and staff took part in the survey. There was consensus that the COE had areas of need to address, but we were not as negatively impacted as other colleges and units.

- III. Plan of Organization
- The College currently does not have a ratified Plan of Operation at the University level. The College Senate passed a new PoO following reorganization in 2012 and again in 2014. The University Senate sent back the document with suggested revisions. Those revisions have yet to be ratified by the College Senate. Given that two years have passed, several modifications to the document are likely needed. The Senate will take this up in their October meeting.
- College Staff Committee: As part of the 2014 PoO, a College Staff Committee was written into the plan. As of 2016, this committee has yet to be formed or to meet. Revisions to the PoO regarding the committee should be made to better reflect the number of staff in units and the representation of exempt and non-exempt staff should be codified in the document. The Chair of the Senate will meet with the Staff Senators to modify the text of the document and will bring these changes for a vote at the next Senate meeting.

- III. Growth, Outreach, & Entrepreneurship
- The need to improve the College’s outreach efforts were discussed along with the need for external funding. The college has encumbered time from Maureen McMahon in HDQM to work with faculty in the college to identify funding mechanisms and opportunities and to support general grant processing.
- Center Missions: The discussion of large interdisciplinary activities on campus were discussed with the Dean. In conjunction with the Board of
Regents, the USM system is pushing particular “Big Ideas” or areas of interest for the University to focus on.

- IV. Other Issues

- The chair raised the issue of moving to cloud-based documentation of Senate materials.