Penn State Behrend Faculty Council

Tuesday, March. 28, 2017

3:30 p.m. in Reed 112

Attendance: Sharon Gallagher, Laurie Urraro, Jodie Styers, Robert Light, Matt Swinarski, Joshua Shaw, Michael Rutter, Alicyn Rhoades, Joe Previte, Mike Lobaugh, Moustafa Elhadary

1. Call to order by Chair
   1. The meeting was called to order by the Sharon Gallagher at 3:30 p.m.
2. Approval of Minutes from February 28, 2017
3. Mike Rutter moves to approve the minutes and seconded by Joshua Shaw.
4. Chair’s report:
   1. Committee reports are due by the end of the semester. Please send them to Laurie Urraro (next year’s chair).
5. Reports of Officers and Standing Committees
6. Officers
7. Laurie Urraro, Vice Chair
   1. The most recent Faculty and Student (FAS) Chat took place on March 22nd. It featured Chinese Cultural Advancement Club, Asian Student Organization, and the South Asian Student Organization.
      1. We need more faculty attendance.
      2. Next FAS Chat is in April
   2. Laurie will moderate a faculty panel at the Gender Conference
      1. The panel is scheduled for April 14th from 3-5 p.m.
      2. “Differences in Gender in the Classroom”
8. Jodie Styers, Secretary
   1. No report
9. Luciana Aronne, Past Chair
   1. Not present, report sent electronically
   2. Is the incident with student and hijab being investigated?
      1. Bob Light: I will check with Ken Miller.
   3. Is the promotion report completed yet?
      1. Mike Rutter: No. I didn’t receive it.
      2. Sharon: Diane indicated the report has been sent to John Roth.
      3. Mike: I have not received it.
      4. Sharon: I will send another email in my vast spare time.
   4. There will soon be another required component on the syllabus; a statement about reporting instructor bias. Can someone in Glenhill make a common place where all these required syllabus items are collected?
      1. Bob: Give us a bit of time. The new website just went live and we’ll be working with that for a while.
   5. Course objectives now required on syllabus,
      1. Matt Swinarski: How are these news objectives going to be cross checked with old ones? How do you make sure that objectives on proposals match those approved by Senate?
      2. Bob: I don’t know.
      3. Mike R: This is for Middle States, right?
      4. Mike Lobaugh: Yes. This also helps for course substitution.
      5. Laurie Urraro: Is there going to be a template somewhere?
      6. Mike L: Maybe they can make it automated?
10. Blair Tuttle, Parliamentarian
    1. Not present. No report.
11. Committees
12. Aaron Mauro, Chair of Academic Computing
    1. Not present-No report
13. Terry Blakney, Chair of Athletics
    1. Not present, report sent electronically
    2. The committee has not met recently.
    3. Little desire by Committee on Committees of Rules to make Athletics to be a standing committee.
14. Matthew Swinarski, Chair of Curricular Affairs
    1. Still working on Curricular Proposals
    2. We need to determine a procedure to add a Graduate Curricular Affairs sub-committee. It will go to Sharon, then council, then it goes out for 10 days and we vote on it?
       1. Sharon: When do you want it voted on?
       2. Matt: I don’t know. I don’t think we’d be able to vote for the fall.
15. Michael Rutter, Chair of Faculty Affairs
    1. Update on solution for testing: Mike and Ken Miller have been emailing. No significant updates but moving forward.
    2. At last Faculty Affairs meeting, we spent lots of time discussing faculty workloads. That conversation will continue. At some point something will be written down.
16. Alicyn Rhoades, Chair of Research
    1. Committee is working on survey, which is still in progress. It’s currently assembled in a bare bones style. Heather Lum is taking that from more of a human factors perspective. Hopefully, the survey will be completed by the end of the semester, but it still needs approved by Glenhill. Hopefully it will go out to faculty in the fall.
17. Joshua Shaw, Chair of Scholarship & Awards
    1. The committee met two weeks before spring break to review nominations. A total of 19 nominations were received and reviewed. The committee selected 14 students to interview the week after spring break. From there, awards were decided.
18. Charlotte de Vries, Chair of Student Life
    1. Not present, report sent electronically
    2. The sub-committee discussed student incidents with Andy Herrera. When incidents occur, students can discuss with Andy directly or visit website.
19. Joseph Previte, Chair of Undergraduate Studies
    1. We will review awards at next meeting.
20. Representatives
21. Renee Finnecy and Jennifer Mangus, Part-Time Faculty Representatives
    1. Not present, no report
22. Rod Troester, University Faculty Senate Representative
    1. Mike Lobaugh is present on Rod’s behalf
       1. Naming titles for non-tenure track faculty were passed by the University Senate. Now it goes to the President for approval. There is no word on when this will be approved. If it’s approved over the summer, this might not go over well because it will catch faculty by surprised when they return in the fall. Once approved by the president, each campus has 5 years to implement the new changes. These changes will mostly occur at the time of contract renewals.
          1. Mike Rutter: But there are still things that need to be decided, like how current senior lecturers will fit in?
             1. Mike L: This would be a lateral move in title. The next slot up will be a promotion. That would have to go before a promotion committee. Now, there will be a separate P&T for NTT faculty. Next year this separate committee structure will take effect. Senior lecturers do NOT get automatically get promoted to the next level.
             2. Mike Rutter: How will we promote people to the highest level if we don’t have people at that level to serve on such a P&T committee? How are we going to populate that committee?
             3. Mike L: That will be bounced back to us. How are we going to do that?
          2. Sharon: Now that tenure is separate, we can’t even ask tenured individuals to sit on that committee. We’re waiting for the President to decide. Once the President decides, each campus will have a discuss criteria for each level.
       2. Mike L: This is a change to HR21. Also, they are transferring a lot of policies that are currently HR to admin. This is going to move policies that HR feels that aren’t tied to them.
       3. Sharon: With the health care, it sounds like we in the midst of changing that through 2018. They mentioned several groups and committees looking into this. Anything we can share with faculty right now?
          1. Mike L: Behrend is unique as it is outside of the system; we’re too far away. They want to run everything to Pittsburgh and the Hershey Medical Center, unless you need a specialist. We are exempt from this change because we’re too far away.
          2. Sharon: Are they going to permit Erie to go outside the state, particularly to the Cleveland Clinic?
          3. Mike L: They are negotiating a new medical provider.
             1. Alicyn: Wouldn’t it be UPMC?
             2. Bob: Highmark is the manager. They are rebidding the contract that Highmark got to oversee the delivery of our medical services.
             3. Mike L: They are negotiating UPMC being our provider.
       4. Guidelines on SRTE’s were handed out by Rod.
       5. Sharon: WorkLion, is that really going to work?
          1. Bob: It can’t be any worse than the last thing. It’s in the hands of the Lord.
23. Joshua Pannaman, Student/Senate Representatives
    1. Moustafa Elhadary is in attendance on behalf of Joshua Pannaman
    2. SGA Elections start April 4-7th.
       1. Candidates are in the Behrend Beacon and there is a website as well. There are 20 senators running for four positions. Please pass this information along to students.
       2. A debate is being held tonight in Burke 180. It will be Livestreamed on Facebook.
          1. Bob: What are you debating?
          2. Mustafa: Our platforms
       3. Last year, 900 students voted. They hope to increase the number of voters this year.
24. New Business
    1. Sharon: Nick Jones will visit campus on Wednesday April 12th 9-10 am Reed 114.
       1. Sharon: Would it be appropriate for me to email Nick to send his announcements in advance to allow more time for questions?
       2. Bob: Yes. Send it to his assistant. That way we can generate some conversation around things people are interested in.
    2. Sharon: When the health care email went out, a faculty member emailed Sharon to see if we could take more advantage of the health care on campus seeing as how they take insurance.
       1. Bob: We only have one assigned primary care physician. This is mostly designated for students.
    3. Bob: We have just finished up with final director candidate for School of Business. We hired Eric Corty as the permanent director for the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. The search for the new Dean of Research and Graduate Studies (Bob’s successor) will start next Monday.
       1. Mike Rutter: Will there be public question and answer meetings for those candidates?
          1. Bob: Yes. We had a strong pool for the director positions, we hope to have the same for the dean position.
       2. Alicyn: I’m on the committee and I will say that I think you will be pleased with candidates.
       3. Sharon: When will the announcement for School of Business director go out?
          1. Bob: Feedback on the candidates is due by 30th, then we’ll do due diligence, and we’ll move fast after that.
25. Announcements
26. Faculty Council Meetings for Spring 2017:

* Monday, Apr. 17 at 4:30 p.m. in Reed 113

1. Faculty Senate Meetings for Spring 2017 – Faculty Committee Updates from Chairs Requested

* Tuesday, Apr. 18 at 4:30 p.m. in Burke 180

1. University Senate Meetings – Spring 2017

* Tuesday, Apr. 25, 2017

1. Adjournment
   1. Motion to adjourn by Matt Swinarski and seconded by Joe Previte.