The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee was called to order at 2:30 pm on Thursday, April 23, 2020 in Zoom Meeting ID 921-4201-3509 by President Jocelyn DeGroot-Brown.


Excused: Marie Klopfenstein

Guests: Denise Cobb, Nancy Lutz (UPBC), Ann Popkess (UPBC), Ian Toberman

Announcements:
The Board of Trustees meeting will be held on April 30 at SIUC. A livestream will be available.

Guest:
Provost Denise Cobb was a guest at the meeting and took questions.

Changes to summer class minimums will vary. Some things were already cancelled, but Cobb would like to continue to improve summer scheduling and reduce the number of cancellations. The goal is to identify what courses students need and start with that, building out as needed. She wants to keep Summer viable, and it is not good for faculty or students to cancel courses. At a minimum students are looking to the University for stability and predictability, and she will work with the Deans to have some flexibility. Wrobbel noted that most of the classes students are taking in the summer are ones that they could not get into during Spring, and it creates problems if those classes get shut down. Cobb remarked that some students do not register for a class because it would not meet minimum requirements and wants to wait as students are still trying to survive the Spring semester and are not thinking about Summer yet. It is anticipated Fall semester will have a similar lag of a week to two weeks.

The minimum numbers required by the collective bargaining agreement (CBA) are being kept. Cobb felt that there were still ways to make decisions to go forward with a class even if it does not meet the minimum enrollment if there are legitimate reasons.

There is concern as news comes in from other institutions in regard to furloughs, layoffs, and budget cuts. Cobb has asked the Chancellor to work on a message for the campus to help people understand where the University is financially and provide some guidance. Summer enrollment is tracking a little behind, but ground is being made up as decision-making is shifted. Graduate enrollment is up significantly, distributed across the University. Fall enrollment is tracking about 9% behind, but University enrollment was in great shape before the pandemic. A message about enrollment will be forthcoming.

A task force will be created to plan for Fall 2020. While some universities have announced either an online or on-ground fall semester, SIUE cannot answer that right now. Contingency plans need to be
made, and the University does not want to have everything in place and then another major disruption that makes everyone scramble to adapt. The goal is to mitigate disruption and keep people safe. Some things were decided by higher administration, some had input from the Faculty Senate President and Graduate Council, but there were many moving parts. The task force will allow Fall 2020 decisions to be done together, and it will look forward to Spring 2021 as well. A charge and timeline is being developed.

Membership of the task force is being drafted, with a desire to think across all the schools. There will be representatives from each school as well as representatives from Information Technology Services (ITS), the Diversity Council, the Black Faculty and Staff Association, Student Government, Non-Tenure Track faculty, the Faculty Association, the Office of the Registrar, and Student Affairs as well as the Staff Senate President, the Faculty Senate President, the Graduate Council Chair, the Director of Retention and Student Success, the Director of Health Services, and a delegate for the Provost. She would also like to add a “science advisor” with research in infectious diseases to help interpret the latest science as well as an “improvisation/imagination” advisor. She plans to designate Dr. Eric Ruckh as Chair or Co-Chair of the task force. Cheah asked about representation for international students, and Cobb noted that someone from International Student Services is sitting in and available for meetings.

The task force needs to be operating by the beginning of May, and the charge will be issued next week. She shared the current timeline for the task force:

- April – task force is formed
- 1 May – composition and charge announced to campus
- 4-15 May – task force meets 6-10 times to initiate meetings, develop working groups, have working groups meet, and develop plans for specific issues that are identified
- 16-18 May – Chair will draft proposal
- 20 May – task force meets to discuss and revise
- 21 May – Chair finalizes and distributes the proposal
- 22 May – proposal presented to the Provost and Faculty Senate Executive Committee
- Week of May 25 – revision based on feedback
- 1 June – task force presents final draft
- 15 June – Provost and Chancellor announce plan for delivery

There was a question on whether SIUE would be determining its own financial position and arrangement for fall or whether it would be a shared decision by the system, and it was noted that while the system is tied together in many ways SIUE would be paying attention. Both institutions have reserves to help buffer expenses. Half of CARES Act dollars goes directly to students, approximately $48 million. The other half is available for the institution, which should also help buffer both SIUE and SIUC.

**Consideration of Minutes:**
The minutes for the March 26, 2020 meeting were approved as written.

**Action Items:**
There were no action items.

**Unfinished Business:**
DeGroot reached out to Student Government President Jacob Graham for a draft of their request for representation on search committees.

**New Business:**
There was no new business.

**Reports:**
The University Planning and Budget Committee (UPBC) reviewed a second round of Innovation Grants.

Curriculum Council held their last meeting for the semester and reviewed two programs from Electrical and Civil Engineering.

The Rules and Procedures Council sent the Chancellor’s review report to President Mahony. The Provost received a draft report, and it will be disseminated once they have her response. The Graduate Council has two open positions, and elections start on April 27.

The Welfare and Governance Council had a preliminary discussion about the University of Illinois policy about dual career couples.

The Graduate Council completed the review of Jerry Weinberg and will be submitting to the Provost. The Carnegie Committee requested an extension until the end of fall semester as then need to do open forums.

The Past-President is part of the One More Thought committee, presenting a lecture with retired employees of SIUE.

The President confirmed that the May meeting will be held in order to have the second reading on Policy 1E1. The constituency heads met, primarily discussing staff issues and clarifying leave time. The decision for the second Summer Session will be announced by May 15.

There were no other reports.

**Public Comment:**
There was no public comment

**Adjournment:**
The meeting adjourned at 3:19 pm.

Submitted by Anne Hunter, University Governance
I. CALL TO ORDER
II. ANNOUNCEMENTS
   a. Board of Trustees Meeting April 30 at SIUC (available via live stream video link at slusystem.edu through YouTube and Zoom)

III. GUEST
   a. Provost Denise Cobb (2:30)

IV. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES
   a. March 26, 2020

V. ACTION ITEMS

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
   a. Discussion of faculty representation/consultation on hires

VII. NEW BUSINESS

VIII. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL CHAIRS
   a. UPBC – Nancy Lutz
   b. Faculty Development Council – Marie Klopfenstein
   c. Curriculum Council – Faith Liebl
   d. Rules & Procedures Council – Wal Cheah
   e. Welfare and Governance Council – Steve Kerber
   f. Graduate Council – Duff Wrobel
   g. Past-President – Sorin Nastasa
   h. President-Elect – Laurie Rice
   i. President – Jocelyn DeGroot

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

X. ADJOURNMENT