Faculty Senate Welfare Council Meeting Minutes
Board Room, Morris University Center, SIUE
October 17, 2013, 2:30 p.m.


Members Not Present: J. Banker (excused), J. Hunt (excused), W. Yu

Guests: None

Recorder: McKenzie Ferguson

Called to order at 2:34 p.m., M. Hildebrandt, Chair

I. Announcements:
   A. Tom Jordan is not attending the meeting today; He will be present at the November Welfare Council meeting.
   B. In November, Seran Aktuna will attend the Welfare Council meeting to give an overview of the ombuds responsibilities in order to prepare for the upcoming search for a replacement. A call for nominations for a replacement ombuds will be advertised soon.
   C. Update on “Family Friendly Leave” policy – The Provost’s Office is targeting to have material to us for review prior to the November Welfare Council meeting.
   D. C. Hayden expressed concern on behalf of her constituents that the lack of landline telephones, cell-phone coverage and Wi-Fi service to areas in Peck and Dunham Hall present safety issues to students, faculty and staff. Mark H. will discuss this issue with Susan Yager, president of the Faculty Senate to see who should respond to this concern.

II. Consideration of approval of the minutes of September 19, 2013. Motion made by S. Kerber, seconded by T.R. Carr. Motion approved.

III. Standing Committee Reports
   A. Faculty Status, S. Kerber, chair. Report discussed as New Business.
   B. Faculty Benefits and Facilities Committee, T. Ozcan, chair. Report discussed as New Business.

IV. New Business
   A. Digital Scholarship policy revision: S. Kerber on behalf of the Faculty Status Committee presented a first read of the revised digital scholarship policy. The revisions were to address the Provost’s concerns regarding the need to support digital scholarship and interdisciplinary collaboration in scholarly endeavors. After discussion, it was proposed to clarify that the university encourages all types of scholarship including digital and traditional scholarship and that each academic unit shall determine the appropriate
standards for scholarship within the unit. Policy wording will be amended to reflect this (M. Hildebrandt) and will be posted to Sharepoint for review.

B. Instructional Use of Social Media policy: T. Ozcan on behalf of the Faculty Benefits and Facilities Committee presented a first read of the revised social media policy. Overall changes included a definition of social media that was added to the policy and a consent form was recommended to be drafted in order to inform all students about the use of social media within the course. Legal Counsel will need to approve the consent form. It was proposed that a consent form be drafted by the Faculty Benefits and Facilities Committee for review by Legal Counsel. If a student does not sign the consent form then suggested alternatives include: create an online persona/alias; replacing the assignment with an alternative assignment; allow the student to drop the course and still satisfy requirements in the coursework towards the degree. It was discussed and supported to separate out faculty policy from other information in the policy (staring with section titled ‘Protecting Academic Freedom’) that is better suited to the student handbook and/or course syllabus. It was suggested that these revisions be presented at the next Welfare Council meeting, and once supported, the policy shall be presented to student government for review.

V. Old Business
   A. No update on the Salary Equity policy at this time.

VI. Other Business
   A. Thank you to Steve Kerber to assuming the role of chair of the Faculty Grievance Committee.

VII. Adjournment

   Motion to adjourn made by T.R. Carr, seconded by S. Kerber. Motion approved.
   Meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

Minutes Approved by Welfare Council: November 21, 2013