Welfare Council
Minutes
September 20, 2018
MUC Board Room

Present:
Dan Segrist (chair)
Undrah Baasanjav
Jeff Banker
Lisa Green
Andrew Gross
Steve Kerber
Adriana Martinez
Kate Newman
Kamran Shavezipur

Absent:
Kathryn Bentley

Steve Kerber volunteered to serve as scribe for this meeting.

The chairperson circulated the sign-in sheet.

Members introduced themselves for the benefit of newcomers.

The chair distributed informational handouts.

Old Business:

The chair explained that Nancy Huyck was unable to serve another term and therefore unable to serve as Welfare Council co-chair.

New Business:

The chair reminded members who had not previously gone through OMA training to do so.
Lisa Green kindly volunteered to be the OMA designee for Welfare Council.

Potential Welfare Council Goals for 2018-2019:

The chair shared the Annual Report of the University Committee for Family-Friendly Policy Implementation. Members expressed gratitude to those who serve on that group, endorsed the importance of the committee, and made suggestions for additional publicity regarding the availability of the options offered.

Steve Kerber suggested the possibility of Welfare Council preparing and recommending a Civility Policy for SIUE faculty. Following conversation, members tentatively endorsed a draft document prepared by Steve and then placed the draft on hold pending further discussion at a subsequent meeting.

Kamran Shavezipur suggested the need for an Anti-Bullying Policy for SIUE faculty. Following extensive discussion, Kamran and Lisa Green agreed to investigate such policies at other universities and to report their findings and recommendations to the Welfare Council at the next council meeting.

The chair raised the issue of potential changes to the existing policies regarding faculty grievances in light of the existence of the faculty union. The Welfare Council expressed a desire to guarantee the right of faculty in unrepresented schools to continue to have access to a grievance process. Members agreed that the chair will investigate the grievance policy in place at the School of Medicine and that Jeff Banker and Kate Newman will consult with the faculty and dean in their respective schools. The issue will receive further consideration at the next Welfare Council meeting.

The chair raised the issue of potential Welfare Council input regarding the external consultants engaged in preparation of a new state budget sharing model. Following discussion, the chair agreed to investigate the possibility of inviting the consultants to meet with the Welfare Council during a future on-campus visit.

Lisa Green reported concern among her nursing colleagues regarding the threat posed to SIUE by Carbondale’s expressed interest in starting a new nursing program in competition with Edwardsville. Members agreed that this decision
constitutes an unfriendly act that threatens the intellectual property rights of the SIUE SON faculty as well as the nursing program. Members hope to learn more about this important issue at the next meeting.

No one from the public attended the meeting or requested to address the council.

The council adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Kerber