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Meeting Minutes

Faculty Senate

11-6-2012

November 6, 2012

University of Mississippi. Faculty Senate

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Senators in Attendance: Adam Smith, Ahmed Al-Ostaz, Allison Bell, Allison Ford-Wade, Andrew Paney, Brad Cook, Breese Quinn, Brian Reithel, Brice Noonan, Christian Sellar, Dennis Bunch, Erwin Mina Diaz, Gregory Heyworth, Jason Solinger, Joe Sumrall, Joshua First, Judy Greenwood, Karen Christoff, Latoya Brooks, Leigh Anne Duck, Lorrie Williamson, Mark Dolan, Matt Long, Matthew Hill, Michael Barnett, Mike Mossing, Mitch Wenger, Mustafa Matalgah, Oliver Dinius, Philip Rhodes, Rahul Khanna, Ricky Burkhead, Robert Barnard, Ruth Mirtz, Seong Bong Jo, Susan Bennett, Tom Garrett, Will Berry, Yongping Zhu, Yunhee Chang

Senators absent with prior notification: Robert Doerksen

Senators absent without notification: Chuck Ross, Carolyn Higdon, Donna Davis, Robert Holt, Hugh Sloan (Alternate), Milorad Novicevic, Jeff Roux, Daneel Ferreira, David Murray, Susan Allen, Jodi Skipper

- **Call Meeting to Order**
 - Senator Barnett opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- **First order of business: Approve minutes of October 16, 2012 Minutes**
 - Moved
 - Seconded
 - Approved
- **Introduction of Senior Associate Athletic Director Derek Cowherd**
 - Working to change perceptions of student athletes on campus.
 - Striving to be great academically, not just athletically.
 - Here to educate student athletics, improve graduation rates.
 - Read-only access to blackboard to grade portion. Would like to know anything that will help student be successful.
 - Happy to share support programs with others on campus.
- **Senate Committee Reports**
 - **Executive Committee**
 - No report
 - **Academic Affairs**
 - Update on elective “W” Grades

- Should the University limit the number of “W” grades allowed per student? What policies are currently in place? What are the potential ramifications of limiting the number possible?
 - Senator First: No new discoveries. Committee working on it.
- Update on Grade Appeal Process
 - Consider the ramifications of creating a new Standing Committee (similar to the Academic Discipline Committee) to create continuity in the Grade Appeal Process
- Update on Repeating Course Policy
 - Explore the impact of updating this policy to make it more consistent and potentially more lenient.
- Update on Forgiveness Policy
 - The current policy is quite strict compared to similar universities and has a negative impact upon retention. Explore updating this policy to be more in keeping with similar universities.

Associate Provost Eftink:

- Grade appeal process-move from ad hoc to standing/hybrid committee. Also make electronic process similar to academic discipline process. Task force continuing work towards proposal.
- Repeating course grade goes along with forgiveness policy. C- grade becoming an issue. Catalog confusing as to whether or not student can repeat a course with C-, catalog has language that you can repeat a course with a grade of D or F, but does not say anything about a C- yet we say a C- does not satisfy pre-requisites.
- Would like to put together a task force and invite participation by Faculty Senate to be on group to recommend changes on repeating course grade and forgiveness policies

Senator Barnett: requests brief meeting with Academic Support Committee following to discuss who will serve on task force

- **Academic Support**
 - No report
- **Finance**
 - No report
- **University Services**
 - No report

- **Governance**

- Update on Ombudsman

Senator Rhodes:

- Committee in discussion with Donna Gurley, Associate University Attorney about bounds of privacy allowed for interactions with the Ombuds Office.
 - Committee has been in contact with Dr. Marc Showalter, Director of UM Counseling Center. He was given two documents:
 1. Special report on Faculty Omsbuds Offices, prepared by Education Advisory Board and provided to the committee by Provost Stocks
 2. Draft proposal for Omsbuds Office
 - Meeting schedule Fri with Dr. Showalter to discuss how Counseling Center can assist with implementation of Omsbuds Office.

- **Old Business**

- NA

- **New Business**

- **Second Bachelor's Degree**

- The University of Mississippi may confer a second bachelor's degree upon either its graduates or those of another institution when a student has completed the specific course requirements for the second degree as defined by The University of Mississippi. In addition to the credits used for the first degree, the candidate for the second bachelor's degree must complete at least 30 semester hours in residence from the school or college recommending the degree, with a minimum 2.00 GPA for those courses.
 - Associate Provost Eftink: Second bachelor degree – a number of students want to pursue second degree. Various possibilities but language in catalog does not reflect. Putting together task force to make recommendation, call for volunteers.
 - Leigh Anne Duck volunteered to serve as Senate representative.

- **Fall Break**

- Senator Andy Paney, Music Dept: Reconsider how UM handles fall break. Concern that academic work is not as strong in the second part of semester by not having fall break in middle.
 - FS Barnett: Referenced it to the Academic Support Committee.

- **Adjournment**

- Senator Barnett closed the meeting at 7:15 p.m.