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Meeting Minutes

Faculty Senate

12-10-2019

December 10, 2019

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Faculty Senate Agenda – December 10, 2019

Room – TCRC 1000

- **Call Meeting to Order: 6:00 PM**

- **Approve minutes from November 12, 2019 meeting**
 - Postponed to the January meeting

- **Introductions from the Chancellor – Chancellor Glenn Boyce**
 - Dr. Boyce spoke of his commitment to shared governance, focus on facilities and equipment, and support for faculty, staff, and students.
 - The administration is focused on enrollment and new approaches to recruitment.
 - Dr. Boyce is committed to completing the STEM building and suggested we are very close to moving forward.

- **Enrollment update – Provost Noel Wilkin**
 - SACSCOC reaffirmation is complete.
 - 6-yr graduation rate for the 2013 cohort is 65.8% (a record & state high)
 - Retention rate for 2018 cohort is 86.8% (record high)
 - 2019 Fall Enrollment:
 - Undergraduate
 - Total: 16,545 (-5.0%)
 - The number of Freshmen applications increased over last year (+~950), and higher admission #
 - New Freshmen number down ~190 from last year (-5.6%). Many peer institutions have seen declines (Arkansas -9%), and some have seen an increase (LSU +5.4%; Kentucky +6%)
 - Graduate
 - Total: 2,746 (27.5%)
 - Oxford: 2,138 (-0.8%)

- Double digit growth in graduate programs of Accountancy (10.8%) and Journalism (33.5%)
 - Pharmacy only decline (-5%)
 - Graduate applications are down (921) from 2017 high of 1026
- Number of faculty has continued to increase consistently.

- **Update on recruitment process for campus sororities – Director of Fraternal Leadership and Learning Arthur E. Doctor**
 - Sororities are considering shifting rush to the week before classes rather than week 6 of the Fall semester. We are the last SEC campus that has rush after the semester begins. This may take place as early as Fall 2020.
 - Fraternities are considering moving rush up to week 2 of the semester.

- **Academic Innovation Group – Executive Director Robert Cummings**
 - Associated groups
 - Externally Funded Academic Innovation Projects: Patti O'Sullivan
 - Quality Enhancement Plan: Josh Eyler
 - Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning: Nancy Wiggers
 - CETL has a series of lunch Sessions in Spring 2020
 - Also a Teaching for Inclusion Institute in May 2020
 - (events noted above are listed on CETL website)

- **Discussion of changes to Faculty Grievance Policy – Associate Provost Rich Forgette**
 - A modification to the policy that provides procedural guidelines for these hearings that are based on the unique situation and not derived from the T&P appeal policy for which these proceedings are quite different.
 - Policy will be referred to Faculty Senate Governance Committee and the edited segment, as well as other sections of this policy, will be reviewed and considered by Senators.

- **Discussion of changes to the PROMOTIONS (Research Professors and Research Scientists) Policy - Associate Provost Rich Forgette**

- This is a new policy document that details promotion of Research Professors & Scientists.
- **Discussion of changing annual review reporting period from March 15 – March 14 to Jan 1 – Dec 30 – Associate Provost Rich Forgette**
 - It was noted that the primary effect would be to pre-tenure/promotion faculty in their final year as they go up for tenure/promotion. For these individuals, they would need to ensure that all efforts/work that should be considered in the dossier (submitted Sept. 1) will be added in addition to their most recently completed annual review.
- **Committee Updates**
 - Academic Instructional Affairs (chair: Corina Petrescu)
 - Academic Conduct (chair: Vivian Ibrahim)
 - Finance & Benefits (chair: Joseph Carlisle)
 - A consulting firm hired by U.M is looking to identify 1 or 2 vendors that would provide 403b retirement accounts with significantly lower fees than existing providers.
 - Legacy providers will no longer be supported. Future funds will be routed to new provider once selected.
 - Any fees to move existing 403b funds to new provider will be borne by the account holder (=Faculty member).
 - Development & Planning (chair: Jon-Michael Wimberly)
 - Governance (chair: Angela Green)
 - Research & Creative Achievement (chair: Thomas Peattie)
 - University Services (chair: Brad Jones)
- **Old Business**
- **New Business**
- **Adjournment**
 - Motion: Corina Petrescu
 - Second
 - Vote: all in favor

NEXT MEETING: January 21, 2020 @ 6:00 209 Bryant Hall