

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Anaya, Irmak, LaCost, Lindquist, Nickerson, Purdum, Rinkevich, Schubert, Struthers, Varner, Wysocki

Absent: Anderson, Shea

Date: Wednesday, July 27, 2011

Location: Faculty Senate Office

Note: These are not verbatim minutes. They are a summary of the discussions at the Executive Committee meeting as corrected by those participating.

1.0 Call to Order

LaCost called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

2.0 Announcements

2.1 Faculty Senate Executive Committee Met with Candidates for Dean of the Agricultural Research Division

LaCost noted that members of the Executive Committee recently met with two more candidates for dean of the agricultural research division. Members of the Executive Committee discussed their personal views of the candidates. Griffin asked when the administration hoped to hire someone. Lindquist stated that he thinks the administration wants to hire someone as soon as possible.

2.2 Executive Committee Retreat

Griffin noted that the Executive Committee retreat scheduled for August 19 will be held in the Schorr Presidential Suite at the Hewitt Place.

2.3 Graduation Ceremonies

LaCost reported that graduation ceremonies will be held on August 12. She stated that for the first time the names of the graduating master students will be announced during the ceremony. Nickerson stated that he is happy to hear that the masters students are being recognized at the graduation ceremony.

3.0 Approval of 7/13/11 Minutes

Anaya moved for approval of the minutes as revised. The motion was seconded by Purdum. The motion was approved.

4.0 Unfinished Business

4.1 Rethinking Suspension of Pay Policy

LaCost stated that she was unable to contact the Chancellor to ask for clarification about the procedures he must use if a faculty member is suspended from his/her duties. She noted that she checked the Bylaws and did not find anything specifically relating to the Chancellor needing to consult with a faculty advisory group.

Schubert pointed out that clarification of the original charge has changed requiring the Executive Committee to respond back differently. He suggested that the Senate should propose a policy that the Chancellor has to consult with members of the Executive Committee, specifically the President or President-Elect, in cases of suspension of a faculty member's salary. He stated that there are clear procedures involving the Academic Rights & Responsibilities Committee that must be followed if a faculty member fails to meet his/her responsibilities. He suggested that the Executive Committee create a policy that the Chancellor must meet with the Executive Committee at the next possible meeting.

Nickerson stated that the Chancellor's recent comments state that he is looking for some procedures to deal with cases of suspension of pay. He stated that there needs to be procedures that allow for consultation with faculty leaders and, in some cases, action must be taken quickly. He noted that the Academic Rights & Responsibilities Committee can assess the situation afterwards.

LaCost stated that she will draft language that the Chancellor needs to meet with the Faculty Senate President, President-Elect, Past President, and the Chair of the Academic Rights and Responsibilities Committee in cases of suspension of pay.

Purdum pointed out that there needs to be a very clear role for the consultation committee because we don't want to confuse the consultation committee with the Academic Rights and Responsibilities Committee. She noted that the Board of Regents is our employer and final decisions are ultimately up to the Board of Regents. She stated that the actions taken by the Chancellor and the Board of Regents in the particular case of suspending a faculty member from his responsibilities was reviewed carefully with the university lawyers.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Replacing Members on the Academic Planning Committee

Griffin reported that Professor Minter has resigned from the APC to take another position and Professor Weller is on leave for this academic year requiring the need to replace these faculty members on the APC. The Committee identified and discussed possible candidates.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Wednesday, August 24, 2011 at 3:00 pm. The meeting will be held in 201 Administration Building. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Pat Shea, Secretary.