

Washburn University
Meeting of the Faculty Senate
October 12th, 2020
Zoom Meeting Hosted by FS Executive Committee

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approve minutes-
 - September 28th (pages 2-5)
- III. President's Opening Remarks
- IV. WUBOR report
- V. VPAA Update - Dr. JuliAnn Mazachek
- VI. Consent Agenda
 - Faculty Senate Committee Reports-none
 - University Committee Reports-none
- VII. Old Business
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Information Items
- X. Discussion Items
 - Spring Break and Strategies to Address Faculty and Student Exhaustion
- XI. Announcements
- XII. Adjournment

Washburn University
Meeting of the Faculty Senate
September 28th, 2020
Zoom Meeting Hosted by FS Executive Committee

Present: Morse, Byrne, Miller, Stevens, Wynn, Dodge, Vandalsem, Klales, Smith (D), Watson, Griggs, Krug, Ricklefs, Huff, Woody, Zwikstra, Mazachek, Smith (M), Sainato, Kohls, Wagner, Grant, Cook, Friesen, Schmidt, Huff, Kendall-Morwick, Wang, Thor, Noonan

Absent: Daniels, Douglass, Moore, Romig

Guest(s): Bearman, Holthaus, Munzer, Burdick, McNamee, Lee, Grospitch, Barker, Stephenson, Ball (A), Ball (J), Liedtke

- I. Call to Order Morse called meeting to order at 3:02pm
- II. Approve minutes-
 - September 14th Motion to approve and 2nd, passed without discussion.
- III. President's Opening Remarks
 - Thank you for all your work.
 - We have now been working like this longer this semester than in the spring.
 - You may have noticed up tick in number of quarantined students
 - Appreciate this forum for discussion and thoughtful discussion.
- IV. WUBOR Meeting Report
 - Approved all action items of health vision, flex spending and insurance
 - Law school elevator upgrade discussed, question about whether the building will still be used.
 - Discussion regarding fall sports
 - No expected changes to insurance
 - Another vote October 30th about winter sports mainly basketball.
 - COVID testing cost at \$100 per test and will be discussed further.
 - Vote for no fall sports, surprise to Dr Farley that that decision was made.
 - CEO vote 5/5 for no football. Some schools will play 4 games.
 - Question regarding scholarships being honored if students are not playing, and the answer is yes students will still receive scholarships.
 - Question regarding how often COVID testing being done for athletes, right now only testing if symptoms since they are not currently playing. When playing other teams, testing to be done every 2 weeks.
- V. VPAA Update - Dr. JuliAnn Mazachek
 - Discussions are in progress for spring academic calendar, should have more information in the next one to two weeks.

- Academic calendar committee last week, no decision. Strong desire for no spring break and for starting on time.
- Discussion regarding recognition for graduating students, still no decision. There will not be one large ceremony but looking at smaller ceremonies. Decisions likely coming forward this week on Friday.
- Discussion regarding recording of class sessions. Group to come together to discuss this issue further. How do we handle recording, especially in courses where we ask students discuss sensitive issues? Will continue to work on this issue.

VI. Consent Agenda motion to approve the consent agenda moved and 2nd. Passed without discussion.

- Faculty Senate Committee Reports-
 - Approval of the Academic Affairs Committee meeting minutes from April 13th, 2020
- University Committee Reports
 - Receipt of the Academic Diversity & Inclusion committee minutes from May 12th, 2020
 - Receipt of Assessment Committee meeting minutes from September 9th, 2020

VII. Old Business

- 21-1 Temporary Academic Policy changes due to Extraordinary Circumstances of COVID19 for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 Semesters
- Last week academic affairs met to discuss this issue.
- Motion to approve and 2nd received.
- Discussion started with explanation of discussion of academic affairs committee. Non-highlighted area sent to deans and requested highlighted area to include “all students should consult with their advisors to ensure that they meet the requirements of their program.” Motion to amend with the highlight included. Moved and seconded.
- Question regarding A/Credit/Pass/Fail no restriction, clarified this is just for freshmen students. Previously, freshmen students couldn’t take A/Credit/Pass/Fail
- Asked to remove per semester wording, as is confusing to people.
- Clarified that students can come off academic probation if GPA goes up, but no placing students on probation status. Students will still get the support of probation without the official warning.
- Question if we are potentially placing students in a position to be in a hole they can’t get out of.
- If students fall below the GPA of their academic level, still triggers in Navigate. Slightly modified discussion with students but still receiving the same supports.
- Small number of students each semester that face this situation.
- Not much evidence that probation or suspension helps students.
- Question called and vote taken. Approved with one vote in opposition.

- Griggs brought forward an amendment saying these policies do not apply to law students. Asked to take the word all out and make the sentence just say students. Asked to place law school website in commas. Question called. Griggs to send document with exact wording to Stevens.
- Vote on entire item, passed

VIII. New Business- none

IX. Information Items

X. Discussion Items

- Center for Student Success Transition Survey Report- Bearman
 - Thank you for your responses on the academic progress reports. 91% response rate.
 - Busy making phone calls and texting students and urging them to get in contact with faculty.
 - Navigate update- 3 legs: strategic care, smart guidance, and intelligence. Help project number of class sections needed.
 - Survey tools in navigate new this year. Much easier to use and quick turn around time to get information to advisors.
 - Academic progress reports allowing us to work more effectively and efficiently.
 - 4 primary outcomes- engage students and promote self-direction, help advisors maximize limited times with students, create a single source of recording keeping and documentation, and improve how advisors identify which students require additional support.
 - Information on number of users in the 2019-2020. No show rate in academic advising of 20-25% previously. Last year no show rate of 4.7%
 - Registration hold down, getting students through this more smoothly.
 - Spring campaign, registering students at rate 20% higher than previously, helping keep students in school.
 - Four-year graduation rate by cohort increasing from 15.5 2017 to 26/4% in 2019.
 - What faculty are being asked to do is making a positive impact.
 - SSC Navigate Leadership meet every Thursday year round. Collaborative effort.
 - Graduation rates improved 10% in 3 years, think will continue to increase. All the hard work is having a positive impact on students' lives.
- How are we doing? Any specific you want to discuss as a faculty or regarding students?
 - Question regarding why more information is not given when a student is going in to quarantine. Student privacy is the issue and the reason the information that is being shared is being shared.

- Students and faculty feeling they are supposed to be available more now than pre-COVID. Feel they are being asked to attend meeting with less notice.
- Student participation rates down on zoom.
- Draining to teach with cameras off and not able to see students faces. Worries students doing other things during class.
- Concerns about no spring break and fatigue without a break for 15 weeks.
- Suggested anonymous survey to get student feedback regarding zoom course.
- Concerns faculty are feeling less engaged when teaching to black screens then they would have been in the classroom.
- Question regarding having spring break and then having a two week quarantine after.
- Students feel safe on campus and feel their health is cared for here more so then in their work life.
- 1st year students feeling isolate with very few options for in person gatherings.
- Concerns regarding some academic areas being done sooner in the spring then other academic areas.
- Some virtual events being done to engage students.
- The hard work to be innovative is appreciated by administration.
- It seems everything takes longer and more effort.
- Concerns that is hard to grade online
- Homecoming week is still being planned.
- Concerns about a break in spring encouraging students to travel.

XI. Announcements

- Election webinar encouraging students to register and have a plan for voting. Encouraging faculty to have this discussion and discussing that for the first time we may not have an outcome on the election that night.

XII. Adjournment meeting adjourned 4:17pm.

