

Washburn University  
Meeting of the Faculty Senate  
January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Zoom Meeting Hosted by FS Executive Committee

Present: Morse, Zwikstra, Watson, Wang, Klales, Dodge, Miller, Grant, Mazachek, Erby, Brooks, Huff, Kohls, Byrne, Sainato, VanDalsem, Schmidt, Ricklefs, Stevens, Krug, Friesen, Thor, Wynn, Moore, Kohls, Smith (M), Cook, Wagner

Absent: Daniels, Douglass, Griggs, Kendall-Morwick, Romig, Smith (D), Woody

Guest(s): Ball (A), Holthaus, Stephenson, Munzer, Pratt, Grospitch, Ball (J), Liedtke,

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approve minutes-
- III. President's Opening Remarks
  - Congratulations to Sean Byrd on a well-deserved award.
  - Last week was a doozy. We are in unprecedented times in US history.
  - If you feel comfortable, allow your students time to think through and process with you.
  - Encourage departments to host events to help students and community understand January 2021 events.
  - Dr Farley email on vaccinations today. If you have not already, email your students soon about remote start plan. Please email your students and encourage your colleagues to do the same.
- IV. VPAA Update - Dr. JuliAnn Mazachek
  - Question asked about the plan after the first week. Dr Maz reports the weekly county score card will be reviewed and decisions will be made weekly. Watch for an announcement every Thursday and the decision for the week about 10 days out.
  - Remote and hybrids will stay as originally planned.
  - Health care majors driven by licensure are having some in-person labs and have received the most concerns about these courses. Field experiences and clinicals being handled differently.
  - We will work through other labs if we are staying remote longer.
- V. Consent Agenda- none
- VI. Old Business- none
- VII. New Business- none
- VIII. Information Items
- IX. Discussion Items
  - Beginning spring 2021 – thoughts and/or concerns
  - Guidelines for planning fall 2021 semester- Dr Mazachek

- We are starting to plan for fall. We are planning for a normal fall. Plan for community wide vaccinations over the summer and this should allow us to return in person classes.
- We are keeping all the modalities and deans have been asked to look at the type of modality that is chosen that is best for the students and the program.
- Work over the spring to spread out classes over the day. All in-person classes were assigned a room that could hold all students and maintain distancing with masks.
- Question about recruitment. Admissions says our numbers are looking good and that if numbers hold our fall freshman class should look about like pre-COVID freshman class.
- Question regarding scholarship for first year students even for students that took a gap year. The team is working on this.
- Question regarding student enrollment from fall to spring. Looked at long term persistent rate, 7% down in normal times best case scenario. Right now we are 10.8% below last spring. We feel we are doing fairly well with enrollment. Our freshman struggled, 20% of freshman below a 2.0 GPA.
- Preliminary budget planning discussion
  - Will have more information on the budget in February.
  - Very proud we have been good stewards of our funds. Will keep us up to date as we plan for the academic budget.
- Vaccinations- Grospitch
  - Dr Farley email asking about information regarding if faculty are interested in vaccines. Will give these numbers to Shawnee county with the hope that they will give the vaccines and allow to be given on campus through student health and nursing. Right now Washburn faculty, staff, and students are not part of the conversation. If students have a health concern to talk to their primary care provider.
  - Tiffany McManus will see the data and will help work through the categories and help strategize distribution.
  - We are waiting on guidance from the governor and from Shawnee county.
  - Working right now to get the best information to Shawnee county and allow them to guide us through this. Our conversation will be based on the information we receive from the county.
  - Encourage to talk with health care provider.
  - We are working with other colleges and universities to advocate for higher priority from the state for higher ed.
- Tenure and Promotion in times of COVID
  - Those individuals up for tenure this year, will get a letter giving them one extra year if they choose to do so. Individuals can choose to go up on schedule.

- No one this year asked for an extra year, but may be more challenging for individuals going up this year and in the upcoming years.
- New contracts will be drafted and issued this summer related to tenure.
- Units will likely be doing some work to look at tenure and promotion guidelines to be sure they are what they should be in these times.
- Faculty affairs will continue to look at this. Discussed having some open forums to share concerns related to promotions and tenures and how COVID will impact on going research and field experiences. FAC working to find a good way to do this and set some dates.
- Will be working through promotion and tenure in February and hoping to make decisions at our March 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.
- Encourage everyone to take this information on promotion and tenure and get it to your appropriate chair and to faculty within your department.

X. Announcements

- CTEL events this week, take a look at the schedule.

XI. Adjournment