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Academic Assembly
April 25, 2011
1:30-3:30pm, STCN 130

MINUTES

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Present: Karen Feldt, Andrew Davis, Paul Fontana, Mary Graham, Kristen Shuyler, Rob Rutherford, Chips Chipalkatti, Francisco Guerrero, Allison Henrich, David Reid, Jason Wirth, Chuck Lawrence, William Kangas, Isiaah Crawford, Jacquelyn Miller, John Weaver, Jason Wirth, Jeremy Stringer, Sonora Jha, Brenda Broussard, Katherine Raichle, SU Student Rep Mark Maddox.

Excused: John Strait.

1. **Welcome by Karen Feldt**
2. **Minutes from 4-11-11 and 4-18-11 were reviewed, modified, and accepted.**
3. **Faculty Handbook Revision Committee (John Weaver).** Roll out will be the first quarter of Fall quarter. October 8 is the preliminary date selected. The handbook will come to the academic assembly and once agreed upon will go to Board of Trustees.
4. **Faculty Titles Document (Sandra Brierley – Director Of Faculty Services in attendance)**
   1. **Document introduced by Provost Crawford. Responses to questions below also provided by the Provost**. Document speaks to different types of titles and types of employment associated with them. This is a comprehensive listing as applied to all schools. Faculty Research as a title is new to SU. It exists at other universities of our caliber and as such will be incorporated. This document is a result of research from other school and is offered as an appendix to the Faculty Handbook. Would be an operational document for Provost and Deans, and other offices to utilize. Codifies the concept of multiple year appointments and creates a structure for a three-year appointment.
   2. **Rob Rutherford Question**: Explain the faculty in the instructor series. Answer: Faculty in instructor series are allowed to be promoted, salary increase, and allow for status.
   3. **Jason Wirth Question**: Differences between lecturers and instructor. Is there a systematic manner in which to go from lecturer to instructor? Answer: Faculty in A&E may be more geared toward the instructor series. There are important ethical implications of providing a professional development path in a difficult humanities market.
   4. **Allison Henrich Question**: Is there money budgeted for these transitions? Answer: Yes. Market/equity adjustments are happening. The colleges and schools will have to develop a skill hierarchy and standards as well as process.
   5. **Rob Rutherford Question**: Please comment upon administrator appointments where faculty would get rank and not tenure. Answer: Discussion ensued as IT director for illustration.
   6. **Karen Feldt Question**: Speak to the reconfiguration of current faculty and how that might link with salary? Answer: The market /equity process that is underway is based on our current structure. Adjustments will need to be made moving forward on a case-by-case basis. (**Jacquelyn Miller Comment**) Provides an opportunity for part-time adjuncts to become full time.
   7. **Karen Feldt Question**: What do you need from AcA? Answer: Feedback. Permission to use it as a working document.
   8. **Allison Henrich Question**: When would you like to transition into new titles? Answer: Fall 2012.

9. **Kristen Shuyler Question**: How will this work with Library? Answer: We will do everything possible to make it work.

5. Other committee issues
    1. **Appointment of Representative at Large to Rank and Tenure Committee**. Starting in the Fall for a 4-year appointment. Think about – full professor, appointed by AcA. Doesn't have to be a member of AcA. Next meeting bring nominations forward.
        a. **Action**: Karen will send a note detailing the Rank and Tenure Committee to AcA.
    2. **FTC committee Appointments**. Karen Feldt spoke with Randy Horton who will not be here to talk to the issues today.
    3. **Bylaws Committee (Allison Henrich and Paul Fontana).** Would like to formulate a sub-committee/task-force on Governance. Discussion ensued around what is should be and who should be included. Would follow up to the Provost's comments to refocus and rethink by-laws. Create a subcommittee to look nationally at models for shared governance. Then come back to AcA with findings. Might take a year or two. Increase transparency. It was suggested that it would be good to have outside experience as well as someone from within AcA with about five members. Seat on committee should also include legal counsel and a Dean. AcA would be the appointing body. Solicit nominations to be voted on by AcA. Graduate school member and staff member would also be good to add.
        a. **Action**: Karen to add to next mtg agenda.
    4. **Karen Feldt** noted that her term as AcA President was over in June.
    5. **Chuck Lawrence** noted that the Program Review committee needed a representative.
        a. **Action**: Karen will send around list of who is on AcA committee to AcA members.
    6. **Jacquelyn Miller** asked the committee to notify her and Karen Feldt if there term is ending.
6. Break
7. Program Review- Fine Arts (Fr Josef Venker)
    1. **Jason Wirth/Chuck Lawrence/Francisco Guerrero Comments:** Strong program with minor changes recommended. PRC had concerns around coverage in art history. Programs should be strengthened by auditions and portfolios. Specific concerns around breath of faculty, adjuncts, and student demand was discussed.
    2. **Fr. Venker**: Supports plays/productions and speaks to need for support. Correction having to do with enrollment of classes in letter is a comment made by Chair that was actually made by Dean. Final page of letter has additional corrections which were brought forward and discussed regarding handling space and budgets. If there were to be cuts, due to 5% cuts two years ago, let them know what production to cut, etc. Resources will stay in the department. The auditions/portfolios will provide a gate for entry to program. Three $1000 scholarships to students also provide incentive. Finally, the interdisciplinary arts major has kept alive the art history major and is growing the voice major as well as theater and digital design majors.
    3. **Jason Wirth**: Motion to change letter from Chair to Dean.
    4. Vote to accept report as amended. Passed unanimously.

8. Program Review – Computer Science (Richard LeBlanc and Dean Quinn). Strengths and concerns were addressed and cleared. It considered a solid program. All answers below provided by Richard LaBlanc.
    1. **Rob Rutheford Question**: C++ introductory language? Answer: Not as popular as Java. Not currently planning on making any changes.

2. **Allison Henrich Question**: Is there any consideration to provide more Discrete math? Answer: The issue was not that there was not enough math, but that there was too much. Our current thinking is that the amount of math was appropriate at its current level.
3. **Chips Chipalkatti Question**: Will the program be accredited? Answer: Yes, however there are not the same licensing requirements as with engineering. Computer science is more akin to engineering within this respect. Not all universities are accredited. Gonzaga is working on it, others are already. We think it will be a competitive consideration.
4. **Jeremy Stringer Comment**: Please explain the notion of community and make women feel welcome as mentioned. Answer: The decline in enrollments was pronounced with women. Activities have been created to bring together female students in an effort to create community. There is 50% female faculty in computer science here at SU, which is not reflected in the student body for this program.
5. **Sonora Jha**: Is the lack of women issue common in the profession as well? Answer: Yes, there is a recruitment issue across the board for computer science as a profession going down toward high school, junior high, and even considering AP.
6. **Provost Crawford Question**: Market growing for need for computer science majors but enrollments are down. Why? Answer: Things really aren't declining anymore. False impression that from dot com bust 8+ years ago suggested that jobs went abroad, which the industry is attempting to disavow. Difficult to compete with the impression further emphasized by news media.
7. **Karen Feldt Question:** What is the strategic plan for next 5-10 yrs? Answer: External demand factors over the next 5-years and we expect enrollments to grow 100-120 range at undergraduate level.
8. **Paul Fontana Comment:** There seem to be challenges with shift in demand. Chuck Lawrence/Richard LaBlanc Answer: Shift in student interest but not demand. There are new needs for computing where people want to combine computing with other things such as arts and business. As an example, we will offer Bachelor of Arts and a business degree combined with computer science to meet this trend.
9. **Allison Henrich Comment**: The language is vague with respect to structure of curriculum. Discrete math as an example was read the opposite way that it was intended. Discussion ensued around the language used and how it was not clear.
10. **Provost Crawford:** Will follow-up with Dean to get clarity around #4 – structure of curriculum.
11. Motion to approve with clarity around #4. Passed unanimously.

12. **Meeting ended at 3:26pm.**