



Meeting Minutes

Faculty Senate
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 2, 2013
SMET Room 126B, 4:00 PM

Present: Adrienne O'Brien, Laura Gonzales, Chuck Peterson, Lawrence Martinez, Harry Anderson, Ardys Otterbacher, Sherry Goodyear (via satellite)

I. Meeting called to order at 4.06 p.m., agenda accepted, minutes of the previous meeting approved. C. Peterson presiding.

II. Fiscal – Status of remuneration of Senate Representatives

Remuneration was approved at 50% of our request. At the end of the semester, A. O'Brien will submit a TERF form for each representative, with the supposition that a check for the approved amount will arrive in June, for the entire semester.

III. Committees

a. Handbook – work is still in progress.

b. Student Activities – have not met; (L. Gonzales) people are focusing on end-of-year deadlines and ceremonies.

c. SLOA - H. Anderson and C. Peterson will make an appointment with Vidal to ascertain what exactly is going on – has the work of the Faculty Senate's SLOA Committee been superseded? Further discussion is suspended until after their meeting.

d. Election Committee – Beth Juarros (who has volunteered to coordinate the next elections) is not present, but she knows that the word must go out soon, for self-nominations; and the election will be scheduled for the last week of April.

IV. Other Business/Follow-up

a. Stipends for skills advisors: A. O'Brien has had no luck communicating with Student Government about this. As the semester is nearing its end, it looks likely that this issue will not be resolved soon.

b. Lab fees: We await a response from Donna. As it stands, lab fees are charged to all students regardless of their curriculum of study. It appears that these funds go into the general fund. The members of the Senate would like to see these monies earmarked for lab costs, with the eventual plan to be an adequate and representative allocation of fees to departments, which will in turn aid each department in its own budget creation.

c. Luna Board meeting of 3/20: C. Peterson attended the meeting, and reported that it was a short meeting (no more than half an hour) with little happening in it that affects the Senate. The Faculty Senate is on the agenda for the upcoming session of the Board.

The Senate is concerned about the accreditation inspection scheduled for 2014, especially the fact that no firm plan for “self study” by Luna’s administration has been agreed upon. The Senate would like to offer a draft proposal to the Board, touching upon several areas of concern, with the view to aiding the Board. Roughly, the outline of the draft will discuss the following five points:

1. The Senate wants to help.
2. The self study and accreditation inspections are very important to the future of Luna.
3. Cite history.
4. Give examples of how it’s done elsewhere, in comparable schools in the region.
5. Propose an example plan.

A. O’Brien volunteered to write the draft, and will email her work to other Senators for their input before it is presented to the Board.

d. Strategic Plan – We discussed Sherry Goodyear’s ideas and the initial response was positive. We decided to mull them over and discuss them in greater detail at the next meeting.

e. Blackboard Training for faculty and students – S. Goodyear volunteered to speak with Larry Paiz (IT) about producing a packet of information for faculty and student orientation. L. Martinez located “Blackboard orientation” on YouTube as the discussion happened; S. Goodyear will research the YouTube possibilities, since this could be a simple solution to the need for Blackboard training on campus.

f. H. Anderson argues for a greater flexibility in a student’s course of study, namely, that a student should be able to choose any elective he or she wishes, from any course of study offered at Luna. There could be problems with financial aid, however, so that discussion will also require more research before any changes to academic programs are proposed.

VI. New Business

a. Faculty In-Service Workshop agenda – There has still be no response from Dr. Jose Z. Garcia. This discussion will be delayed until the next meeting, by which time we hope to know one way or another if Dr. Garcia will participate.

b. Senate photograph – it was decided to wait until the outcome of the election at the end of April, to gather the representatives for a photo, to put onto the website.

VII. The meeting was adjourned at 5.20 p.m.