Faculty Senate – Academic Affairs Council

Meeting Minutes

Friday, October 23 – Webex – 2:00 PM

Notetaker: Tom Brumm

Members attending: Beitz, Behnken, Bennett-George (chair), Bolser, Boylston, Brumm, Kang, Paulson, Smiley, Swalwell.

Others attending: Eric Brown, Jonathan Fox, Katie Padgett-Walsh, AnnMarie VanderZanden, Andrea Wheeler

1. Approval of minutes from 9.25.20 Meeting. Behnken moved, Bolser 2nd to approve. Approved.

2. Old Business
   a. Follow-up: Period 2 drop procedure for F20
      No change in policy, update process as discussed in 9/25 (students notify instructor of drop by cc’ing instructor in advisor communication). No objections offered from College Student services units.

3. New Business
   a. Beverage Management Minor Proposal – Eric Brown (AESHM). Introduction by Brown. 15-17 credit minor. 6 must be over 300, courses from multiple departments. After questions/discussion, Smiley moved to approve, Behnken seconded to approve. Motion approved 10-0-0.
   c. Ethics Minor Proposal – Kate Padgett-Walsh (PH RS). Introduction by Padgett-Walsh. After questions/discussion, Beitz moved to approve minor conditional on receiving positive letters of support (missing from proposal) from the LAS Dean and Chair of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Bolser seconded. Motion approved 10-0-0.
   d. Academic Standards: Graduation with Distinction - Boylston
      Language presented for two changes in the policy: (1) criteria for graduation with distinction based on final GPA rather than just before the final semester; and (2) BS in
Nursing can graduate with distinction with only 32 credits. Bolser moved to approve the change, Behnken 2nd. 10-0-0

4. Discussion: Swalwell lead an extended discussion about concerns about First Amendment policies and ideas for action steps. There have been a series of incidents on other campuses that have worried instructors of classes covering social justice and critical race theory. There is a coalition across campus to discuss these issues and hopefully to promote utilization of campus expertise in this area to help create policy. A question was asked: how are the university’s actions in response to the recent Presidential Executive Order about diversity training mesh with the stated goal to have an inclusive campus climate? There is a desire amongst faculty: (1) to create protocol for faculty if they have been doxed; (2) have input and discussion about 1st amendment language for syllabi that was drafted and shared with the Faculty Senate Executive Board; and (3) to clarify the role of the diversity requirement in addressing issues such as social justice and critical race theory.

5. Discussion: Wheeler (Diversity Course Workgroup) – tabled until next meeting. Behnken noted that diversity often is at the end of the agenda and thus gets crowded out. Brumm suggested additional meetings in spring semesters. We will schedule a meeting for December 4 just to discuss this issue.

6. For the good of the order: no items.

Next Meeting: Friday, November 13 – Webex – 2:00 PM