Faculty Governance Council

December 16th, 2013
10:00am-12:00pm
Communicore, P4-20

Members: Dr. Mike Meldrum (Chair, PD), Dr. Richard Segal (POP), Dr. Mike Katovich (Senator, PD), Dr. Karen Whalen (Senator, PTR), Dr. Ken Sloan (MC), Dr. Tony Palmieri (PC), Dr. Earlene Lipowski (POP), Mr. Tom Munyer (PTR), Dr. Carinda Feild (Distance Learning – St. Pete), Dr. William Millard (Dean’s Office), Dr. Diane Beck (Ex Officio)

AGENDA TOPICS

- Accept minutes from the October 30th meeting
- Discussion of Curriculum Revision Task Force
- Committee Assignments
- UF Mission Statement
- Uniform Grading Scale
- Peer Review of Teaching
Facility Governance Council

Minutes from December 16th, 2013

Members: Dr. Mike Meldrum (Chair and Senator, PD), Dr. Richard Segal (POP), Dr. Mike Katovich (Senator, PD), Dr. Karen Whalen (Senator, PTR), Dr. Ken Sloan (MC), Dr. Tony Palmieri (PC), Dr. Earlene Lipowski (POP), Mr. Tom Munyer (PTR), Dr. Carinda Feild (Distance Learning – St. Pete), Dr. William Millard (Dean’s Office), Dr. Diane Beck (Ex Officio)

Absent: Dr. Segal

Guest(s): Dean Johnson, Gailine McCaslin, Professor Munyer’s Students

Accept Minutes from the October 30th meeting: The meeting began at 10:07am with the minutes of the October 30th meeting being accepted.

Discussion of Curriculum Revision Task Force: Recent changes that need to align with our current curriculum were explained by Dr. Diane Beck. One of the current issues is curricular overload. Any changes made to the current curriculum are expected to occur in an evidence based way only. Another charge to the task force would be to have recommendations for all changes in by May’s Faculty Retreat.

Committee Assignments: Dr. Segal, Professor Munyer and Dr. Meldrum were the chosen members of this committee responsible for assigning faculty to different committees in the college. New committees have been charged by Dean Johnson, and a list of current members has been reviewed. Chairs, faculty and the Dean were asked for input regarding member assignments to each committee.

UF Mission Statement: UF’s Mission Statement was presented to the members of this committee. Dr. Whalen represented the College of Pharmacy at a recent meeting and gave this committee an overview no how the revision of the statement came to be. Members gave input regarding the old statement and the revised statement. Further input will be sent over to Dr. Whalen to present at the next university meeting.
Uniform Grading Scale: Currently all departments in the college are not following a uniform grading scale. +/- grades and number scales are used differently in each department. Students in the past have complained that different professors issue different grading scales. Members agreed that different courses should have different grading scales if the course work is different and therefore demands a lower or higher grading scale. Some but not all professors are currently using +/- grades in their courses. Professor Munyer’s students were asked for their input and they agreed that +/- grades are important, because they differentiate between good and excellent students. A possible solution is to implement the University’s current policy on grades. This issue was presented to the Curriculum Committee and Executive Council for further input. Both committees agreed that a +/- grade scale should be implemented for all courses and that number scales be left up to each individual department/professor. The Faculty Governance Council was in agreement with both decisions.

Peer Review of Teaching: It has been brought to the attention of this committee that our current peer review process might not be effective. Some faculty believe that a full professor should not be reviewed as often as a junior faculty for example. Currently a policy does exists in our Policy and Procedures Manual as to how often and in which manner faculty should be reviewed. The University is currently looking at this same exact issue and also has a committee in place to look at this issue. Members from this committee suggested that we first hear the outcome of the meeting from the University’s committee. In the meantime members will poll their respective departments to see what faculty recommend.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55am. Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 29th.