

FACULTY SENATE

MINUTES: October 23, 2001

HH 119, 3:30 PM

Approved 10/30/01

Senators Present: Carolyn Bowden, Elizabeth Curtin, Jerome DeRidder, Greg Ferrence, Kathleen Fox, Victoria Hutchinson, John Kalb, Kashi Khazeh, Robert Long, Doug Marshall, Jim McCallops, Richard McKenzie, Ken Milner, Dave Parker, David Rieck, Denise Rotondo, Kathleen Shannon, Don Whaley

1. **Announcements:** Rich McKenzie

Agenda items should be sent to Rich. They will be addressed as soon as is possible.

President Janet Dudley-Eshbach will address the next Forum meeting. Senators should encourage their constituents to attend.

Committee status reports should be forwarded to Rich. They will be included with Senate Agenda. If a verbal report is warranted, committee chair should ask to be placed on the Agenda.

Names of committee chairs should be forwarded to Rich McKenzie if they have not been.

A request for the administration to give an update on budget cuts/hiring freeze has been made by Rich.

2. **Comments from the Provost:** David Buchanan

Governor has made an announcement on budget cuts/hiring freeze. Hiring freeze does not affect higher education system of Maryland. Higher education is affected only by the 1-1/2% cut; does not affect the others. The part of the budget that is up for grabs is 30% of the overall budget. More clarification is expected from Chancellor's office. Provost will update the faculty when additional information is received.

The Board of Regents has continued interest in technology fluency. They want all catalogs to contain a statement re: expectations of students. Salisbury University seems to be doing this already, but we need to codify and document what we're doing (i.e., internet research, e-mail, etc.)

Provost is compiling workload reports, including percentage of student credit hours delivered by non-tenure core faculty at the undergraduate level, etc. which is an issue of concern to the Vice-Chancellor. Buchanan will visit with the Deans on the issue.

With regard to construction projects...anything not in the works is probably at risk.

3. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes for 9/16/01 approved unanimously with corrections.

Minutes 10/9/01 approved unanimously.

Minutes 10/16/01 approved unanimously.

4. Drug/Alcohol Policy: Rich McKenzie

In 1992 Gov. Shaeffer issued an order saying there should be a policy re: (illegal use of) alcohol/drugs in the workplace. There is currently a concern that some SU faculty members have been identified as in "sensitive positions" and that those faculty received a "policy" statement from Human Resources which consisted of a photocopied letter from Donald Shaeffer identifying those who were said to be in sensitive positions. Rich is requesting clarification of this policy and what ramifications could result should a colleague in a sensitive position have an accident.

Dave Parker responded by stating that the Chair of CUSF has been working on this issue. Both the faculty policy and the staff policy are being worked on independently. The Regents want one policy for both. The issue is to be addressed by the System Senate Presidents this week. The issue continues to be "in the works."

5. University Committee on Assessment: Fred Kundell

Brian Price reported (for committee) that there is an external force driving assessment. Our SU focus is continuous, quality improvement of our University. Each unit/ department will develop goals relevant to their discipline. Assessment of program is to be specific to improved student learning. Such assessment enables us to comply with Middle States. Brian distributed a five-year time table. Faculty Development resources and Provost will provide some support to schools and departments who are working on assessment goals/mission statements, etc. Faculty will ultimately assume responsibility for their roles in assessment. Price

is creating a data base, using the Nichols Model, to define program goals, communicate assessment measures, results, and how information will be used.

Carol Wood gave a short presentation ,“Creating the Departmental Plan for Assessment”, which focused on five areas: 1) Expanded statement of institution’s purpose; 2) Intended student learning (program) outcomes; 3) means of assessment; 4) assessment results, and 5) use of results to alter programs.

The Deans (not the Assessment Committee) will check programs for validity. This should not be problematic since the process is ongoing and the Deans will be in the loop throughout.

The goal is “improvement.” It is important to note that if we set goals where we are already experiencing success, then we will be failing our assessment goal (one which leads to improvement.) Most SU programs probably already have assessment goals, but there is a need to develop them more thoroughly or differently. There is the expectation that it will cost money to implement such assessment goals.

A motion was made that the “Faculty Development Committee identify (as soon as possible) a time and date for a Faculty Development Workshop on Assessment and work with the Assessment Committee to set it up.” The motion was approved unanimously.

6. Committee Reports:

The Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee is satisfied with the Threats of Violence Policy draft. This policy draft will be forthcoming for review and discussion.

The Faculty Welfare Committee is meeting with Provost Buchanan to discuss merit pay and sabbaticals.

The UCC will meet with the Graduate Council to work out particulars on better coordination of curriculum matters.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Carolyn Bowden,
Recorder