

Faculty Senate
HH 119
3:30pm, April 15, 2003
Unapproved Minutes

Present: E. Curtin, J. DeRidder, N. Hopson, R. Long, D. Marshall, D. Mathews, J. McCallops, P. McDermott, R. McKenzie, M. Mitchell, S. Muller, M. O'Loughlin, D. Parker, D. Rieck, D. Rotondo, D. Whaley

Absent: V. Hutchinson, K. Milner

Remarks from the Provost - David Buchanan

Dr. Buchanan announced that Diana Wagner had won the University of Delaware Outstanding Graduate Student Award.

The group developing the Master Plan will hold a meeting on April 22 at 12:00 noon in the Wicomico Room to share the plan so far with the campus community. The information that they share at this meeting will be shared with the President's advisory team and the Planning Committee following the open meeting.

Business:

Retirement Plan Response - Rich McKenzie
(attached)

In response to a request from Dr. McKenzie about differences between retirement plans, Donna Keener sent a document designed for new exempt employees outlining differences between the state plan and an Optional Retirement Plan. Senators expressed appreciation for the response. They also expressed concern that some of the major differences, for example differences concerning unused sick leave and disability insurance, needed to be explained further and highlighted. Senators provided a list of issues that they found particularly problematic. Dr. McKenzie will ask Donna Keener to provide information specifically on each of those issues.

Faculty/Staff Hour at Maggs - Jim McCallops

Dr. McCallops explained that a committee consisting of students, staff and faculty has met to discuss a compromise concerning the Faculty/Staff hour at the gym. The committee was proposing the following:

1. at 5:00 students will be alerted that Faculty/Staff hour was beginning, but they would be given 15 more minutes to complete their workouts;
2. from 5:15-5:45 only faculty and staff can use the gym equipment;
3. at 5:45 if any cardiovascular equipment comes available, Maggs staff will allow students to use it.

Dr. McCallops made a motion that the Faculty Senate support the proposed changes. The motion passed 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention.

Survey on "Furlough" Days - Rich McKenzie

Dr. McKenzie explained that Dr. Dudley-Eshbach had asked Alan Selser and him to gather information from their respective constituencies about attitudes toward further furlough days. She had proposed sending out a survey that would gather anonymous opinions. Senators were concerned about a number of issues suggested by the survey. Asked for clarification, Dr. Buchanan said the most recent calculation reported that the university saved \$150,000 for every

furlough day if everyone on campus was furloughed. If any employees, for example those making less than \$30,000, were not furloughed the number would be considerable lower. Dr. McKenzie emphasized that he wanted the information gathered to move through the governance structure so that the Faculty Senate would determine how to convey the results of the survey to the administration. After considerable discussion, Dr. McDermott moved that "In all senate documents, excluding this survey, we refer to furlough days as salary reduction days" so that the public understands what they are. The motion passed 9 in favor, 1 opposed and 3 abstentions. Senators discussed several ways of gathering the information from faculty views and decided that Dr. McKenzie should gather it, mainly through e-mail, and the officers of the Senate will compile it and bring it to the Senate for further discussion. Although Dr. McKenzie will know names of respondents, he will not reveal them in compiling the results.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:00
