Regional Campuses Faculty Advisory Council Minutes

May 15, 2020

10:00am – 12:00pm

Microsoft Teams

Call to order: Start 10:04


Dr. Dees joined meeting from 10:40am-10:54am

Serving secretary: B. Jones

1. Meeting Agenda Motion approved Ali
   • Second Gregory Smith
   • Approved unanimously

2. April 17 minutes: motion Carol, seconded by Ali, approved unanimously

3. Chairs report
   a. College of Communication and Information: on selecting RC reps
      i. Only 2 tenured faculty eligible to serve
      ii. Promoted the need to notify RCFAC of who is selected for the position
      iii. Uniform notification in March for all committee service
   b. Meeting on CATS need assessment for rebooting Environmental Health and Safety* (may change)
      i. Potential for microcredentialing
      ii. Exploratory committee
      iii. CATs
   c. Provost’s advisory committee (PAC): Meeting over the summer due to pandemic response
   d. Committee Service in Handbook- clarifying the process for future RFCACs. Refined procedure for soliciting university wide membership.
   e. Discussion of how FCFAC interacts with NTT faculty- positions, policy changes, initiatives, etc
      i. NTTs have gained more representation voice
      ii. New business: As RCFAC defining role of RFAC how represents/(or governance) TT, NTT, and adjunct faculty.
         1. Beth O.: moved
         2. Carol R amends – “Charge next year’s RCFAC to clarify the leadership and role as RCFAC as well as the voice of all faculty under that leadership.”
         3. Lucas second
         4. Unanimous

4. Interim VP report (DEES)
   a. Formed a university wide steering committee for reopening in the fall
i. Regional Subcommittee with two RCFAC members
ii. Comprehensive university plan – including PPE access, contact tracing, facility management and social distancing plans
iii. FCFAC role- help distribute information to faculty members at each campus
iv. Goal for end of May to have protocol in place, and come up with safe face to face instruction

b. Enrollment is down currently relative to normal years. Regionals typically enroll later than the Kent campus, so the decline may not be as severe by fall semester.

c. Left meeting at 10:54

5. Robin Denver: update about reopening (Continuity) subcommittee for regional campus, and “course delivery committee” meeting twice a week
   a. Architects examining capacity for rooms- regional campuses will have to be included
      i. 36 square feet per student
   b. Considering removing fall break
   c. Considering no face to face classes after Thanksgiving (due to potential spread of COVID 19)
   d. Class and Exam schedule – synchronizing course blocks between the various regional campuses due the different schedule at each campus
      i. Discussion of synchronous vs asynchronous course models on how it affects final exams
   e. Blocks for classes: time between courses to enable traffic to move in and out of the classroom to maintain social distance, also building occupancy and community use of campus facilities
   f. Carol- the Faculty Chairs need to be able to help over the summer with coordinating information between deans and faculty on safety issues
   g. Proposed process: Assessing each program for ability to run instruction at a distance (can a program teach entirely remotely or does it require that some courses be in person). Then assessing course by course within each program that need to be in person. If a course cannot be taught remotely, all sections must be accounted for in person scheduling and space.
   h. Clarify “reopening” – we are not closed but working on managing campus occupancy
   i. Discussed lab courses (minimizing time IN lab)
   j. Masks
   k. Do the individual campus deans have authority to close their own campus for outbreaks
   l. Faculty Chairs- alert the regional faculty that decisions about programs are being made by program chairs
      i. Teaching model, 36 square feet, and building codes

New business

1. Voting for RCFAC executive board
2. Chair – nominations: Carol, Robin (declines)
   a. Carol elected by voice vote
3. VP: Bryan nominated, elected
4. Secretary: discussion of rotating the position
a. Robin moves, Carol seconds,
b. Alphabetical order
c. Motion passes (one opposed)

5. Sue moves that the RCFAC meets over the summer
   a. Voluntary because off contract
   b. Distant
   c. Carol and Don second the motion
   d. Motion passes

11:39 Greg moved to adjourn, Carol seconded