

ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING JANUARY 21, 2011

In attendance: Julia Norrgard , Shawn Sturgeon , Edi Muhaxheri , Eranda Aliu , Mrika Kotorri , Hana Sahatqija , Richard Castleberry , Chris Hall

I. Call to Order

JNorrgard went over rules. Note for the record—executive meeting on Jan 11, 2011 for organizational purposes. Elected chair (Julia Norrgard), set a standard meeting date, second Friday of month. Will add meetings as required. Max 2 hours unless extra ordinary circumstances.

II. Establish Chairs for standing committees:

Chairs can form sub-committees. Student Government president, HSahatqija, can add students as needed. Chair's job is to make sure job is done, not to do the job alone

A. Curriculum Committee: EMuhaxheri chair. In charge of new program development, program changes, Writing across Curriculum (WAC). Curriculum work must fall within the RIT framework.

B. Student Affairs: EAliu—nominated by Julia

C. Faculty Affairs: RCastleberry Committee in charge of faculty portfolios, faculty hiring policy.

III. Charter Amendments

1. Discussion about who is qualified to vote. Motion by EMuhaxheri to change Article B, delete the minimum requirement of teaching hours to qualify for voting. Remove minimum course requirement to be allowed to vote. Seconded by EAliu Discussion about voting qualifications. SSturgeon said ongoing discussion about proportions of faculty, full and adjunct, on the Academic Senate

Motion carried.

2. Article 4 Discussion about absences from Senate meetings. EMuhaxheri put forth motion to add wording to Article 4 "except for extenuating circumstances approved by the Senate ." Seconded by EAliu.

Motion carried.

3. SSturgeon will circulate amendment about amending to faculty and get feedback. Academic Senate will look at it later. SSturgeon will send out with one week deadline for feedback.

JNorrgard announced that she has Robert's Rules of Orders—has abbreviated book. Will buy full one if needed.

IV. Policy Reviews.

Items discussed:

1. SSturgeon will draft Section D about grievance procedures for faculty of Faculty Portfolio Policy.
2. SSturgeon will come up with a guide for self evaluation portion of Faculty Portfolio which all faculty will fill out each year.
3. Faculty Hiring Policy - Search Committee will be involved in interviewing candidates. Committee will come up with 3 candidates and then send them to RIT.
4. MKotorri brought up contract dismissal—not able to discuss this at this time. This topic will come up later, after grievance procedure finalized.

Univ. Housing Policy—SSturgeon brought up needing space in university housing during the summer. Housing CHall—long-term faculty should be out in the larger community. CHall suggested AUK should look at storage space in the basement—so we can ask people to store stuff so their rooms are available. Free up space.

Discussion of who qualifies for housing.

International vs local hires housing provided can be thought of as discriminatory according to all. Comes up difference between AUK and RIT hires, what is provided for them. EAliu brings up clarifying. CHall moving this responsibility to Academic Director. EMuhaxheri asks what international faculty is. Somebody who is exempt from paying Kosova taxes and is hired by the international NGO AUK answers CHall

E Muhaxheri made motion to add “international faculty members may apply to the AD for a faculty housing stipend,” to the University Housing Policy. Second by RCastleberry.

Motion carried. Indicate approved as of January 21, 2011.

Adjunct Faculty Policy—RCastleberry motions that we use “limited term” rather than “short term” in all areas of charter. Introduction and 2B should change this language. Seconded by EMuhaxheri .

Motion carried.

Declaration of Concentration and Minors—only informational discussion. Tracked on a yearly basis. E Muhaxheri suggests that we have to get rid of the graphs, that they skew the chart. It was suggested that EMuhaxheri reformat the tables. CHall said not appropriate for an amending motion. Senate approval not required, but the record notes a matter of information, per JNorrard.

Visiting Scholar Policy JNorrard - when does faculty as a whole get involved in the process? SSturgeon said it is in 3B. Faculty Affairs will be in charge of this.

Motion by RCastleberry to approve this policy. EMuhaxheri seconds.

Motion carried.

Adjunct Teaching Assistant Policy

General discussion about section A3. RCastleberry makes motion to add in language “by the senate.”

MKotorri seconds.

Motion carried.

New Policy: Textbook ordering

E Muhaxheri will write up something about textbook ordering and circulate at next meeting.

Other:

SSturgeon will correct charter, circulate to Senate to make sure that corrections are correct, and then publish. RCastleberry suggests that we put out an email telling about Academic Senate business available to all. As RIT does.

Old Business

1. Faculty Office Renovation—CHall now have an agreed plan. CHall says we should work on this during the break. Nine days minimal. E Muhaxheri proposes that we get an email telling us what is happening; SSturgeon suggests informative email about all these matters. Thursday of exam week renovation will likely begin. E Muhaxheri asks are we going to get boxes to put stuff in. Yes says CHall.

2. Academic Website—still uncertain. SSturgeon and JNorrsgard will talk to Rrezarta about a photo and getting it up. RCastleberry discusses group email.

CHall comments at end. References Dartmouth faculty. CHall will visit RIT soon to do an RIT multi-year contract. Include reference to accreditation. Middle States will no longer take anyone for overseas accreditation. Restarting with New England Association of States Accreditation. Dartmouth is helping us with this accreditation.

CHall agreed to send out email about accreditation and RIT contract to stop rumors before they begin. No big changes expected.

RCastleberry Motion to adjourn. EMuhaxheri second.

Meeting dismissed 10:30 a.m.