

Faculty Senate Meeting February 20, 2013

In attendance: Umit Akinc, Edward Allen, Paul Anderson, Daniel Bourland, Kevin Cox, Carol Cramer, Jacque Fetrow, Candelas Gala, Michael Green, Laura Graham, Michael Hughes, Kevin Jung, Leslie Kammire, Judy Kem, Rogan Kersh, David Levy, Linda McPhail, Ken Middaugh, James Schirillo, Cathy Seta, Gale Sigal, Omari Simmons, Susan Smith, Michelle Steward, John Stewart, Lynn Sutton.

Topics:

- Updates, committee reports and new business
- Report of the COIA 2013 meeting by Jane Albrecht, Romance Languages, WFU COIA Representative
- Report of the 2013 Trustees Meeting and Semester Online update by Rogan Kersh, Provost

Updates from the President, Dan Bourland:

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 20, 2013

Committee Reports:

Fringe Benefits: David Levy reported that the fringe benefits committee met with Human Resources on January 30th. HR presented a power point that highlighted possible changes to our benefits at Wake Forest University. HR shared the projected co-pays for 2013-2014 and reported that WFU will stay with Blue Cross Blue Shield. Two issues of interest and concern for faculty and staff that were mentioned are possible changes to the existing free parking and tuition concession policy. The fringe benefits committee is concerned that these changes will have implications when recruiting faculty and staff. The fringe benefits committee would like HR to attend a faculty senate meeting and have further discussion regarding these items.

Comment: Some of the policy changes mentioned by HR are part of the Strategic Resources Initiative.

Rogan, the chair of SRI, reminded the Senate that this is a complex process. Currently they are reviewing and considering many opportunities across our university for new revenue or reduced spending.

Comment: Hof and Rogan will come and report to the faculty senate once a more conclusive plan is in place.

Q: Speaking in terms of benefit changes, are these changes being contemplated for the upcoming year?

A: Some of these changes are still under consideration and will take time to implement.

Resources: Cathy Seta reported that this committee has been meeting all year regarding faculty leave programs. The committee is gathering information from all schools. It appears that some schools have policies in place, and others do not. We will be putting together a full report with recommendations.

Senior University Appointments: Kevin Jung stated that they are currently reviewing nominees for honorary degrees.

Dan Bourland thanked Sam Gladding for serving on the search committee for Vice President of Campus Life.

University Integration: Michele thanked the Provost for providing funding for the cost of “on boarding” students who participate in the internship program. Carmen Canales is trying to streamline the process with the medical school. Their next project pertains to faculty collaboration. Please email Michele with ideas or examples on this topic.

Academic Freedom and Responsibility: Linda McPhail informed the Senate that a letter had been sent to Dr. Edward Abraham, Dean, Wake Forest School of Medicine, and Dr. John D. McConnell, CEO Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, regarding the process for non-reappointment of non-tenured, tenure track faculty. The letter was co-authored by the committee and signed off by J. Daniel Bourland, President, WFU Faculty Senate, Linda C. McPhail, Chair, WFU Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Responsibility, Michael Hughes, President, WFU Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, and Ashok Hegde, Chair, WFSM Faculty Representative Council.

Report of the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics 2013 Meeting by Jane Albrecht, Romance Languages, WFU COIA Representative

Jane informed the Senate that the Coalition of Intercollegiate Athletics is an alliance of 65 faculty senates from NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) schools. Jane is serving on the Steering Committee, which has been charged with creating a document in response to the current climate on issues related to the imminent decentralization and deregulation of many areas of college sports. NCAA has taken the initiative to consult with COIA regarding these issues.

Faculty engagement in athletics governance will play a critical role in the new deregulated world. Feel free to email Jane any recommendations and comments regarding the document being presented today.

The model proposed in the document is based on COIA’s belief that if the faculty contribution to athletics governance is to be effective, it must be present on three levels: campus, national, and conference.

Three groups exist on most campuses currently and could be tapped to participate.

- The Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR)
- The Faculty Governance Body (FGB)
- The Campus Athletic Board (CAB)

A new committee or subcommittee will be created called the Academic Integrity Group (AIG), chaired by a tenured faculty member whom will be called the Senate Athletics Representative (SAR).

The charge of the AIG would be to set new policy concerning athletics matters and to report to NCAA regarding enforcement.

Comments, Questions and Answers:

Q: Will each university get to decide if they will pay their athletes?

A: Not sure, we don't have all the details at this time. Most rules will be thrown out. Basic admissions will be an NCAA issue but many other policies will evolve to every campus.

Q: Why is this happening?

A: Rules are unenforceable, impossible to enforce them. Some forces would like to see the NCAA disappear. I think this is a last ditch effort for the NCAA to stay in business. Each university will be responsible for creating and enforcing policies.

Q: Why should I care what Athletics needs? As a faculty member, what should I be concerned about?

A: As a faculty member you want to be aware of special admissions circumstances. Faculty members have a responsibility to protect student welfare and academics.

Comment: We are not redesigning the system. WF has a good system in place. This is a national problem. Where does the faculty governance come into place? Getting help from faculty at universities where cheating is taking place. Where was faculty governance at Chapel Hill when the fake classes were taking place? At WF academic advisors work for athletics, don't necessarily like that.

Q: Back in the 60's and 70's faculty was in control of Athletics. Control was taken away due to existing problems and taken over by University Presidents. Why is faculty going to do a better job now, than back then?

A: Hopefully because of the new structure for support and reporting. Additionally, faculty is already involved at WFU.

Q: What about other schools' athletics boards? Do these boards at other institutions include professional schools?

A: Yes, mostly from the entire campus. WF is unique because it only includes undergraduate school.

Report of the 2013 Trustee Meeting By Rogan Kersh, Provost

Rogan reported that the current Trustees are deeply involved and have a genuine interest in the way this institution is governed. The group holds regular meetings three times a year, and often adds a 'wrap-up' meeting in June.

Items of interest discussed with various committees at the meeting in February:

- Semester Online – Since the public announcement about the consortium was made, work continues at an accelerated pace. Reviewing the MOU, we have some issues with it and are continuing to discuss this with other Provosts. We continue to explore the Semester Online possibility in terms of Wake Forest's face-to-face, residential college commitment, and have worked to reshape the program in ways that fit with our structure. Some institutions may be able to teach larger courses because they regularly use teaching assistants. At this time, we likely would not sign the agreement in its present form. With modifications, Semester Online is not meant to substitute on-campus classroom education, only supplemental.

Q: When and in what form would this Semester Online program be brought to the Senate for further discussion? A: First, details would be discussed with the advisory committee on online education, then discussed in the Senate as well as at College faculty meetings.

Q: Has WF spent any money, is there a cost?

A Presently we have spent a lot of time thinking it through. Semester Online is not thought of as a revenue stream, it is more of a supplement to our current model. There would be some upfront costs, could see some revenue by the 2nd or 3rd year.

- Academic Committee – Broad idea of Engineering at an undergraduate level was mentioned; planning continues for that possibility.
- Jacque Fetrow presented on a Medical Humanities, 4 year bachelor degree program that would provide a pathway to medical school for a select group of humanities majors.
- Discussed protection of minors issue with Trustees. WF has a committee working on this matter, following up on our previous conversation with the senate.
- New Faculty Fellows program overview given by Jennifer Collins.
- Well-being initiative- Discussed our efforts to enhance our students experience on campus with the new Faculty Fellows program, creating more outdoor space via the Biederman study.

Q: Any discussion about Reynolds gym?

A: Yes, and note that this is a big, complicated project. The expectation exists that we need to renovate the gym, first of all. To push toward a broader ‘wellness center,’ we need to appeal to donors who want more than enhanced fitness facilities. In the student well-being listening sessions, they have mentioned wanting places on campus where they can just ‘be’

New Topics:

Reminder: Founders’ Day Convocation at 4:00pm, Thursday, February 21 at Wait Chapel.

Adjourned 5:30 p.m.