

Academic Assembly
February 24th, 2020
2:05 – 3:35 pm, STCN 130

MINUTES

Attendance: Kathleen La Voy, Kirsten Thompson, Yancy Dominick, Chris Paul, Michael Ng, Nicole Harrison, Clara Cordova, Frank Shih, Shane Martin, Russ Powell, Nalini Iyer, Terri Clark, Angie Jenkins, Sarah Bee, Arie Greenleaf, Mimi Cheng, Marc Cohen, Margit McGuire, Patrick Murphy, Katie Oliveras, Pat Buschel, Gregory Silverman

Visitors: Melore Nielsen, Wilson Garone, Alvin Sturdivant, Tara Hicks

Minutes Taken by Lindsey Nakatani

AcA President Welcome and Approval of 2/10/2020 Meeting Minutes

2:05 – 2:06

- a. The listening session held by the Office of the Provost last week went very well. Main take

- iii. *Does the fact that Seattle University is a Division I athletics school draw a lot of students?* According to survey results, 10% of students consider this fact a significant draw to the school. There will be a forum on Division I athletics later in the year to address budget implications of this classification i.e. what are the costs, what revenue does Division I athletics bring the school? *Are Division I athletics worth the trade-off of their costs?* Approx. 400-500 students attend Seattle University because of Division I athletics.
- iv. *Would there be a gap year to reassess the deans' evaluation process?* The Provost would like any improvements to the deans' evaluations to be launched in the next academic year.
- v. *Will there be 360 evaluations of other senior administration?* The Provost believes there should be a system for senior administration evaluations. Some existing structures are in place; however, these structures need to be improved upon as well.
- vi. Strategic Planning Council (SPC) Update: The charges for the SPC working groups are being finalized. The special task force on the academic calendar is being populated and is almost ready to begin meeting. The Provost would like to appoint 2 co-chairs (1 administrator, 1 faculty member). The Provost is appointing Jen Marrone and Krycka Kevin as co-chairs to this task force.
- d. Mr. Garone offered an update on the Deans and Cabinet session that took place this morning. The focus of the meeting was to expand upon the topics of the listening session, details of the budget process and determining preemptive rationale for the 5-year budget.
- e. **Questions/Discussions**
 - i. *Could more information be provided on how much units are being asked to cut and how they are being advised through these cuts?* This information will be posted under the controller's office subpage. There will be links to the University's financial statements in the interest of full visibility. *How is the process for budget reductions being carried out?* Every dean is working with the Provost, Dr. Leary, Fr. Steve Sundborg and Mr. Garone to submit their ideas for budget cuts within their depar

Semester Consideration Taskforce Membership – *Sarah Bee*

2:25 – 2:30

a. **Proposed Academic Calendar Taskforce Membership:**

- i. Davit Adut (ASB), Kate Koppelman (CAS), Brooke Gialopsos (CAS), Anne SJ Farina (CAS), Sarah Shultz (CAS), Patrick Murphy (CON), Elizabeth Gabzdyl (CON), Eric Bahuaud (CSE), Rob Rutherford (CSE), Yen-Lin Han (CSE), Chris Whidbey (CSE), Brooke Coleman (LAW), Arie Greenleaf (COE)

- b. **Motion:** Move to approve Academic Calendar Taskforce membership as proposed by the Committee on Committees, with the addition of Arie Greenleaf as a volunteer representative for the College of Education. Seconded. **VOTE:** APPROVE: 16, ABSTENTIONS: 0, OPPOSED: 0.

- i. **Motion is passed** – AcA approves the Academic Calendar Taskforce membership.

Faculty Handbook Revision – *Kirsten Thompson*

2:30 – 2:35

- a. The proposed amendments were circulated to the University for the required one-week community consultation period. No feedback was received.

- b. **Motion:** Move to approve amendment to Section 1. B 5. P 3 of the handbook as proposed in the FHRC's (Faculty Handbook Review Committee) report dated January 30th, 2020.

- i. "In colleges and schools with Department Chairs, these Chairs are appointed by the Deans after consultation with the Provost and, **at a minimum, with** the full-time department faculty members."

- ii. **Seconded:** **VOTE:** APPROVE: 16, OPPOSED: 0, ABSTENTIONS: 0. **Motion is passed** –

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- e. When Faculty Handbook Committee turns to a more substantial revision, the University legal counsel David Lance (who has just joined the Faculty Handbook Committee as a Provost Appointee and who replaces Bob Duniway), has suggested that it create a glossary that will define terms like FTE, part-time, full-time, currently employed, etc., and that will apply throughout.

Update on Test Optional Admission Process - *Melore Nielsen*

2:35 – 2:50

- a. Melore Nielsen provided an overview of the work of the Test Optional working group to the Aca. The Test Optional Group will return to the Aca in late March/Early April with a recommendation. The Test Optional Working Group was formed in December of 2019 and includes a wide variety of SU community representation.
- b. More than 1,070 four-year colleges and universities now offer test-optional admissions. This change has been implemented at universities spanning o

b. **Motion:** Move to waive the

- ii. *Why was a course fee introduced for zero credit course introduction?* This course is a Leadership/Team cohort opportunity for the students to engage in an off campus, co-curricular activity. The course fee is to cover costs of the activity.
- iii. The AcA moves to table this memo pending further review by the PRC. The memo will be reviewed by the AcA at their next meeting.
- h. All remaining PRC memos on the agenda are tabled until the next AcA meeting, due to time constraints.

Update on Covid-19/Coronavirus Outbreak and Campus Response - *Alvin Sturdivant & Tara Hicks* 3:20 – 3:35

- a. Introductions: Alvin Sturdivant (Vice President for Student Development) and Tara Hicks (Director of the Student Health Center)
- b. General Info: Official name of the Coronavirus = COVID 19. Most corona viruses infect animals. However, in 2002 SARS, and then 2012 MERS-CoV proved to be incredibly infectious corona virus strains. Currently most COVID 19 cases are in mainland China. There have been 14 confirmed cases in the United States so far. The overall mortality rate of COVID 19 is 3%. COVID 19 is spread by respiratory droplets e.g. sneezing, coughing. COVID 19 has a much higher infection rate but an overall lower mortality rate than its other corona virus counterparts. It has been determined that there is a 14 days window in which symptoms usually appear. A-symptomatic spread of the virus has not been confirmed. Symptoms include: fever, rasping cough, flu like symptoms. 1/3 of patients have difficulty breathing.
- c. The response in the US have been focused on containment and preventing the spread of the disease. This has resulted in higher monitoring of travelers from mainland China and subsequent travel restrictions. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has a travel advisory of level 3 (which is the highest travel advisory the CDC offers) and the U.S. State Department has in place a travel advisory of 4 (which is the highest travel advisory that the State Department offers).
- d. *What is SU doing in response to the outbreak?* Seattle University has an infectious disease response plan, that is being initiated in it's appropriate order. The student health center is working to monitor and provide accurate reporting to the community on the u.s. (e)-.9 (h)-0.13 Tc 0.019iD0.013d-0.7 (i)-3.3 (t0.7 (t)d