UH Hilo Faculty Congress March 2014 Meeting Minutes

March 21st from 3:00pm  
SSB W201

Members Present: Michael Shintaku, Jim Beets, Erik Cleveland, Brian Bays, Thora Abarca, Abby Cuttriss, Avis Masuda, Alice Davis, Mitchell Anderson, Julie Adrian, Em de Pillis, Jean Ippolito, Michael Bitter, Jason Cabral, Kekoa Harman, Mark Panek, Joyce Auau

Members Absent: Janet Ray, Adam Pack, Todd Shumway, Norber Furumo, Kimberly Furumo, Gary Ten Eyck


Approval of January Minutes: Moved by Avis Masuda; seconded by Emmeline dePillis. Approved unanimously.

Chair's Report: Michael discussed the upcoming “quality of life” survey. He indicated that the search for the UH System President is still open. He indicated that the non-smoking policy suggested by the Congress last year may wind up not applying to the faculty pursuant to the collective bargaining agreement.

Committee Reports*
*Please note that Committee Reports are for informational purposes only. For further clarification, suggestions, and/or airing of personal anecdotes, please see the relevant committee chair outside of the Congress meeting.

a. Assessment Support: Mitch Anderson reported that the ASC has continued to contact individual chairs regarding the quantitative reasoning requirement. His committee plans to meet with the GE committee after the break.

b. Academic Policy: Jim Beets discussed two motions to be presented at the April meeting: one related to the policy flowchart to eliminate the VC of Research, and one on LOL “Labs Online.” He further reported that he has received no input on the proposal to update credits defining class standing, and the second was regarding the Second Degree Policy. He asked the Congress if he could present the latter two proposals to the entire faculty for feedback before presenting motions on them.

c. Program Review: Mitch Anderson reported that the PR committee continues to meet with departments coming up for review, and has recently met with Ag.
d. Student Success and Admissions, EMIT: Em de Pillis reported that the committee met and is focusing on English as a department that “requires our resources and support.” Kirsten Mollegaard will be joining the committee to help examine such issues as placement, an exit exam, and numbers of sections of ENG100. Mitch Anderson delivered the EMIT report, which focused on pre-built schedules. He reported that 20% of ENG100 students scored at the 7th or 8th grade reading level on a reading test administered at the start of both the Fall and Spring semesters, and that those students would be tracked as they move toward graduations.

e. Budget: Brian Bays reported that HB1700 passed and will cover the faculty salary increases. The Senate has deferred discussion on their version of the bill. A senate bill is also under review that will use extensive UH funds to establish a school to teach people how to fly around in airplanes. A senate bill is also under review that will appropriate funds for a program coordinator and technical support staff member to complete the necessary planning required for an international flight training center and associated aeronautical training programs at the University of Hawaii at Hilo and Hawaii community college. His full report can be found on the Congress website under “Budget Committee.”


g. General Education: Mike Bitter reported that 25-odd course applications are currently being examined by the committee.

Senate Presentations
Erik Cleveland’s Senate (CAFNRM) had nothing to report.
Em de Pillis reported that CoBE will be adding a finance internship, and will be proposing a 200-level “career” class aimed at non-majors.
Jean Ippolito reported that the CAS Senate decided to extent the voting deadline for the revised T&P guidelines. The CAS Senate also met in executive session to revise the the CAS Dean’s evaluation. The evaluation will be sent out soon. The CAS executive committee also discussed the University 101 concerns and decided they had been satisfied by Student Services. Jason Cabral had nothing to report for Ka Haka Ula.

New Business:
Vote on the Heritage Management MA linked in the Executive Summary section of the Congress website. Motion to approve passes: 14-0-1
Vote on the Neuroscience BS linked in the Executive Summary section of the Congress website. Motion to approve passes: 15-0
Vote on the Gender/Women’s Studies BA linked in the Executive Summary section of the Congress Website. Motion to approve passes: 15-0
Vote on the proposed language change in the CCRC description linked in the Executive Summary section of the Congress Website. Motion to approve the stated changes by Mike Shintaku, seconded by Mitch Anderson. Discussion: Jim Beets reminded that changes to the by-laws such as this one require two readings, so a vote cannot take place until next meeting at the earliest. Jean Ippolito expressed concern that the language change would “water down” the
function of the CCRC. Jim suggested referring this motion to an Ad Hoc committee that would amend the bylaws in time for a first reading at the April meeting. **Motion** by Jim Beets to table this motion, seconded by Jean Ippolito, passed unanimously. **Motion** by Jim Beets and seconded by Jean Ippolito to form an Ad Hoc committee to amend the by-laws. Motion passed 14-1.

**Adjournment** Motion to adjourn: Mitch Anderson, seconded by Mark Panek, passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Panek
Congress Secretary