

Faculty Congress Meeting

April 15, 2011

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. K-127

Members present: B. Leonard (Chair), J. Ippolito (Vice-Chair), B. Bays (Secretary), N. Stahl, D. Hammes, A. Jacobs, K. Commendador, R. Figueroa-Centeno, Y. Qin, N. Arancon, E. Stacy, K. Stacey, S. Marusek, Y. Ohara, K. Kawai'ae'a, S. Luangphinit, J. Beets, B. Mathews and F. McCormack

Members absent: G. Tan and C. Jobson (UHHSA representative)

Guests present: Vice-Chancellor Simmons, Vice-Chancellor Fitzsimons, D. Sakai, T. Belt, D. Miller, J. Adrian, D. Martin

A. Chair and Executive Committee Report

a. Introduction of new 2011-2012 Faculty Congress members

Barbara Leonard introduced new FC members: T. Belt (SS-CAS), J. Adrian (CoP), D. Martin (COBE). At the next Faculty Congress meeting, May 6, elections for new officers will be held. All officer positions will be open.

b. ACCFSC meeting report

Howard Karr, Chair of the Board of Regents, explained that the BOR is proposing to give President Greenwood the total UH budget to allocate rather than allocating directly to each individual campus. In the past, some campuses have appealed for separate funding directly to the Legislature. To prevent end-runs around the UH Budgeting process, the President can choose to reduce the UH System allocation to that campus or program to offset the amount of their separate funding request.

ACCFSC asked UH Legal Counsel for advice on proper handling of dean evaluations. Some units are sending evaluations to their VCAA office, others kept internally within the unit and not sent to the Dean's supervisor. Recommendation is to maintain confidentiality in accord with the State of Hawaii Uniform Information Practices Act (UIPA):

§92F-13 Government records; exceptions to general rule. This part shall not require disclosure of: (1) Government records which, if disclosed, would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; and...

§92F-14 Significant privacy interest; examples. (a) Disclosure of a government record shall not constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy if the public interest in disclosure outweighs the privacy interests of the individual.

The transition to Gmail has already been completed on some campuses. VP of Information Technology, David Lassner, was made aware of faculty concerns with the migration process.

System-wide General Education issue of common course numbering has been met with objections from the Community Colleges. UHH Faculty Congress needs to vote and make a recommendation to the UH System.

B. Curriculum Review Committee

a. Presentation of ATP: Ph.D. in TCBES – Don Price

Don outlined the need for the program as well as the reasons why it should be located at UH Hilo. B. Leonard asked if possible grant funding could be included in the proposal to help show how the program can help pay for itself through grant funding. M. Sakai asked about the anticipated increase in Ph.D. students/costs as the program progresses. Don mentioned that most students will already have sponsorships. VC Fitzsimons added that the BOR will ask how much of current resources will also be used by the Ph.D. program.

b. CCRC Report from Jean Ippolito, Chair.

The CCRC met concerning the MS program in Psychopharmacology. This proposal was sent back for more information on courses/numbering. This program is planned for presentation at the May 6th Faculty Congress meeting. The CCRC is continuing to work on refining documents and Curriculum Central. Jean reminded Congress members that several documents have been posted to the CCRC website to help faculty.

C. Assessment Committee – Report from Seri Luangphinit, Chair

Seri reported on the WASC ARC meeting. Several faculty went to WASC. She recommends to Faculty Congress that part of its future budget allocation be used for sending some of its members to this event. WASC is currently working with AACU to create a “degree profile”, where students in similar programs across different institutions around the country would have to meet the same core competencies.

Seri also recommended that our campus needs additional resources and training for faculty in order to generate information for accreditation. The way we have been doing assessment is working, however it creates a substantial increase in workload to already stressed faculty.

D. General Education Committee – Report from Elizabeth Stacy, Chair

a. **Update:** An updated list of GE approved courses and their categories for fall semester 2012 was presented to Congress members. She will send out an email soon with instructions how to access this information online.

b. **MOTION:** If the GE committee identifies a course as currently meeting GE criteria and appropriate for GE, the committee will review the current syllabus for automatic certification. In such a case, GE Committee members will fill out the appropriate application and submit it.

Discussion: R. Figueroa-Centeno asked that the instructor be consulted if this option is to be used. D. Miller believed the goal of this motion could be accomplished another way as it appears the GE Committee would be substituting its judgment for that of the department. Seri was concerned about SLO not being drafted by the teacher, though J. Ippolito added that the motion was intended for courses already with syllabi and SLO. Vice-Chancellor Simons asked who owns the course – the department, individual or campus? J. Ippolito motioned to table.

Motion to Table: 15 approve, 3 opposed. MOTION TABLED

E. Strategic Planning Committee Report: Elizabeth Stacy

The mission and vision statements have been redrafted and six goals will be sent out for consultation. Congress members were invited to send their input as an email to E. Stacy now that the survey is closed. The Committee is currently working to get the final product out for endorsement by May 9th. Details of the endorsement process are currently under discussion. K. Kawai'ae'a asked about the use of 'olelo no'eau in the mission/vision statements.

F. Academic Policy Committee – Report from Ramon Figueroa-Centeno, Chair

The Committee considered a student request to eliminate the grade A-. The Committee recommended no change in academic policy.

G. Budget Committee – Presentation by Vice-Chancellor Fitzsimons

Four handouts were presented to Congress members concerning the biennium budget. The UH System received an additional budget reduction this year to be distributed among campuses. UH Hilo's share is 10% or \$155K of total cut. The Community Colleges were protected by a separate influx of funds. The House is recommending funding for snapback in faculty pay next year, but is not providing the funding for it. The Senate version of the budget also does not provide for funding for the snapback. The funds will need to be taken from other places to fulfill the union contract. House-Senate conference results are expected by the first week of May.

H. EMIT – Report from J. Beets

Discussion of mandatory advising has been tabled. The Administration is going forward with pre-built schedules for incoming Freshmen for this fall. The team is still working to address how performance on placement tests will be will be communicated to Banner.

I. Graduate Council – A. Jacobs

The Council approved the ATP for TCBS. The Council has also been working to address the issue of how new programs affect other areas. A. Jacobs demonstrated a new online "Impact Prediction Tool" and "Impact Statement" that can be used for graduate or undergraduate programs.

J. Research Council – J. Beets

The Council will hold an emergency meeting this coming Monday with Jim Gaines, VP for Research, concerning cuts to returned overhead funds. Travel, SEED and scholar relation grants may be reduced significantly next year. Proposed changes to travel grant criteria are being considered for next year such as faculty eligibility every other year and limits to funds available for each grant.

The Council hopes to provide links from its website to information about education-based funds from societies that may be available to faculty presenting at national meetings. B. Leonard asked about an audit report for overhead funds. Vice-Chancellor Fitzsimons will look into this issue further.

MOTION TO ADJOURN –approved. 5:15pm