

Faculty Congress Minutes 1-13-2012

Members Present: Julie Adrian, Jonathan Awaya, Jim Beets, Todd Belt, Kekoa Harman, Aaron Jacobs, Eileen Lovell, Seri Luangphinit, Drew Martin, Sarah Marusek, Fiona McCormack, Rachel Nazara, Brian Perry, Cheryl Ramos, Amy Saxton, Michael Shintaku, Kathleen Stacey

Members Absent: Mark Panek, Norm Stahl, Emmeline dePillis,

Others Present: Kenith Simmons, Bruce Mathews, Marcia Sakai

Quorum achieved 3:09pm

I. Approval of Minutes from November Meeting

One correction – spelling of Hiapo Pereira’s name, that is all.

Motion: Seri Luangphinit, seconded by Jim Beets, to accept minutes as changed.
Motion passed unanimously.

II. Congress Chair’s Report: Jim Beets

1. Need for volunteers. VCAA Strategic Planning Committee. Clarification from Kenny Simmons since there are so many Strategic Plan committees. – the only purpose of this committee is to establish a list of what things must be done at the academic affairs level.
2. Congress Strategic Plan Committee. Wants input from Congress, but will start with a draft written by the Executive committee, unless we have input from other members.
3. Reminder that we are representatives of our academic unit. In the past there have been very few additions to other business. Reminds us of the AAUP Redbook, which indicates when there are problems, it is our job as faculty to make things right. Jim has asked Brian Perry to contact assistant professors to bring up their issues. Under the Redbook, it is the responsibility of representatives to do this. Jim would like to make sure that issues brought up

Fiona McCormack said she doesn’t bring things up because she doesn’t know when.
Todd Belt said: “Other business.”

Fiona McCormack says we don’t get too Other Business until too late, and suggests we not have to hear from every committee every month.

Jim Beets said, “I understand, but I don’t think that will be possible. We try to make it as concise as possible. In the past, we have allowed people to discuss things when they shouldn’t because they are supposed to be informational. If we have fewer interruptions during committee reports, we will have more time for Other Business and get to it earlier.”

Jim Beets: “Fair?”

Fiona McCormack: Fair.

4. We haven’t heard back from the Faculty/Staff development fund.
Kenny Simmons: Jube has been informed and is scheduling one ASAP. Jim Beets will follow up on the two proposals. One idea is a Faculty forum with two brief speakers to engage the faculty. Jim Beets has also said that last Congress wanted a Faculty lounge, and is working with Kenny on it, because we certainly want an outcome.

III. Committee Reports

Assessment Support: Seri Luangphinit

1. Todd Belt and I have been listening to our constituents regarding postponing program review. We have planned for a subgroup to go to the upcoming WASC Assessment training in Honolulu. We need to consider the new strategic plan, as well as the new proposed guidelines for the proposed Lumina guidelines.
2. We wanted training for program review and assessment, this is the other group that is going. A total of 20 faculty will be attending this. Those going to training will prepare deliverables subsequent to the training. For questions, email Seri or Todd.

Academic Policy: Aaron Jacobs

1. "Student Academic Expectations and Responsibilities" redistributed. Haven't received suggestions for modifications. Rachel Nazara has provided concrete suggestions for implementation of the various elements of the document. Aaron requests the endorsement of the Congress. Aaron proposes a motion endorsing it, seconded by Todd. Kathleen has some proposed changes that the 5th element be rewritten to mention the library more specifically and input on how it is described. Aaron approves. Moved by Seri, seconded by Kathleen. Passed unanimously.

Admissions/EMIT: Julie Adrian

Met on Jan 4 reviewing course seat availability. Reviewed seats available and units that have had to change course offerings. MATH is not looking so good. Randy will consult with MATH to ensure seat availability.

Budget: Norm Stahl is sick. Jim shares that we will have Marcia Sakai next meeting to talk about budget issues.

Curriculum Review: Mike Shintaku

Most things are getting approved. Mike circulates a handout showing which have been approved, which have been sent back and why. Committee has developed a list of suggestions for problematic questions within Curriculum Central. New program ATPs will be invited to present at our last meeting.

General Education: Todd Belt

1. Jill Ferguson (WASC representative) will visit 2/27. There will be two sessions of workshops available to faculty, one morning, one afternoon.
2. GE committee is meeting next week.
3. Thora Abraca will be the replacement on the committee for Amy Saxton. Passed unanimously.

IV. Graduate Council Report: Aaron Jacobs

Nothing to report

V. Research Council Report: Jim Beets

Travel grants are available. We will have less funds this time, but we will know after our next meeting. A call for proposals for Research Relations and Seed Grants will go out soon, look for it.

Fiona: is there still the limit on Tenured faculty?

Jim: Yes, because this comes from our $\frac{1}{2}$ return to overhead on grants and we expect

senior faculty to be more successful in achieving grants and funding their own travel.

VI. Budget Information.

Jim: Marcia will give an overview of what the different budgets are and the sources of revenue. This will be a brief Q & A.

VII. Other Business

Kenny Simmons: In the current policy, Congress does not have a place in the flowchart for program ATPs. Congress needs to pass a resolution and get it signed by the Chancellor to get into the flowchart. The flowcharts are under the VCAA website under Curriculum.

Jim says that this is part of our responsibility and we should do this. We will develop a proposal in Executive Committee and offer a motion at the next meeting.

Jim says we will also update the Congress website with policies. Most exist on VCAA website, but they should

Drew Martin: What happens if a program goes through the motions, it gets here and we don't like it.

Kenny: Congress is a recommending body. Congress's recommendation will go to the chancellor as a recommendation. The chancellor can then do as he sees fit. Kenny says BoR dictates that administration (BoR) makes policy, but Congresses and Senates make recommendations.

Jim: We are not stuck with policies forever. Congress can recommend important and meaningful changes.

Marcia Sakai: The chancellor will not take a negative recommendation lightly, especially if it is clear why the opposition exists.

Jim: The process allows us to think about how things impact our units.

Rachel Nazara: UHHS is looking to purchase books for reserve for the library. Wants a list of books to buy for students.

Todd: Forums should give an opportunity for faculty to discuss teaching and research with one another. It would bring us together like the faculty retreat, and give us a chance to talk about what we're doing and how we're doing it.

Jim: It is our job to provide faculty the opportunity for the faculty to do what they say they want. We want outcomes for our constituents. We build our environment, and if we fail to do that, we're not doing our jobs.

Fiona: Likes Todd's suggestion, especially that it be less structured than the faculty retreat.

Jim: We're unsure about a venue and whether we can provide alcohol.

Fiona: What happened to the 'ohana list. ³Says it was a way we could talk about things,

could we get something to replace it.

Kenny: There is a faculty list, and Steve Herman has a Facebook account for UHH.

Fiona: A faculty member suggested that you can only get writing intensive credit if you only get an A or B.

Seri: WI has no way to police the quality.

Todd: We're also concerned about GE classes not following through with the 5-page requirement.

Kenny: I would like to see each program provide the WIs within the major.

Drew: We have the reverse problem, we have too many faculty who want to teach it and it imposes small course caps.

Brian: Other universities have an upper division writing entrance exam, what about that?

Seri: These type of things take too much effort than what we can do.

Jim: Each department should do it themselves, deciding what students need to write.

Kenny: It's the feedback that matters.

Fiona: A faculty member in geology is upset that they have to be out of their building in Summer and is upset by this.

Marcia: When would be the best time to renovate their building.

Fiona: It came very abruptly and was shocking to the faculty member.

VIII. Information from CoBE

Deferred until next meeting.

IX. Information from CoBE

Move to adjourn by Sarah Marusek

Seconded by Jim Beets

Meeting Adjourned at 4:42