

UH Hilo Faculty Congress September 2012 Meeting Minutes

September 21st
K127

Members Present: Julie Adrian, Lari-Anne Au, Jonathan Awaya, Jim Beets, Todd Belt, Jerry Calton, Emmeline dePillis, Kekoa Harman, Eileen Lovell, Adam Pack, Mark Panek, Amy Saxton, Michael Shintaku, Norm Stahl, Peyton Wong

Others Present: Jean Ipolito, Armando Garcia, Mazen Hamad

Members Absent: Seri Luangphinit, Mitch Anderson, Maria Haws

3:12: meeting called to order.

Chair's Report:

- 1) Faculty Forum
- 2) Jim explained that at times policy is made by administration that affects faculty. He asked for discussion on Congress's role regarding providing input on such policy affecting faculty. Todd Belt suggested such input could naturally be directed through the appropriate standing committees. Adam emphasized the responsibility of Congress members to consult with their constituents on such matters prior to "official" Congress input is made to administration.

Jean Ippolito requested that Congress reschedule a presentation of the ATP for Chinese Studies that was passed by the CCRC last year.

Jim suggested that the distribution of AAUP Redbooks become an ongoing tradition for new members. **Congress approved the purchase of fifteen** Redbooks for new members.

- 3) Professional Development Initiative

Jim emphasized that money is available for faculty development. He emphasized that the fund is not for individual use. Jim requested that 1 or 2 people volunteer to write a proposal for a Faculty Forum to be held next semester. Jim indicated that we have been asked to recommend a faculty member for the Professional Development Committee, which currently only contains *one* faculty member who was recruited by the committee without consultation of Faculty Congress, which is "very under represented."

- 4) Cam Muir is seeking three additional members for the Sustainability Committee. Jerry Calton and Jan Ray volunteered.

6) Applied Learning Coordinator: Tom DeWitt
Jim will be asking Tom to address future Congress meetings.

7) New Initiatives

- A. Congress committee descriptions and responsibilities are being revised to appear as a “handbook” for committee participation on the website.
- B. Jim made the suggestion that links from the Senates for their own “executive summaries” to appear on the Congress website, clarifying that this responsibility will not fall to the Secretary.

Approval of May 11 Minutes

Motion: Norm Stahl **Second:** Mike Shintaku **Vote:** unanimous. **Approved as amended.**

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:** Seri Luangphinit (given by Jim Beets—see appendix).
- b. **Academic Policy:** Mitch Anderson
- c. **Student Success and Admissions:** Julie Adrian
EMIT met over the summer. (See appended report.) Julie indicated that the cutting of programs is being considered, and the survival of programs will be tied entirely to student demand. For example, Kinesiology is a “popular” major, so the argument has been made that it should receive more resources at the expense of smaller programs that should be “sunsetting”.

Adam pointed out that there are things of value that faculty do here independent of attracting students to their majors, and that those faculty accomplishments should be celebrated and publicized to try to attract more students *first*, long before any talk of eliminating programs is entertained.

Jim explained that faculty could take more responsibility in popularizing our own accomplishments, and suggested a weekly column in the local newspaper doing so.

- d. **Budget:** Norm Stahl

Norm referred to Marcia Sakai’s announcement, emphasizing that at the end of the last legislative session, we did not get any more cuts, but we did not get any more revenues either. He did indicate that the governor is imposing a 1%

restriction on spending system wide. Lower-than-expected tuition revenues might cause the restriction to be raised to 2%.

Norm solicited new members for the Budget Committee.

e. **Curriculum Review:** departing chair Mike Shintaku stated that he is organizing the committee, which is also in search of a new chair. He indicated that the CRC would not have to meet until November.

f. **General Education:** Todd Belt indicated some continuity on his committee, and he is seeking more reps from CoBE and from Natural Sciences.

Graduate Council Report: Clarification will be sought on whether a Congress representative is needed as a member of the Graduate Council Report.

Research Council Report: Jim Beets reported that the research office is being reorganized. RCUH office is being moved to the research office, so they will be on campus rather than up by 'Imiloa.

Approval of Committees: Approval of Committees will happen at the October meeting. The list of potential members will be sent out to Congress members prior to the next meeting.

Old Business: Todd Belt - discussion of the MW course schedule survey. Todd indicated that a Survey Monkey survey would be sent out soon to learn.

New Business: Mark Panek explained that the UHM Faculty Senate has been asked to add a no-confidence vote for UH System President MRC Greenwood to their October agenda, and that since it is likely (depending upon what happens at the 9/24 Hawai'i State Senate hearing looking into the handling of the Stevie Wonder fundraising concert fiasco) that UHH Faculty Congress may also be asked by our constituents to look into doing the same, members should inform themselves regarding the issue, and watch the broadcast of Monday's Senate hearing. Jim Beets indicated that the All Campus Council would be discussing the re-appointment of Mānoa AD Jim Donovan at a \$200,000 annual salary at their meeting next Thursday, 9/27, and that he would report back to Congress at the October meeting.

Adjournment: Motion: Todd Belt, seconded, Em dePillis

4:44: meeting adjourned.