

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2018

Present: Bosco, Soto, Updike, D'Amore, Workman, Cole

President Bosco provided updates about motions approved at the Faculty Senate on 10/5:

Curriculum Committee requested Executive Committee review with Interim President Workman and Acting Provost Cole the proper make-up of school curriculum committees and that committees are functioning the way they were intended.

There was discussion about the variation in committees and whether that is problematic.

Cole asked if the FSCC believed all schools must be same, or just clearly defined.

It was noted that the FCAS template might not work for all schools. The concerns are that curriculum should be faculty-driven and that processes reflect this.

Cole agreed to investigate with Deans, and find clear answers about process.

Motion about University College was tabled. Discussion in Executive Committee ensued about how to proceed:

Cole noted that this is a thorny issue: what moving parts does the Faculty Senate want oversight on? There is lots of work left to be done.

Bosco: began conversation last fall about curriculum, faculty hiring, continued frustration. This issue is sucking up a lot of energy in Senate. University College needs full time in sufficient numbers to be able to have a curriculum committee. Right now, outside people involved with curriculum, and that is a major concern.

Workman noted that a report was produced last March in which these pathways were discussed in detail. That sparked conversations with Senators Topf and Pearce. He added that the process by which programs are approved on this (Bristol) campus work for this campus. Those same processes don't work for University College.

Bosco noted that Topf and Pearce felt the response from VP Scurry in September didn't sufficiently address these issues

Cole wanted to clarify that the Faculty Senate is concerned with curriculum that touches Bristol? Or internal to SCS as well?

The curriculum at SCS needs to have different names, different titles – for example, the Justice Studies program is seeking national accreditation for the Bristol campus, and therefore can't use the Providence courses.

Bosco noted that a similar problem is happening with Public Health –

Cole suggested perhaps a defined way to split programs

D'Amore asked how hiring a Lecturer at University College for Writing could be entirely separate from the Bristol Campus, since the curriculum emerges from the same place.

Workman noted that UC has specific writing course needs that are distinct from those at the Bristol campus. The EC would like more details about the nature of these writing courses in that there are a variety of Writing courses created/offered in Bristol – could some of these fit for UC? Could there be a meeting between the UC and Writing groups to clarify/collaborate?

Bosco will ask Senators Topf and Pearce if they want to continue the conversation about a plan to split programs effectively.

Workman noted that separating them, but not making it a completely different school, allows UC to be entrepreneurial, gives them freedom of delivery. So, he is in agreement: let's get this resolved and move on. Recommend looking at Southern New Hampshire University as a model for what could happen when campuses split, with different needs for different constituents – still under one university. The Law School already operates on this model.

New Business:

Bosco asked for an update on plans for Instructional Design, after Linda Beith's departure. Will there be a new Director? Also, what access does UC have to our Instructional Development team?

Cole noted that UC has robust program of their own for ID support.

Cole and Shea are looking at whole ID area and are hopeful that by Nov there will be some definition of scope – not a plug-in and replace – but some opportunity for faculty leadership on campus in these areas. Calls and searches for early Spring.

Kevin O'Rourke, Shawn Platt, and Bob Shea are filling temporary gaps

There was a question about whether the Bristol ID staff is doing pedagogical work for UC courses. Is there a difference between what UC and Bristol faculty must do to create and teach online courses?

Cole asked for Senator Pearce to circle back around about the proposal for faculty-staff bar conversation series

Bosco noted that Senator Pearce's motion was not taken up at the October Faculty Senate Meeting because other conversations went too long.

Bosco asked for an update on the status of Deans Evals?

Workman will send report out on those that are done. Dean Potter will be up for review this year. Faculty get a "best/worst" report about the feedback gleaned from the reviews.

Bosco asked for an updated Org chart.

Cole noted that it is out to Deans now for corrections.

Respectfully submitted
Laura D'Amore, Recording Secretary