

## ECOS Meeting Minutes, October 18, 2018 3:00 p.m. UH 221

### *Call to Order*

Members present: N. Hinman, A. Johnstone, M. Pershouse, T. Manuel, M. Semanoff, G. Quintero

Members absent: A. Delaney

Guests: Ross Best

- The minutes from the 10/4/18 meeting

### *Public Comment*

Ross Best delayed his comment until the Public Meeting Law feedback was discussed.

### *Communication*

- Chairs report
  - The Budget Committee mostly discussed mandatory fees. Some of the fees are being used for service debt and some are committed to bond payments such as the building fee (25%) and the technology fee. The University needs to think holistically about fees as the campus considers increases to mitigate the budget situation. The Board of Regents is monitoring fee increases.
  - Chair Semanoff was called into a meeting with the UFA and Provost regarding the curriculum form submitted to place Global Humanities on moratorium. It has now been withdrawn by the Provost because the termination of the faculty will trigger retrenchment.
  - The Provost has asked for items that can be included in a FAQ because of confusion regarding the staffing plans, model for online and summer courses. More clarity is needed because the forms are misleading. Units have to account for the full budget. In CHS coming in under budget doesn't give priority for replacing lines. The dean asked three departments to reduce budget even more. The dean trying to avoid retrenchment in the college and may attempt to use vacancy savings. There needs to be consistency in the message.
  - The UFA has concerns that the dean should not be able to use the savings for a different department if a faculty member signs a separation agreement to save a junior faculty member.
  - ASUM passed a resolution requesting extensive and detailed explanation about the criteria taken into account under the strategic investment category. Chair Semanoff declined to speak, He wanted to talk to ECOS first.

- Curriculum proposals submitted by Linguistics were not signed by Provost. The Provost wanted to talk to the Chair about staffing plans first. Unfortunately this was not communicated to the Chair until after he found that the proposals were not on the summary. The ASCRC Humanities Subcommittee reviewed the proposal and did not have any issues. It had been posted to Box, but was not on the summary. Chair Semanoff does not want shared governance to be responsible for any delays in the process.
- The feedback on the MPA move should be given to Graduate Council. The comments will be formatted and sent to members on Monday.
- There are several guests scheduled for the November 1<sup>st</sup> ECOS meeting. Nathan Lindsay @3 (Student Success Initiatives) 30 minutes, the General Education Chair James Randall @4 , the Graduate Council Chair Len Broberg at 4:30, and the ASCRC Chair will hopefully agree to the 3:30 time slot. The curriculum consent agendas will need to be reviewed to be included on the November 8<sup>th</sup> Faculty Senate Agenda.
- Professor Manuel sent a draft document to consider for preparing for Retrenchment. ECOS suggested that it meet with representatives from the UFA next week. ECOS needs to identify possible faculty to serve on the Retrenchment Committee. The cannot be appointed until we have the President's Retrenchment Plan.
- Guest: Graduate Council Chair Len Broberg (4:30 p.m.)  
The Council does not have all the forms on the Provost's lists. There are concerns that some of the forms are missing signatures from the department chair and the dean. The Provost is looking to improve agility, so perhaps a parallel review is appropriate. However, the Council questions' allocating the workload if a proposal is not likely to move forward. Some of the Provost's ideas for increasing enrollment given resource constraints raise serious questions. He assured the Council that graduate education was included in the strategic investment component of the budget allocation process. He recognized student credit hour did not fairly represent faculty time involved in graduate programs. We need to grow undergraduate enrollment to fund graduate education.

It is difficult for programs to move forward with staffing plans when they don't understand the priorities. The Provost needs to give examples of how he made the allocation decisions based on the President's strategic directions. How are items being weighted? In the interest of transparency, chairs need to understand what the Provost is looking to achieve. There does not seem to be a causal relationship. The Senate could draft a resolution.

ECOS discussed the missing signature situation and decided that curriculum committees would not review items with missing signatures.

### *Business items:*

- The Center Proposals submitted are not for the rolling review of centers. These are either new centers or changes to existing centers and should be forwarded to the Senate on a consent agenda. Members of ECOS have started to review the materials.
- Chair Semanoff has not finalized Faculty Senate comments regarding Open Meeting Law Policy. He wondered whether there was any discussion at the Senate. Chair-elect Pershouse was approached after the meeting by the Missoulian Reporter. She is very interested in the policy. It should address faculty and staff obligations.

Ross Best indicated he would be satisfied with the response if ECOS expresses reservations and suggests revisions that address the concerns in Professor Banville's letter. Ross is pushing for a policy, but the draft is incomplete.

### *Adjournment*

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.