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Faculty Senate Meeting

Minutes

November 4, 2013

3:30 PM

Presiding: Michael Carter

Attendees: Lisa Abdallah, Sukesh Aghara, Dina Bozicas, Bryan Buchholz, Eve Buzawa, Jennifer Cadero-Gillette, James Canning, Michael Carter, Abigail Chandler, Shehong Chen, Timothy Cook, Adrian Cruz, Alan Doerr, James Egan, Heidi Fantasia, Susan Faraji, William Fisher, Alice Frye, Jessica Garb, Michael Geiger, Nancy Goodyear, Michael Graves, Christopher Hansen, Ivy Ho, Tingshu Hu, Ann Marie Hurley, Stephen Johnston, Alexander Kheifets, Daniel Klain, Jason Lawrence, Haim Levkowitz, Erika Lewis, Karen Lin, Margaret Manion, Sanjeev Manohar, Dalila Megherbi, Charles Ormsby, Robert Parkin, Emmanuelle Reynaud, Bassam Romaya, Marina Ruths, David Ryan, Carole Salmon, Michelle Scribner-MacLean, James Sherwood, Shellie Simons, Meg Sobkowicz-Kline, Stacy Szczesiul, Joel Therrien, Walter Toomey, Celeste Tremblay, Phitsamay Uy, Jennifer Wilber, YiNing Wu, Patrick Young, TzuYang Yu, Juheng Zhang (for Jialun Qin)

Recording: Martha Burns

The meeting convened at 3:37 PM.

- Minutes of October 7, 2013 Faculty Senate Meeting

Ann Marie Hurley made a motion to approve the October 7, 2013 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes. It was seconded by James Egan and passed unanimously.

Provost's Report, (Provost Abdelal)

- Provost Abdelal reported that the NEASC Accreditation team, upon leaving the University in closing meetings, had a very positive assessment. The team was very impressed with Self Study. He stated that we could not have hoped for a more positive assessment and that the findings will come to us in the form of a letter. The Provost indicated that the team said that we have a very strong IR and that pleased him because three years previously we did not have one. After hiring 2-3 people

significant progress was made. He expressed his appreciation to all who worked on the NEASC teams. He expressly thanked Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education Charlotte Mandell. The team did suggest that the general education model that is being looked at right now looks promising and continued efforts should be placed on finalizing it. The Provost also informed the Senate body that we continue to secure approval for new academic programs. However, we need to be careful not to clog the approval pipeline with too many proposals at one time.

Academic Integrity and Misconduct Policy, (Vice Provost Mandell)

- Vice Provost Mandell indicated that there was one substantive change relating to due process. A motion was made to accept the policy. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Graduate Policy and Affairs Committee, (GPAC), (James Sherwood)

- Proposal to change Graduate core requirements in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Anh Tran presented this three part proposal to:

- a. Add 16.574 Advanced Logic Design as a core course
- b. Add 16.601, Graduate Seminar (Fall) and 16.602, Graduate Seminar (Spring) as 0 credit requirements for doctoral students. MS students with the thesis option must take either 16.601 or 16.602. Tuition is not required for these seminars and students receive a grade of S/U.
- c. Add 16.216 Application Programming as a Graduate Admission requirement to the graduate catalog.

A motion was made to approve the proposal. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Undergraduate Policy Committee, (UPC), (Arthur Mittler)

- For Information Only: Proposed changes to the Bachelor's Degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering

Clifford Bruell indicated that the 2012 ABET Accreditation Review identified a program weakness in the degree. To remedy this weakness 89.325, Geology for Engineers will be added to the undergraduate curriculum. To avoid increasing the undergraduate program credits a course will be dropped from the undergraduate curriculum effective Fall 2014. No vote was necessary.

- Proposal to change the minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) requirements for the BLA degree from 2.5 to 2.2

The minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) for the overall BLA degree had been increased to 2.5 without the approval of the Undergraduate Policy Committee. A motion was made to change the overall GPA back to 2.2 from 2.5. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Other Business

- Bookstore

Thomas Houle provided an overview of the bookstore. He requested that faculty get book orders in as soon as possible.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM.