

Minutes  
Faculty Senate Executive Council  
September 30, 2014

Members present: Kim Gainer, Vince Hazleton, Jerry Kopf (chair), Susan Schoppelrey, Carter Turner

Members absent: Laura Jacobsen

Guests: Bill Kennan, Sam Minner

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.
2. The minutes for September 23, 2014, were approved.
3. The University Executive Council (UEC) will meet shortly to address the question of a fall break. Dr. Kopf has contacted Drs. Ferrari and Herman to seek input from them and will also seek feedback from the SGA president. Dr. Kennan will check with Dr. Kolajo to determine whether reinstating a fall break will conflict with any contact hour requirements. Dr. Kennan also will determine whether any calendar change must go to the BOV.
4. The council suggested to Dr. Schoppelrey that the Governance Committee may wish to address the question of whether the UEC should be eliminated as part of IG reform. Last year the UEC met infrequently or not at all.
5. Regarding online evaluation, Dr. Kennan reported that there will be two versions of the instrument, one for online classes and another for face-to-face classes. He also reported that a consultant from Scantron would be on campus mid-October; that the server has been set up; and that online evaluation would be piloted shortly, with a focus group to follow in the spring. There would be a link for each class, and students would be asked to bring smart phones, laptops, or tablets to class on the day of administration. He stated that instructors could step outside the room during the evaluation so it would not be necessary to have a colleague attend, which would simplify the logistics of administering evaluations. He stated that it was important that evaluations take place during and not before class. He also reported that Activity Insight would be able to pull the data for FARs.
6. Dr. Kopf stated that perhaps colleagues should still administer the evaluations because of the possibility that the instructor would go off script. He also asked whether it would be possible to compare the results of online and paper evaluations of a professor to determine whether there would be variations in results depending on method of administration.
7. Dr. Minner reported that he had met with Dr. Kolajo regarding the administration of the CLA. The university has until the end of November to administer it. Dr. Kolajo gave Dr. Minner a list of classes that meet at appropriate times. Council members raised logistical questions about administering the CLA during class meetings.
8. Dr. Kopf raised the prospect of international recruiting. He pointed out that October and November are two major recruiting months. Dr. Minner reported that he had met that morning with Mr. Pennix regarding recruitment and would meet with him again shortly.

9. Dr. Kopf reported that he, Drs. Gainer, Kennan, and Minner, and Ms. Taylor would meet shortly to determine the status of motions passed in the Faculty Senate.
10. Dr. Minner reported that he would soon provide an update on the university's budget. He anticipates the restoration of money for travel, research, and spring faculty leaves; and he expects that a call for leaves for next year will go out. How fenced-off positions are affected by resignations will have to be addressed.
11. The council discussed the action items on a list prepared by Dr. Kopf. The US News and World Report rankings were discussed in terms of whether RU can use the factors that affect rankings, which include faculty resources, to control the narrative. The council also discussed class sizes and workload and how they should be determined.
12. The meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m.