Wayne State University

Academic Senate

Curriculum and Instruction Committee

Meeting minutes

February 19, 2020

This was a joint meeting with Faculty Affairs Committee of the WSU Academic Senate.

Curriculum and Instruction Committee members present:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Brad Roth, Chair | Sandra Oliver-McNeil |
| Juliann Binienda | Richard Pineau |
| Kelly Dormer | Stella Resko |
| Robert Harr |  |
| Manoj Kulchania |  |
|  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Liaisons: Paul Beavers (policy committee) |
|  Darin Ellis (WSU Administration) |
|  Basel Berry (Student Senate) |
|  Amanda Levitt (GEOC) |
|  |
|   |

Excused Absence: Thomas Fischer, Peter Henning, Yang Zhao

Faculty Affairs Committee members present:

Renee Hoogland, Chair, Jocelyn Ang, Ellen Tisdale, Marisa Henderson, Ewa Golebiowska,

Karen Tarpenning, Daniel Golodner, Scott Tainsky (Management and Information systems)

Meeting guest: Linda Beale, President Academic Senate

I. Approval of the minutes of 1-22-20 for Curriculum and Instruction Committee were approved by members online with no corrections.

II. Update from the Committee Chair – Brad Roth

Brad Roth provided a quick follow up to the Bartleby Learn subscription service offered by Barnes and Noble Bookstores. He reported that the university will no longer use this service.

III. Provost’s Interdisciplinary Hiring Initiative - Guests:

Keith Whitfield, Provost; Boris Baltes, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs

Provost Whitfield began providing a brief history and rationale for the Interdisciplinary Hiring Initiative. It was an attempt to offset some of the budgetary limitations in hiring of new faculty. More than one college could benefit from an additional faculty hire. This could showcase the strengths of the university. Also aided business school with their accreditation needs. A call was put forth in a competition for the top areas of need for this type of hire: Big data, social determinants of health, social equality, artificial intelligence were rated as highest areas of need. Proposals were then sought from around the university. He also asserted that these hires are entirely distinct from the replacement of retiring and departing faculty members; upon any faculty retirement or resignation, the faculty line returns back to the represented college. Questions were raised by the committee members regarding decisions on selection of final candidates. The Provost explained that he takes the consideration of the search committee rankings into account. There is negotiation with the finalist as to their primary and secondary academic home for tenure and selective salary review, etc. He acknowledged the difficult search logistics because of different colleges involved in the search. Boris Baltes provided a review of the current initiative for the social equality hires through Family Medicine, Education and CLAS. Questions were raised with respect to the evaluation of this initiative, mentoring of the new hires, and ongoing monitoring of the initiative moving forward.

IV. On-Line SET – Presentation on Results of Pilot – Darin Ellis

Guest: Laura Woodward from SET office

Laura Woodward provided a presentation regarding switching the paper SET evaluations to online. She reviewed results of pilot of online SET. The proposed new online SET evaluations would not be through Canvas LMS. Blue Works is the proposed new system. Questions were raised by those in attendance regarding security issues, who has access to SET, how it will be used, etc. The benefits of paper vs online were also discussed. Scott Tainsky provided some background study information on this topic.

[Please note Laura Woodward’s summary of reactions of this and other committees, enclosed with these minutes.]

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Juliann Binienda