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Steering Committee

Campus Governance

9-20-2016

Steering minutes 09/20/2016

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Steering Committee Meeting
September 20, 2016

Present: Jon Anderson, William Rasmussen, Madison Hughes, Nic McPhee, Denise Odello, Dave Israels-Swenson, Jacqueline Johnson

Introductions

Minutes from April 13, 2016 Steering Committee meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

Set Campus Assembly agenda for September 27, 2016 meeting

The Curriculum Committee course changes from Education and Science and Math are pretty straightforward and not controversial. The foreign language discussion could be rambunctious. Bart will present the proposal and will give background information as well.

Nic and Jon have discussed the ECAS forms and how the course changes are presented at assembly meetings. They would like to see some effort to generate summaries that are easier to read and hopefully this would encourage a more genuine conversation about the course or program changes during the assembly meeting. Jon will follow-up with the Dean's Office.

Jon reminded the committee about the joint meeting of the committee chairs and the Steering Committee. He wondered if there were suggestions to make the joint meeting more effective. Jacquie reinforces the idea behind shared governance and believes that shared governance is stronger if committees aren't operating in isolation. The sharing of information is good as move our institutional agenda forward working with committees and administration. As someone who has previously chaired a committee, Nic noted that it's frustrating to be told so many things in September. It seems that spring would be a better time to meet with the incoming chairs and then a meeting in the fall after committees are meeting and working.

New business

Jacquie reported that a system wide strategic planning effort is about to get underway. The Board of Regents have requested a system plan and President Kaler plans to put appoint a task force. He has already appointed two co-chairs, Stephen Lehmkuhle, the chancellor at Rochester and Rebecca Ropers-Huilman, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs. We are asked to appoint three people to serve on the committee – an administrator, faculty member and a student. The timeline is very fast as the Board of Regents expects to see a plan in May followed by approval in June. The co-chairs along with the three campus representatives will conduct listening sessions on each campus. Jacquie wanted this committee to know about this initiative and that she plans to consult with the Membership Committee and other offices as appropriate. Given the tight timeline, she will consult with the committee chairs.

Nic asked if Jacquie would be willing to give some words of wisdom about how this committee could most effectively interact with the new chancellor. Perhaps at an upcoming meeting.

Nic and Jon have been discussing three potential arrangements for a common meeting time. There was a big discussion several years to change the course calendar. Several proposals were brought forward and great amounts of time were dedicated to discussion but one by one the proposals were rejected. The proposals will be shared with this committee.