

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well
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Consultative Committee

Campus Governance

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Consultative minutes 04/10/2014

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Consultative Committee Meeting 10 April 2014

Present: LeAnn Dean, Nancy Helsper, Joey Daniewicz, Chad Braegelmann, Jim Hall, Janet Ericksen, Ray Schultz, Allison Wolf, Heather Waye, Jean Rohloff, Julie Eckerle (visitor), Jim Barbour (minutes)

Guest: Dean Bart Finzel

ACE and OAS: Moving forward; hoping to interview in May; Brenda Boever will be interim director. Space will be an issue. We may be getting grants for retention, etc.; this would result in 2 more people needing space; Who will cover Academic Support in the interim? Viktor Berberi. ACE position: second candidate on campus today – action shortly.

Question about salary for Disabilities position: Bart responds that we are above national norms and that the salary trend is downward. Discussion follows. Bart avers that we are currently a bit low. Q: Is our hiring position competitive? Yes, we are in pretty good shape, but there is a limited pool of talent. Q: Can we work with TC to find available candidates? That conversation is beginning now.

WLA & SUFE: Q: Have we had a change in minimum standards re SUFE students? No, but there has been change in China. We now require higher success. We have reduced the size of the cohort and changed curriculum, especially in Economics/Management. We are trying to broaden majors. We are getting grades from Shanghai earlier, which helps our admission decisions. Someone is teaching two courses in English at SUFE. Q: Are any changes being made in teaching English – it's a problem? We cannot dictate to SUFE re their English classes. We require students with low English scores to participate in STELLAR. SUFE is aware that students are struggling.

Consistency with Directors' positions: in particular, the Instructional Media & Technology position. Q: Are faculty being consulted re changes in this program? We have requested permission for an internal appointment. It is a complex position, thus Mike Cihak is valuable. Roger's position will be reconfigured. A Videographer position is in the works. The group will work more closely with Admissions and External Relations. It is true that we have not consulted as well as we could have. Both Roger's and Mike's positions will be reconfigured. Q: So they must do more with less? Yes, but will try to get more student help. Admissions want monthly video shorts for the website. Mike Cihak did not think that it would be overly burdensome. Q: Consultation? We had to move Cihak to Interim Director when Roger retired. Now, we will move forward with Mike and the new Videographer position. Comment: Everyone in HFA depends on this office. Q: Will there be a reduction in funding for this office? No, other than salary differentials. Q: Is there sufficient faculty to train the students? Is it realistic to expect student workers to fill the gaps? The MSAF program has created a pipeline. Student comments historically praise this experience. Support for the IM program is an indicator of its importance. Discussion: The computer lab resources are lacking in quantity and quality of both equipment and software. There is high student demand. The Tech Fee is always asked for help.

Sexual Assault Student Awareness: Issue: Follow-up on initial orientation programs. How can this follow-up be implemented? What happened to the FYE committee? FYE could have been a vehicle for follow-up. Bart asks whether this is a real priority for the campus. Consultative Committee could advance this. Intellectual Community has not picked up the ball. The FYE committee report is extant. Bart thinks it is in the Dean's office. Finding it must be a priority. Discussion: FYE included such topics as Sexual Assault Awareness, Financial Literacy, and campus events. Might it be possible to link passing IC to attendance? IC instructors could tabulate, but not include it in their curricula. Q: What about online efforts: Not likely to work. Very few students would follow through. And individual work at the computer may not further the ideal of building community. Q: Who should lead this? Consultative Committee would like to see the Report of the FYE task force. The Consultative Committee should begin with this issue next fall.

Faculty numbers: Tenure-track hires are in progress. We have been able to hire 7 out of 7. We got 10 out of 10 two years ago. Last year we hired five of seven, but lost six faculty. This year we may lose only two. Possibly, 8 – 10 new hires could be approved for next year. We are currently at about 97 tenure track faculty. Our goal is 107. Currently, our total teaching head count is about 140.

At about 9:20, Bart leaves.

Ray: Put FYE on the schedule for next year!

Ask Pilar Eble for SUFE success rate, sufficiency of resources. Many students have very low comprehension of English

Next week, bring suggestions for the Dean Search Committee.

We will meet in WC 122 again next week.