

Faculty Senate Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
9 April 2008

Attendees: Dr Pappas, Dr. Rosen, Jeff Laborda, Joe Loccisano, Dr. Ray Hundley, Dr. Felix Rizk, Courtney Ruffner, Jeff Grieneisen, Peg Beck

- Dr. Pappas presented the results of the 360 Evaluation, noting that there was a very good participation level, and a good approval for both the president and administration
- Budget Update:
 - Community Colleges budgets will be cut less than other state agencies
 - Dr. Pappas gave kudos to Rep. Lisa Carlson who voted to restore the money allocated to LWR and the library
 - Budget will be tight, but will be better than for some other agencies
- State College System
 - Predictions are that the state college system will be approved, modifying or replacing the community college system currently in place.
 - We may soon be permitted to charge a DL fee and a 5% technology fee
- Textbook Issues
 - Anyone can review the statewide textbook policy (Senate Bill 2350c1) at: <http://www.flsenate.gov/data/session/2008/Senate/bills/billtext/pdf/s2350c1.pdf>
 - A question from faculty arose as to the bookstore policies: where do they come from? What is the system of oversight and accountability?
 - Citing current legislative interest in textbook costs, it may become harder to make textbook changes. This affects issues such as: custom publishing, conflict of interest for authors, etc.
- Smoking Policy
 - What we have in place is not working.
 - Faculty Senate has been asked to write to faculty, encouraging them to take a leadership role in modeling appropriate adherence to the smoking policy by smoking in designated areas.
- Evaluation Form
 - Faculty Senate President presented the old and the new evaluation forms from the task force comprised of Joni Pirnot, Jane Jones, Felix Rizk, and Karen Wetz.
 - The task force will address instituting comment boxes after EACH question (#5-10)
 - After administration response, faculty will have the chance to view the updated evaluation form

- Dr. Rosen would like to sit down with task force to determine the motivation behind the changes.
- Promotion Committee
 - Promotions were NOT ranked, as had been previously rumored.
 - By May 4, we will have a clearer—but not definitive—outlook on the budget (including such things as funding for Merit, etc.)
 - By June 25, we will know for sure if the budget sent to the governor has been vetoed, or if we can make assumptions based upon that budget.

Following the Faculty Senate Meeting with Drs. Pappas and Rosen, the Advisory Council discussed issues worth exploring in the future (from 3:30 – 6:00):

- Structure of the Constitution
 - instituting a faculty representative from each department
 - re-instituting a presence at opening faculty meetings, possibly in the morning so that administration is aware of faculty voice
 - Requesting time at new faculty orientation to discuss the presence and function of faculty senate and the standing committees
 - creating an informative brochure detailing faculty senate roles and responsibilities
- Merit/Promotion Classification
 - Advisory council members suggested that faculty senate meetings count as an A-Level activity
 - Advisory council members note that departments are still not consistent regarding the definition and/or use of activity levels in merit/promotion
- The Senate Board voted to keep self-nominations for the upcoming standing committee elections.