

Lincoln University Faculty Senate
October 28, 2010
Regular Meeting, 11:00-12:00 Noon
106 MLK

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Mara Aruguete, senate vice-chair, at 11:04. A quorum was present.

Approval of the September 30, 2009, Meeting Minutes

Dr. Nancy Browning moved the minutes of the September 30, 2010, meeting be approved. Dr. Connie Hamacher seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Officer Reports

A. Missouri Association of Faculty Senates—Dr. Mara Aruguete

Dr. Aruguete provided a summary of MAFS's dialogue on themes that came out of the Governor's Summit on Higher Education that was held in August.

First, change is coming and will be based on the state's four agendas: attainment (increase percent of adults with college degrees from 37 percent to 60 percent), review of all academic programs (first action—to eliminate low performing programs), redesign funding model as present model unsustainable (will include rewards based on student outcomes), and course redesign as well as collaboration on course delivery to increase learning outcomes and lower costs (i. e. redesign whole general education courses, use technology and alternate staffing, replace faculty teaching activities with technology and TAs). This agenda is similar to what is happening in other states. For examples of course redesign, go to <http://www.ncat.org>.

Reaction from faculties on other campuses seems to go through four stages beginning with shock/justification, then recognition that change is coming followed by recognition that we can take the lead and make the decisions, and lastly, making the changes. Ways to cut costs focus on course redesign, eliminating and combining degree programs, increasing course size, and downsizing faculty by not filling vacancies. Other schools are involving faculty in the budget cuts by involving faculty in course redesign, creating faculty budget committees that report to university budget committee, engaging senates in research that describes "state of the campus." In regard to the latter, LU's Shared Governance Committee has taken on this task, and everyone will soon receive a survey on "increasing campus efficiency." Another strategy in response to cuts is to develop a stronger relationship with legislators from getting to know them to inviting them to campus.

In summary, Governor Nixon is interested in reform as present funding is not sustainable. He has pledged \$100,000 to course redesign; the reformers are likely to be rewarded. Faculty and staff will need to work together in the reform effort to make changes or changes will likely be imposed.

As an example of a collaborative effort across institutions, Dr. Sunder Balasubramanian explained that several public universities with low graduation rates in physics are working on a physics consortium. All non-laboratory courses will be web-based. For each course, only one institution will offer it during the semester and the designated university must teach it even if none of its own students will be enrolled. Once the issues of revenue sharing and faculty load are worked out, LU will sign an agreement with the other members of the consortium.

New Business

A. Clarification of Senate 2009-2010 Resolution on Late Registration—Dr. Ann Harris, chair, Rules and Regulations Review Committee and Ms. Sandy Koetting, Controller

Dr. Harris stated that the recommendation passed by the senate and forwarded to the LU Rules and Regulations Committee, stated that students cannot register after five working days from the first class, needed clarifying for the committee to act on it. The question that needed answered was, "How late can students register?" Ms. Koetting stated that the policy would affect the date provided for insurance carriers and the dates involving payment deadline reminders and repayment schedules. There are also concerns about reprogramming Datatel software to reflect a change in policy.

Ms. Brenda Reed, chair of the Education Policies Committee, stated that the original intent was to prevent the continuing problem of students not starting classes until the second and third week of the semester. Ms. Koetting stated that no student should be allowed to register after the last day of registration prior to the start of classes. Dr. Gabrielle Malfatti-Rachell noted many faculty members agreed and that the policy recommendation was a response to administrative practices that allow students to register after the last date to register. Dr. Leon Stevens asked about the effect of late registration on the Records Office. Mr. Mike Kosher stated that late registration creates a problem as Wanda Harper must manually enroll each late registrant. Mr. Kosher also noted that for this semester, 58 students registered after the designated last day to register. Ms. Reed asked if financial aid should be a factor in deciding the date, and Ms. Koetting replied that it shouldn't be. Discussion continued with a focus on how the faculty can effect a registration practice to bring it in line with the registration policy.

Mr. Kirk Anderson moved that registration end the Friday of the first week of classes. Dr. Jennifer Benne seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Mr. Bryan Fawks called the question. Dr. Jennifer Benne seconded. The question carried.

A vote was taken on Mr. Anderson's motion with the following wording, "that registration end the Friday before classes start." The vote was tied. Motioned failed.

Mr. Fawks noted that if the chair is in the chamber, the chair must vote. Dr. Arugete voted. The motion failed.

B. Question on Administration's Decision in Regard to Senate Vote on Drop and Withdrawal Dates—Dr. Nancy Browning

Dr. Browning asked if the administration had made a decision on the senate recommendation to combine the drop and withdrawal dates for this semester, and if so, if the appropriate office would send a notification to the faculty and staff.

Announcements

1. Dr. Gabrielle Malfatti-Rachel: Dr. Malfatti-Rachell thanked faculty who had fill-out and returned the International Resources Inventory.
2. Dr. Nancy Browning: The LUTC (LU Technology Committee) is in the process of forming a new subcommittee to improve the functioning of WebAdvisor. We need some faculty volunteers; you do not need to be a member of LUTC to volunteer.

Dr. Leon Stevens moved to adjourned. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Richardson
Senate Secretary