**Faculty Senate Minutes**

**November 13, 2013**

Attendance: Daniel Harris, Phillip Taylor, Susan Taylor, Efrain Bonilla, Mike Stine, Jennifer Page, David Paulk, Lynn Wyche, Marie Guest, Tara Orlowski, Guenter Maresch, Francis Agama, Barbara McCauley, Julie Townsend

Minutes approved as published.

1. Old Business
	1. QEP\SACS – Surveys and Focus groups are done. QEP Development committee is meeting to form QEP mission. Committee is looking at courses to focus on to promote Academic Success. Surveys are going out to some students and faculty. Role of the academic success center in this is also being reviewed. Please support QEP committee in these surveys.
	2. Summer Calendar - New 10 week summer term is pending BOT approval
2. New Business
3. NFCC Institutional Gen Ed Requirements
	1. Dr. Erle’s comments and questions to Faculty Senate:
		1. State Core all but final
		2. A: How do we divide the 36 (21) hours?
			1. Completely change, modify, etc.
		3. B: What courses in the core do we want to offer?
		4. C: Do we want to consider meta-majors with emphasis?
			1. Discussion needs to begin among and between faculty
		5. Point to consider – our Gen Ed outcomes do not identify specific courses that will meet specific outcomes
		6. Faculty Senate is asked to consider this idea as we determine what courses NFCC wants to require for students in the AA programs
			1. Note: This discussion primarily affects A.A. programs as A.S. program requirements are determined by FLDOE. Also, the breakdown of Gen Ed hours needs to be determined before the planning of the proposed BSN degree can be completed.
4. Phillip Taylor began the discussion about General Education requirements
	1. Core requirements must stay
		1. Question for departments; Can students “double-dip” in the Core?
			1. Answer: Departments should consider requiring adding Core courses to “other” list.
	2. Led a discussion/demonstration on how General Education requirements, might stay the same or change – most of what we already require could be kept the same.
		1. EX. ENC 1101 and ENC 1102/CRW 2001 would not need to change, unless the English Dept. wanted to change.
		2. EX. History and Social Science – slight change – 6 hours of AMH and WOH and 6 hours of classes in this category with non-AMH and WOH prefixes
		3. EX. Science – Core requires 3 semester hours; NFCC current requirements for science, including science with a lab could remain the same.
		4. EX. Math – not much would change
		5. EX. Humanities – Core requires 3 hours from a specific list; NFCC current requirement does not specify literature or humanities. Suggestion: split the requirements between literature and humanities.
		6. Main idea: NFCC could keep the same requirements with very little change.
5. Mike Stine began the discussion about the opportunity for change.
	1. Big concern is about making students take too many “extra” courses towards a degree that are not featured in some majors
	2. Taking these “extra” courses may put them at risk for excess hours when they transfer to a university.
	3. Suggestion: Students take one core in each of the areas, then allow students to take general education courses of their choice that add to their major.
		1. Concern/Argument for Requiring a well-balanced program of studies - Students in a rural area need to be more well-rounded in ordered to compete with students from more urban areas when they transfer to universities.
		2. Students in our feeder high schools are not getting humanities and literature, for example. Faculty should be concerned about planning a well-balanced program so that students are exposed to subjects that they might not take when left to their own devices.
		3. We also need to be particular about our general education requirements because many students tend to choose subjects or areas with which they are familiar.
			1. Question: What percentage of our students are right out of high school or older? Would this data have an impact on our decision as well? (maturity level)
	4. Questions to Discuss (faculty/departments)
		1. Do we keep requirements as it is?
		2. Do we give students more choice?
		3. Do we need to look at changes?
	5. Suggestion
		1. Meet within departments between now and December
		2. Meet as a Faculty Senate again in December or meet during the planning days in January 2014.
		3. Online discussion in D2L – Tara, can you send us a link to that discussion?
	6. Phillip Taylor will send General Education information and ideas to the faculty

Meeting adjourned at 4:35pm.