

MINUTES

University Committee Meeting
Wednesday, December 10, 2014, 3:00 PM
Cofrin Library 835

Present: Clifton Ganyard, Sylvia (Mimi) Kubsch, John Lyon, Steven Meyer (chair), Cristina Ortiz, Vanya Koepke, Kristin Vespia

Guests: Chancellor Gary Miller

1. The UC meeting minutes from the December 3, 2014 were approved.
2. Chancellor's Report: Chancellor Miller visited the UC to discuss four issues:
 - a. Faculty Workload – The Chancellor distributed a summary sheet on Faculty Workload with several talking points. He noted that workload will be an issue and that the legislature is likely to call for a 24 credit load across system.
 - b. Overage/Overload Pay – The Chancellor noted that there have been questions concerning a relatively high level of overages (overload pay) in the past year. It is problematic because there is no data to support the need for such overages. He will direct the Provost to look into the issue of overages, to collect data on why faculty are granted overages, and to develop a policy regarding the granting of overages.
 - c. UPIC – The Chancellor noted that the UPIC would be meeting next week to discuss the committee structure and the curriculum the committee will be expected to complete. They will receive instruction during the spring semester on a variety of administrative tools (funding models, cost allocation, etc.).
 - d. Library Issues – The Chancellor noted that he will instruct the Provost to look into improving the Library budget to deal with immediate concerns about funding research. In the longer term, the Chancellor wants the UPIC to consider the Library in a broader perspective, viewing the Library as a “node of global knowledge.” He will speak to Paula Ganyard to develop a new, comprehensive plan concerning the Cofrin Library, including the top two floors, to develop a kind of Learning Commons. He noted that the university needs to give the Library more support.
3. Continuing Business:
 - a. Meyer noted that there had been a request for feedback Harassment prevention training options. They will be meeting on Friday (12/12) to make a decision.
 - b. Regarding a Faculty Senate request for information on “Essential Job Functions”, Meyer noted that he will be meeting with Sheryl van Gruensven for an update.
4. New Business:

- a. Regarding a Faculty Senate request (Brian Sutton) to review the writing emphasis policy, the UC decided it would be best forward this issue to the GEC for review.
- b. The UC discussed a Faculty Senate request (Ryan Martin) concerning the earlier listing of summer course offerings, perhaps at the same time that spring courses are listed. The UC thought this was a reasonable and logical request. Meyer will consult with the Registrar to see if there are any logistical issues that would prevent such a listing.
- c. The UC discussed holding meetings during finals week or over break. Given the need to turn in grades by a specific deadline, it was agreed that no meetings would be held during finals. The next UC meeting will be held on January 21, 2015.
- d. The UC considered a request from SOFAS Cliff Abbott to review the policies of faculty administrative appointments with regard participation in faculty governance. After reviewing Abbott's summaries, the UC generally thought that an implied policy was clear but admitted that the wording might not be so clear, perhaps even lending itself to potential abuse. Meyer will review the actual code regarding this issue and will report his findings at the next UC meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Clifton Ganyard.

Approved 1/14/15