University Senate – December 7, 2020

IN ATTENDANCE:


ABSENT:

Michele Conners, Kevin Davis, Eric Hunt, Shelby Jimcosky, Minkyo Lee, Clare Lenhart, Jevon Mitchell, Al Moranville, Mariah Ranton, Albert Rivera, Arshad Rivers, Loreylinnette Trinidad, Shawn Watkins, Amani Yeboah, Xiaochen Zhou

Roll Call

1) Review of November 2020 Minutes
   - Approved

2) University President’s Report: Update from President Long:
   - Update on President search: Miguel Barbosa provided an update regarding the search, and where we are in the process. There has been good response, we are entering into the evaluation stage with candidates.
   - Update on Commencement: Due to covid-19, the December Commencement has been postponed. A prerecorded Planning a ceremony for May 2020 and Winter 2020 sometime Spring 2021. There will be several smaller ceremonies that will take place outside and safety protocols will be followed.
   - Update on the CPP: The Comprehensive Plan is a combination of several reports in one document. It has been a collaborative process contributing to a 3-year plan incorporating financial, academic programs and enrollment goals and objectives. All Senate committees are encouraged to review the document and assess what needs to be done operationally to make recommendations towards implementation.

3) Fix the Agenda – no changes to the agenda.

4) Committee reports:
   a. Executive Committee – The Executive Committee met on Friday and determined items for this meeting’s agenda.
b. Rules and By-Laws – The committee has been reviewing the rules and bylaws to determine if any changes were needed. One item will be addressed next semester. The committee is recommending that committee chairs look at role descriptions and assess if any changes need to be made by the Rules and By-Laws Committee.

c. Campus Life and Inclusive Excellence Committee – The four goals for the academic year 20-21.
   i. Exploring mental health resources for students-this is a student driven goal and will be tabled until Spring.
   ii. Improving marketing and communication across campus. Update provided on ongoing meetings. Points addressed focus on determining best methods of communicating with students, including ESU homepage, adding FYE content, using multiple modes simultaneously, and social media. A survey will be sent out about Warrior Notes. Also working to develop initiatives to better support transfer students, focusing on winter and summer orientations.
   iii. Campus dialog on current diversity, equity, and inclusion issues. This goal will be tabled until Spring.

d. Academic Affairs –
   i. Continuing to work on Spring schedule based on demand, adding sections and continuing to adjust for high demand classes.
   ii. Please spread word to not override caps without permission of the department Chairs.
   iii. Scheduling rooms and assignments for face-to-face courses in for Spring.
   iv. Reviewing Winter session enrollments on a daily basis, final decision to run courses will be made on 12/17.

e. Budget, Finance and Planning – The committee did not meet in November. The budget office is working to update the budget and will be sharing with the budget committee in December.

f. Research – Drafting final version of research survey to be sent out to faculty in the Spring.

g. Student Government Association Report – Finishing up a chaotic semester. Next semester initiatives planned:
   i. Champions of Social Justice Initiative focusing on communication in regard to social justice with scheduled events.
   ii. Looking for feedback from students regarding clubs and organizations.
   iii. Mental Health initiatives-what students need in a Covid virtual environment.

5) Old Business –

   a. ESU Recycling Target:

   At the March 2, 2010 University Senate meeting, the Senate asked the ESU recycling committee to create three targets for recycling by fall semester 2020. Given the special circumstances brought on by covid-19, it is proposed that the recycling committee postpone the identification of the three targets to fall semester 2021.
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6) New Business–
   a) 2021-2022 Meeting Dates
      • Vote passed to approve 2021-2022 meeting dates.
   b) University Senate Evaluation Committee- the committee met and is working on a questionnaire to be sent out in February or March and will report back to Senate later in the Spring.

7) Open Discussion –
   • University Senate committee reports- In an effort to streamline the reporting process, Senate committees are encouraged to adopt the Campus Life and Inclusive Excellence Committee’s reporting model. Create a list of goals and report the status of the goals each month and at end of year.
   • All Senate members are encouraged to let the Executive Committee know if there is any issue around campus that they would like to be addressed by the Senate.
   • Update from Provost Bruno:
     1. Recognition of all the good work of many across the campus and summarized the many instances of best practices in remote learning.
     2. Spring 2021 will bring more students focusing on all covid-19 guidelines and testing to keep students, faculty and staff safe.
     3. Shared video on tips for studying produced by the Tutoring Center and Enrollment Management featuring nursing student Victoria Martin.

8) Meeting dates for 2020-2021:  Feb 1, March 1, April 26/May3 (if needed).

9) Announcements:
   • At 6pm tonight there will be a zoom discussion on the Theater Department’s Fall film. The discussion will include the collaborators, writers and designers and discuss how the film was created and how it differs from a live performance.
   • The 8th Annual Economic Outlook Summit will take place Tuesday December 15th. The theme is Pocono Pride Promise & Progress and will focus on the impact of Covid-19 on the Poconos. It is a free event, but registration is required.
   • Happy Holidays!

11) Adjournment @ 15:55