Faculty Senate Meeting

Minutes - August 15, 2012

Meeting Opened at 10:30 a.m. in the Theater Center.

Mitch Pietras, Faculty Senate President, opened the meeting by welcoming all faculty to the session. He then announced the Faculty Awards, which are voted on by Faculty in the previous Spring semester. Dr. Eaton presented the awards to winning faculty as follows:

2012 Faculty Senate Awards

Teaching Excellence
Gabi Booth

Research and Professional Development
Casey Blanton

Faculty Advocacy
Andrea Reese

Student Advocacy
Lakisha Holmes

Instructional Support and Encouragement
Gail Beckwith

Mitch then introduced the new Officers for the 2012-2013 academic year as follows:

Mitch Pietras President
Dr. Michael Flota Vice President
Dr. Shana Deyo Secretary
Vickie Brown Treasurer
Dr. Trey Orndorff Parliamentarian
Dr. Andrea Reese Webmaster
Charlene Latimer Elections

Dustin Weeks then discussed the proposed Reorganization of Faculty Senate. The Ad Hoc Faculty Senate Reorganization Committee is actively engaged in drafting a proposal detailing the possible reorganization process. He mentioned that the proposed reorganization would be self-regulating, would represent all academic areas of the College, and would help ensure that voting was representative of all faculty. He invited anyone interested to assist in this process by voicing your thoughts and attending the meetings. An e-mail providing the date next of the Ad Hoc Faculty Senate Reorganization Committee will be sent soon.

Next, Michael Flota discussed the Tenure and Promotion Pilot Program being initiated this fall only for faculty seeking tenure this fall. The T & P Pilot Implementation Team has met with Pilot participants and is meeting with Chairs to discuss this program. The Pilot will run this year to find any logistical issues that can’t be anticipated without an active trial run. The Implementation Committee is looking at suggested revisions to the language of the policy regarding the new tenure and promotion process and
welcome your feedback before taking the final language forward to get passed by the Administration. The Implementation Committee wants someone from each department (or division) to serve as an advisor to represent all areas as the Pilot program progresses this year. Please let Dr. Flota know if you’d like to help either by serving on the Implementation Committee or by serving as an advisor to the committee for your area. Also, please contact him (or other committee members) with any concerns, comments, or questions you may have about the Pilot Program or the new Tenure and Promotion process.

Mitch mentioned that as FS President, he is part of the President’s new Cabinet, which is involved in decision making. When motions are passed within Faculty Senate, they are carried forward to Cabinet and then on for a vote from the senior administration. At the coming September 4 Faculty Senate meeting, he will discuss a motion which was passed at a prior Faculty Senate meeting which will be taken forward to Cabinet.

Barry Gibson announced that we are planning to move forward with Master Faculty, so it will go forward for the second year under the direction of Faculty Senate and that he will oversee that committee. If you are interested in participating in Master Faculty or in serving as a facilitator, please contact Barry immediately.

Barry also mentioned that the Faculty Symposium will also be moving forward and will again be under the direction of the Master Faculty committee and will be led by Dr. Erik Sweet and Dr. Andrea Reese.

Mitch announced that he has spoken with many senior professors and past Faculty Senate presidents to optimize success this year. We want to get senior professors involved by gaining their ideas and suggestions of how to move our faculty forward through best practices. He has also talked to FS Presidents from different Colleges and has looked at their representative structures.

A new Faculty Senate Brochure was developed and disseminated in faculty mailboxes to explain the mission of FS and provides a list of the meeting times, which will be held on the first Tuesday of each month in the Bergengren Hall (Bldg 110, Room 112) from 2:30-4:00 p.m. as follows:

- September 4, 2012
- October 2, 2012
- November 6, 2012
- December 4, 2012
- February 5, 2013
- March 5, 2013
- April 2, 2013
- May 7, 2013

- All meetings will use Adobe Connect to enhance opportunity to participate
- All meetings will be recorded
- All meetings will follow Robert’s Rules of Order
- All meetings will be official- recorded by the Secretary and posted online by the Webmaster

The first meeting, on September 4, will be a busy one where committees are established and where nominations are accepted for the Tenure and Promotion Committee.
Mitch reminded faculty of the new Academic Freedom and Responsibility Policy which is available for your review online.

Mitch encouraged everyone to become active in Faculty Senate and explained what FS is: The Faculty Senate is the organization which represents the Daytona State College teaching and non-teaching faculty (Counselors and librarians) in the college governance system.

- All full-time faculty are voting members.
- Since all faculty are members of the Senate, each individual bears the responsibility of implementing the Faculty Senate’s Purpose and Mission.
- This is accomplished by attending and participating in Faculty Senate meetings...volunteering one’s expertise, ideas and time to one of the Faculty Senate committees.

He then read aloud the mission statement: The mission of the Faculty Senate is to provide Daytona State College faculty with leadership, to monitor and champion faculty interests, to promote and guarantee an environment of open exchange of ideas and intellectual resources, and to provide a forum in which faculty have opportunities to discuss their academic profession and the community in which they work.

- Faculty Senate fulfills its mission by accomplishing the following goals:
  - A. To represent faculty related to faculty development, welfare, and morale
  - B. To study, discuss, and recommend institutional objectives, policies, and procedures

Mitch then discussed why he took on the role of becoming FS President:

- He cares... about us (as faculty)
- He volunteered to work for us.
- There is a very capable team in place to serve you and represent you in FS.
- His is to involve all faculty and give all faculty the opportunity to be involved.
- If there are complaints...offer us(FS) a solution.
- Feel free to be involved through emails, phone calls, or written communication. Talk with any of us so that we can better represent you with our Administration.
- Let us be proactive rather than reactive.
- Through the sharing of ideas and offering solutions, we can all make a difference to provide a solid foundation for teaching and learning.
- When it comes time to vote, know that all votes do count! Be represented!

And finally, Mitch reiterated that the role of the FS President is to:

- Provides leadership
- Facilitate
- Communicate
- Listen
- Provide opportunities for faculty involvement
- Represent all faculty to the best of my ability

Please remember, that as the President, he cannot please everyone.
You, the faculty, proactively engaging in the Faculty Senate is one of the best ways to effectuate sustainable changes that directly affect faculty members. Be active, be open, and be represented!

Meeting concluded at 11:15 p.m. and unofficial questions/comments were addressed by the Officers.

The next Faculty Senate Meeting is scheduled at 2:30-4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 4, 2012, in building 110, room 112. We hope to see you there.

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