Faculty Senate

Meeting Notes

September 14, 2020

Submitted by K. Craven

Members Present:

Stephanie Adams, Douglas Airhart, Dan Allcott, Michael Allen, Jeremy Blair, Chris Brown, Debra Bryant, Wei Tsun Chang, Kris Craven, Dennis Duncan, Mary Lou Fornehed, Steven Frye, David Hajdik, Tammy Howard, Janet Isbell, Brian Jones, Christy Killman, Nancy Kolodziej, Matt Langford, Susan Laningham, David Larimore, Emily Lee, Chad Luke, Lori Maxwell, Jennifer Meadows, Mark Melichar, Holly Mills, Lachelle Norris, Linda Null, Brian O'Connor, Sally Pardue, Richard Rand, Jeff Roberts, Lee Ann Shipley, Troy Smith, Sandra Smith-Andrews, Barry Stein, Holly Stretz, Daniel Swartling, Lenly Weathers, Robert Wilbanks, Zac Wilcox, Kimberly Winkle, Russ Witcher, Jeannette Wolak

Members Absent:

Troy Brachey, Yun Ding, Ann Manginelli, Mary Matthews, Joseph Ojo, Anthony Paradis, Mike Rogers

Guests Present:

Lee Wray

Call to Order

Senate President Stretz called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.

Pres Opening Remarks

The President believes that we have responded to COVID-19 well so far and thinks that we are in a good place compared to other campuses. He also complimented various groups on campus for their outstanding job.

COVID-19

Concern about Tracking and Numbers:

Some of the issues raised on this topic relate to the tracking of cases and various reporting strategies. Senator Rand pointed out that a person cannot self-report on weekends, that no one is there to answer the phone. There are definitely problems with cases not being self-reported, but there is not much that can be done other than to continue to encourage students and others to self-report and include what is known in the numbers appearing on the Dashboard. There are 9 trained trackers working as fast as they can. There is a desire to hire at least one more, especially to help with weekend reporting. President Oldham also discussed how the university is working with the hospital, Putnam County Health Department, and other entities to continue to keep everyone informed and as safe as possible.

Concerns about Student Organizations and Activities:

A concern was raised around social events and activities planned by some student organizations and the need to approve requests. There was some discussion about the role of the Faculty

Advisor to evaluate the plan for the event and decline to approve an activity that is not practical under the current conditions. The organizations are required to submit a safety plan to the

Will the Spending Directives be Relaxed?

Since our enrollment didn't fall dramatically as expected, do we have sufficient surplus to change direction. Yes, there is a memo coming to open domestic travel, with caution, and includes other lifting of restrictions. President Oldham did request discretion and consideration of good choices before deciding what to spend. There was a question about cuts to the Center Stage program. President Oldham's belief is that it was not intended to be a permanent cut. This