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CWU Academic Affairs Committee Minutes - 02/ 07/08

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Minutes
Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee
February 7, 2008

Present: Kim Bartel, Joe Brooks, Krystal Noga, Sura Rath and Marla Wyatt.

Absent: Tim Dittmer, Tim Englund, Dan Neighbors and Carolyn Wells.

Guest(s): None

Chair Kim Bartel called the meeting to order at 3:31 pm

Review Minutes of January 31, 2008 - Joe moved to accept minutes as presented.

Unfinished Business:

A. Final Examination Schedule, Faculty Survey

Kim has worked on the faculty survey, but needs more information from the committee. Kim did the student survey online on CWU website and she doesn't believe they will be able to correlate the data through this format. Kim will continue to work with Jessie Day to see if it can be web based but currently cannot do correlations. May have to do a paper copy so can run correlations.

B. AAC07-08.04 Committee Charge

Based on previous ad hoc committee reports to the FS in 1994 and 1997-1998, consider the conclusions reached and examine how similar concerns have been addressed by other universities, especially in Washington and at peer institutions (from list compiled by CWU Office of Institutional Research). Please compare our current grading policy (Section 5-9.4.14) with those of other institutions to determine the impact of establishing a university-wide grading policy based on:

1. a specific GPA
2. the use numerical scores instead of letter grades
3. adding class rankings or class averages next to student letter grades

If there is time and the committee is so inclined, please feel free to examine additional conclusions reached in these reports, including but not limited to:

1. the effect of reducing or eliminating Withdrawals
2. the effect of reducing or eliminating Incompletes
3. the effect of sharing grade information/distributions among faculty by department/college (i.e., self-correction)

The EC requests a report by May 15, 2008, summarizing the committee's work and providing any recommendations that would effectively address grade inflation at CWU.

Last week Carolyn had started this process of investigating and had good data. Tracy Terrell has not gotten a hold of Kim with additional information. Marla indicated the April 11, 1994 report talked about getting student performance up to the grades given, rather than on grade inflation. The committee asked Janet to invite Robert Fordan to one of the next meetings.

Committee homework – Go back to your department and either informally or formally ask opinion on what would be the impact of establishing a grading policy on any of the three areas of specific GPA, numerical scores or class rankings.

New Business: None

Meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.