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CWU Academic Affairs Committee Minutes - 11/ 08/07

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Minutes
Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee
November 8, 2007

Present: Kim Bartel, Joe Brooks, Tim Englund, Danielle Howard, Key Sun, Sura Rath, Marla Wyatt, Tim Dittmer and Carolyn Wells.

Absent: Jen Graves

Meeting was called to order at 3:19 p.m. by Chair, Kim Bartel

Minutes from October 25, 2007 were accepted as amended.

Unfinished Business:

Final Examination Schedule, Student Survey – Kim reported that the survey is currently on-line and an e-mail will be sent out to students this week. Kim handed out a copy of what the survey will look like. There is a link to a tally page so will be able to get data, as it comes in.

AAC07-08.03 Investigate how grade inflation has been addressed at CWU and other institutions, beginning with Washington universities. Prepare a report outlining how grade inflation is defined, how it is identified, the factors/parameters that are identified as contributing to it, and whether it exists at CWU. Include any other information that the AAC deems important on this subject.

The committee was to read the documentation and bring feedback to this meeting. Kim asked if there was anything in today's culture that wasn't addressed in the previous committee reports. Institutional Research can tell the total GPA of the freshman class and may be able to do additional calculations. Joe talked about a report at a previous institution that came out every semester that showed what the individual instructor's grade averages were. There was also a comment that there is a lot of merit to having certain courses S/U rather than grade. Kim suggested a straight GPA system rather than letter grades. UW does not give letter grades. Carolyn indicated that SAFARI is capable of doing a grade scale system.

Send the following message to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee: Review two existing reports and recommend whether there are additional concerns to be addressed by the committee. Motion was moved and seconded and approved. Tim Dittmer suggested that a report of this magnitude requires a major time commitment and might be more appropriate for an ad hoc committee and/or Institutional Research.

Tim Dittmer reported that the committee's motion passed through at the Senate meeting yesterday.

New Business: None

Adjournment – 3:53 pm

Next meeting date November 29, Barge 410 (and telecon)