Faculty Senate Minutes

Minutes for August 14, 2001

Members present: Terry Tolle, Bob Harrison, Hilary Seagle, Mary Hartman, Barb Putman, Ceretta Davis, Sharon Ridley, Gene Norton, Jim Snyder, Danell Moses, Sherry Floerching, Meg Rogers, Penny Wells, Tim Quiring, Cathy Wise, Sara Altman, Sharon Hatfield, Allan Grant, Owen Gibby, Roger Stephens

Items considered:

- **Faculty Senate representation**----Health Sciences needs to appoint 2 new senators-- Sara Altman volunteered--one new senator to be appointed. Arts & Sciences needs one additional senator. Senate needs to amend the constitution to include one additional representative for Academic Support.

- **Budget**--- There was general agreement about the lack of understanding re budget requests, e.g. travel and supplies vrs. equipment, and the need for clarification on what the budget requests entail. There was concern that the process might become a "dog and pony show" with the flashiest presentation garnering the largest appropriation. There was a suggestion that the Senate request full budget information.

- **Privacy**--- Concern was expressed about privacy of internet use records and email; Is the federal policy where any supervisor has access to subordinates' records in effect? What is the policy on privacy at home where internet access is provided by the college? There were several requests for a Policy and Procedures Manual statement on the issue setting out what is and is not acceptable and for a full discussion of the issue with the administration emphasizing the importance of the issue to the faculty. If this is not possible, the Senate should make a statement of the facts as it understands them.

- **Formal Review**----Many questions were asked on this matter: Does formal review apply only to those currently under contract (What about those with 9 month contracts receiving non-renewal notices in the summer)? Are philosophical differences sufficient reason for non-renewal? Are stringent grading standards sufficient reason? If one is in formal review, is she/he already de facto let go? How advisable and effective is NCEA liability insurance against dismissal? Concerns were expressed that formal review must start with the particular employee and that a better definition of formal
review be provided. It was suggested that the Faculty Senate create a document/fact sheet on faculty rights when under formal review.

- **Student records**--- This again raised the issue of privacy, especially the use of work study students in grading tests and papers. Are faculty responsible for the destruction of student records? There was general agreement on the need for a clear statement on this issue.

- **Class makeup forms**--- There were many comments and questions here. The procedure turns sick leave into comptime. It questions our professionalism. Makeup should be left in the hands of the faculty. If you arrange for a substitute, should this require filing a form? There was a general questioning of the need for such a form for a responsible faculty and a request for elaboration from the administration.

- **Professional labels**--- How should we be titled-- professors or instructors (teachers)? It was suggested that the Senate poll the faculty on this issue.

The meeting adjourned @ 4:00.

Next meeting: TBA

Thank you for your support of your faculty senate.