Faculty Senate Meeting  
January 17th, 2013  

Members Present:  

Debra Campbell, Kevin Dressler, Kevin Healy, Keith Heffner, Loretta Kissell, Sally Kroelinger, Jeff Messer, Paul Nunez, Frederick Schineller, Robert Soza, & Phil Waclawski  

DCA Liaison:  

Steve Budge  

I. General  

A) Meeting called to order at 3:02 p.m.  

B) Approval of the Agenda -  

Motion to approve the agenda was advanced  

Motion was unanimously approved  

C) Approval of Minutes -  

Motion to approve December 6th, 2012 Meeting Minutes was advanced  

Motion was unanimously approved as amended w/ two (2) abstentions  

II. Reports  

A) Department Chair Association Liaison Report - Steve Budge  

DCA Liaison Budge noted the existence of a planning committee charged with initiation of the Learning Master Plan process through initial interaction with an outside consultant  

DCA Liaison Budge indicated that the consultant will be from the League for Innovation and is expected to provide a guiding presentation designed to initiate the aforementioned process  

DCA Liaison Budge noted his possession of multiple Learning Master Plans that he could make available for Senators to review
DCA Liaison Budge emphasized that residential faculty will comprise the majority of the planning committee membership

B) President’s Report - Keith Heffner

President Heffner noted his recent participation in an Honors Program Advisory Committee meeting

President Heffner noted that the Honors Program leadership would not have concerns if the Honors Program Advisory Committee was eliminated

President Heffner solicited corresponding senator input regarding potential elimination of the Honors Program Advisory Committee

President Heffner noted that the Honors Program leadership is very willing to report periodically to Faculty Senate

One senator asked if there is any identifiable risk or downside to not having an Honors Program Advisory Committee

Several senators proposed that the Honors Program Advisory Committee could function to meet as needed in order to provide an advisory service to the Honors Program

President Heffner sought to identify a consensus that the committee should remain as an active, established committee; senators concurred with President’s Heffner’s call for consensus

C) President-Elect’s Report - Paul Nunez

President-Elect Nunez noted that he plans to convene a committee to review the Distinguished Faculty Award (DFA) in the near future

President-Elect Nunez suggested that Senate should consider a discussion regarding potential conflict-of-interest issues relative to textbook publishers

D) Recording Secretary’s Report - Jeff Messer

Recording Secretary Messer indicated that he will prepare a draft of current meeting minutes for consideration at the February 7th, 2013 Faculty Senate meeting and that he will submit approved December 6th, 2012 meeting minutes for posting to the Faculty Senate Internet site
E) Business Secretary’s Report - Marie Brown

No report

F) Treasurer’s Report - Phil Waclawski

Treasurer Waclawski noted that he will share an updated financial summary in the near future

G) Past-President’s Report - Janice Reilly

No report

H) Maricopa Colleges Faculty Foundation (MCFF) Report - Janice Reilly

Senator Reilly noted that the Foundation offered academic scholarships for every district college for the current semester

Senator Reilly additionally noted that the Foundation has expended approximately one-half of available emergency funding thus far this semester

I) Zone and At-Large Reports and Significant Happenings / Issues -

One senator noted program director concern with BOExi during the week prior to semester initiation that caused several courses to be prematurely, unnecessarily cancelled

One senator noted the increased outsourcing of district information technology functions

Another senator strongly emphasized that department chairs need additional and timelier support from scheduling

The senator also indicated that there needs to be improved communication between scheduling officials and department chairs

The senator correspondingly suggested a dialogue with Dean Carol Achs
J) Faculty Senate Committees -

1) Faculty Staffing
2) Constitution / By-Laws / Best Practices
3) Faculty Travel
4) Honors Program Advisory Committee
5) Student Outcomes
6) CTL Advisory
7) Distance Education
8) Faculty Social

No reports

III. Old Business -

A) Senate Constitution and By-Laws - Initial Review

Article XXVI - Amendments, Ratification, and Revision

This Constitution may be amended through the following procedures:

Section I

A proposal for amendment shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate membership provided that the proposed amendment shall have been presented in writing to each member of the Senate at least five (5) full working days in advance of the meeting.

Section II

An approved proposal for amendment shall be submitted to the members of the Faculty Association, as defined in Article IV of this Constitution (MCC FA members).

Section III

This Constitution shall become effective by a majority vote of the Faculty Association members.

Recognizing the previously-specified provisions for amendment to the Faculty Senate Constitution, President Heffner correspondingly initiated review of a “Summary Sheet” that addressed proposed Senate Constitution amendments

President Heffner thus fully reviewed the process for amending the Constitution
One senator asked for a review of the purposes of the Constitution (outline of the general construct of the Faculty Senate), Bylaws (prescriptive measures for electing Senators, etc.), and Best Practices (operating procedures for executing Senate business, actions, and initiative)

It was noted that it is easier to amend By Laws and Best Practices relative to the Constitution

Proposed revisions would include elections for both the President and Vice-President

President Heffner emphasized his belief that a two-year President’s term is very positive for Faculty Senate

President Heffner noted that provisions have been included in order to facilitate electronic elections

President Heffner proceeded to overview the proposed amendments to the Senate Constitution including improved delineation of Faculty Zones, inclusion of the Past President as a voting member of the Senate, modification of Faculty Senate Executive Committee membership, potential discontinuation of the Honors Program Advisory Committee, and a revised process for amendment, ratification, and revision of the Senate Constitution

President Heffner subsequently reviewed each article and all corresponding sections of the revised draft of the constitution

President Heffner asked Senators if they were agreeable to including the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) Statement on Professional Ethics as an Appendix to the Constitution

Motion was advanced to approve the Senate Constitution as amended

Motion was unanimously approved

President Heffner proceeded to review proposed amendments to existing By Laws including a more specific definition of the “quorem” concept, allowance for electronic and / or telephone voting, allowance for proposing nominations electronically, a more specific definition of a “vacancy,” additions to the Past President’s duties, revisions to the duties of Senate officers, specification of qualifications for 2-year President and Vice-President terms, and recognition that the Vice President is not automatically the successor to the Senate President

President Heffner subsequently reviewed each section of the existing By Laws
President Heffner devoted specific attention to a proposed Committee’s Committee as a body tasked with oversight and organization of the multiple, existing Faculty Senate committees.

President Heffner similarly, strongly advocated for the importance of the Committee on Professional Rights and Responsibilities.

President Heffner reviewed the process for amending By Laws.

Motion was advanced to approve the Senate By Laws as amended.

Motion was unanimously approved.

IV. New Business -

A) Faculty Association (FA) and local Senate accounts -

President Heffner noted a recent Internal Revenue Service (IRS) initiative to define entities such as the Faculty Association (FA) and their respective college senates as precisely-defined, distinct entities or a collective entity.

President Heffner indicated that Senate leadership would consent to integrating into a collective entity if appropriate budgetary protections are established and codified.

B) FA Members in Good Standing & Members in Arrears of Dues -

President Heffner reviewed a recent Faculty Executive Council (FEC) discussion regarding potential collection of additional Association dues from individuals who joined or rejoined the Association subsequent to the beginning of the current academic year.

C) Role of Honors Program Advisory Committee -

Previously discussed.

V. Information / Discussion

No Information / Discussion Items
VI. Announcements / Good Of The Order / Adjournment -

President Heffner noted that the February 7th, 2013 Faculty Senate meeting will be conducted at the Southern & Dobson campus

Motion to adjourn the meeting was advanced

Motion was unanimously approved

Meeting was adjourned at 5:09 p.m.