

Lansing Community College

Academic Senate

MINUTES

4/4/14

Senator Attendees: James Allen, Alex Azima, Matt Boeve, Ed Bryant, Kevin Bubb, Christine Conner, Willie Davis, Vicki Deketelaere, Darrell DeMartino, Matthew Fall, Dale Franks, Ann French, Catherine Griffin, Judy Goth-Owens, Tammy Grossbauer, Jeff Haynes, Dan Holt, Dedria Humphries, Jeff Janowick, Melissa Kamai-Arambula, Jon Liebold, Peter MacFadden, Rafeeq McGiveron, Elaine Pogoncheff, Tracy Price, Richard Prystowsky, Terrill Putman, Kelly Sakkinen, Suzanne Sawyer, Hananiel Setiawan, Kathy Shaffer, Eric Snider, James Swain, Ed Thomas, Cathy Wilhm

Senators Absent: Marcy Bauman, Pamela Erramuzpe, Terrence King, Heather McAlpin, Jerry Onofryton, Joe Werner

Call to Order

President Azima called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Roll Call

Clerk Blundy called the roll. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

President Azima asked if there were any additions/corrections/deletions to the minutes of the March 21, 2014 meeting. The minutes were approved as distributed.

Public Comments (also permitted during the meeting with the approval of the Senate)

President Azima encouraged public comments and expressed their value to the Senate.

President's Report

Provost's Report

- Update on New Directions in Higher Education

Dr. Prystowsky talked about President Obama's affordability act and higher education in the state of the union address. The President recognizes the challenges for students with affordability, job availability, etc.

Competency-based education is not new to education; rather, it has been around for a long time. Sal Kahn (Kahn Academy) has been doing this for years, as has the military. Southern New Hampshire University has a competency-based online program including financial aid, and they are accredited.

We need to get on board now. Some Business & Economics faculty have recently met with the Provost about this topic and they have offered to have their programs be in a pilot. Dr. Prystowsky indicated we need to think out of the box, be creative – what does personalized learning mean for us and students, micro-credentialing, interdisciplinary, integrated. Google personalized learning, experiential learning, competency based, and start thinking about it now – don't wait for a meeting with the Provost to begin the conversations.

President Azima recommended this topic be discussed at a Senate/ELT Retreat.

Folks were encouraged to attend the session at the May 15 Faculty Professional Activity day to hear Dr. Mark Taylor speak – he will cover much of this topic.

- Dr. Prystowsky also indicated that an online learning consultant will be on site May 1-2 to gather information and discuss online readiness.
- The IDEA process will be a future agenda item.

- Establishing an Equivalency Committee

Dr. Prystowsky indicated that at a past meeting, it was brought to the Senate's attention that there are issues in hiring adjunct faculty because they don't meet a certain qualification. He recommended an equivalency committee, which would evaluate a person's transcript/CV including accomplishments, skills, etc. and determine if there is a master's equivalency. We would work with Human Resources, but he wants heavy Senate involvement. There was discussion if this will be limited only to faculty or would include other employee groups. Next steps – The Executive Committee will work with Human Resources, and President Azima will appoint a subcommittee. Please let him know if you are interested.

- A question was raised about the Higher Learning Commission and LCC's accreditation. Dr. Prystowsky and Jim Luke gave a quick update as to the status of our AQIP Systems Portfolio submission last year and the feedback report. We have just this past week received our feedback report. There was turnover with our HLC liaison and there was some delay in receiving the report. Stay tuned for more information.

Action Items

- Motion to approve the recommendations of the Writing Subcommittee of the Curriculum Committee – Senator and Curriculum Committee Chair Ed Thomas, Senator Dedria Humphries

Senator Thomas and Senator Humphries reviewed the process the writing subcommittee used. The subcommittee members were recognized and a memo dated February 18, 2014 indicating their 4 recommendations was distributed. The floor was opened for comments. President Azima asked that the meeting be extended 10 minutes to allow for additional discussion.

The Curriculum Committee's Writing Subcommittee moved that the recommendations of the Writing Subcommittee presented to the Senate in their memo dated February 18, 2014, be approved. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

None at this time.

Upcoming Academic Senate Elections, Senator Melissa Kamai-Arambula, Academic Senate Secretary Christine Conner, Center for Data Science Director Matt Fall

Senator Melissa Kamai-Arambula indicated information regarding elections and the timeline will be coming via email to senators. The bios and information on candidates will be available on D2L, so be sure you have access to D2L. Matt Fall from Data Science will create a "survey monkey" for departments for voting. Please watch for this important communication. Clarification is needed regarding faculty running for multiple program seats.

Possible Future Agenda Items

Adjournment

The Senate was adjourned at 11:11 a.m.