Faculty Senate Minutes

Meeting September 7, 2021

Copen Hall—Faculty Lounge

8:30am

Meeting was called to order by Calvin Becker at 8:30am.

Members Present: Leslie Deichman, Ashlee Jackson, Calvin Becker, Lashawna Powers, Jessica Robinson, Roger Ward, Lori Hackwell, Alisen Anderson

Members Absent: none

Old Business and Updates from President Stafford:

1. Facemasks—we are still unable to require facemasks on campus do to a governor order. However, they are continuing to watch the OK public K-12 schools who are fighting to change this order. If they gain any traction more discussion might be had for the policy at NEO.
2. Classroom temperature—Dr. Stafford was informed and concern was expressed by the faculty senate about the high temperatures in many buildings in campus. Classes have been cancelled due to the hot temps in Cunningham and even Copen, with new air systems has been extremely hot. It was requested that exploration be done to possibly use COVID CARES funding to help redo air systems.
3. Campus Transportation fleet—deferred maintenance and high miles on most of the fleet has created an issue. Administration is well aware and working on a plan to address the issues.
4. Campus Committee consolidation—no new knowledge or changes at this point.

New Business:

1. AWS—it has been requested by the success coaches that additional options that include a request for meetings from faculty to students be added. Faculty senate agrees this could be beneficial, but limit to only 1-2 new additions so it does NOT become too many like before.
2. Inclement Weather Policy—small committee will be formed from Faculty senate to include: Leslie, Lashawna, and Lori. They will work up a proposal to bring to the full senate for a discussion. It was brought up to keep in mind although we hate to loose class time, we also have many full time faculty with small kids at home and requiring regular work hours or zooming from home may not be feasible for all when daycares and public schools are closed.
3. Employee Turnover—what are we doing to address the mass exit from many of the top positions on campus?
4. Shipley Hall Inspection: it is an agreement from the faculty senate that they recommend an engineering inspection on Shipley hall as soon as possible. However, the faculty and college officials should have a plan in place for immediate action should the inspection come back as unsafe for students and staff.
5. Covid Incentive Programs—questions have been raised on the incentives for faculty and staff as many of the area public schools have seen teachers get incentives for work over COVID and also for getting the vaccine.
6. Items tabled for next meeting: budget outcome from last year and this year’s budget vs. FTE, Class sizes, salaries and adjunct pay

Meeting was adjourned by Calvin Becker at 9:25am.