

FACULTY CAUCUS MINUTES

Tuesday, November 10, 2020
2:30PM **Zoom**

Present: M. Barlett, E. Bush, G. Costello, S. Crocker, S. Dar, C. Ehrlich, M. Faitell, A. Fried, R. Golden, A. Haines, R. Huyck, J. Ireland, J. Johnson, M. Kelly, B. Kilmer, M. Kuczynski, M. LaPaglia, D. McDermott, B. Mexico, A. Miller, C. Miller, J. Rahn, D. Stevens, L. Wadsworth, L. Williams.

CALL TO ORDER

The Caucus was called to order at 2:31 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM October 20th MEETING

The minutes from the October 20, 2020 meeting were approved.

Approved- 16, Opposed- 0, Abstained- 3.

Conversation about diversity

The ground rules for the discussion on diversity were reviewed:

1. Listen actively- this includes refraining from use of zoom chat feature while others are speaking
2. Speak from your own experience instead of generalizing (“I” instead of “they,” “we,” and “you”)
3. Participate fully at your own comfort level
4. Be respectful of everyone’s view point and be aware that we are all in different place
5. Be conscious of body language and nonverbal responses

A discussion followed with various members talking about their experience with diversity. The discussion was focused on thinking about opportunities you have had, that others around you may not have had and thinking about opportunities you have not had, that others around you have had.

Update on Anti-racist framework draft

Committee is meeting later this week for update.

Chair report

Bartleby Learn update

Website was refreshed and ad reappeared. The issue was looked at and resolved.

Advising Day

Deans emailed each of the Schools that there is no instruction that day. Faculty were advised to meet with students virtually. Faculty can email SSA’s CRN’s when helping

students build their schedule. A video will be sent out tomorrow walking advisors through the process of registering students.

SUNY Statement on White House Executive Order

An email was sent out to Dr. Terri Miller (SUNY Vice Chancellor) informing her of MVCC's Faculty Caucus support of the SUNY Statement on White House Executive Order.

Netiquette draft

The draft was forwarded to VP Kahler to be sent out to the Deans.

5 year calendar

Calendars were put up on the website.

Q & A session with SSAs

-What are the major roles of the SSAs so services are not duplicated with the faculty advisors?

SSA's take a holistic approach and help students get connected with resources such as counseling, tutoring, etc. They also ask open ended questions to get to know the students as individuals. Furthermore, they help with transfer, withdrawal, midterm grades, financial aid, communication skills, time management, registration, etc. Question was brought up if there could be a page on the website with resources of where to send students for assistance with specific questions. Suggestion was for faculty to contact their SSA to gather answers for students.

-What can faculty do to support the work of the SSAs? How can we support each other for the benefit of the student?

SSA's are looking for communication and collaboration with faculty to best serve students. Starfish flags are more helpful if there are notes and context.

-Where is the best location to find SSA notes concerning raised flags?

SSA's put notes in Starfish system that handles the flags, notes feature in Degree Works, and quick note tracking system in Argos. Notes in Degree Works are self-contained, which is a limitation.

Q & A session concerning bookstore

-Can you tell us about the benefits you provide to our students and campus?

Barnes and Nobles College has over 800 stores, so there is a corporate backbone. They own the largest used book website. So with bigger scale, they can bring better prices and options. There is also a robust buyback and rental service.

-Could we add a short video to college bookstore webpage explaining to student how to order a text?

Will work on a user guide or slideshow to add to the website. With some assistance, a video could be created.

-Could faculty be sent several updates regarding the order status for their class textbooks?

Adoptions and Insights Portal (AIP) in Blackboard is where book orders, submissions, tracking, etc. can be viewed. If there is a used book option, that is the first option, then wholesaler, and then publishers. Bookstore can answer any questions about orders via email.

-How do we handle ordering special items for a course, such as inkjet photographic paper, etc?

Any order out of regular assortment that is used as a course requirement should be listed in the course syllabus and student should be directed to purchase it at the bookstore. Important to know if item is required vs. recommended for a course.

-Would it be possible to get a PDF from publishers for specific texts to carry students and faculty through the first two weeks of classes so students do not fall behind?

This issue is out of the bookstore's hands. However, a lot of publishers offer a two week free trial for their eBooks.

Biweekly Virtual Coffee Hour

This item is tabled until the Spring semester. The possibility of a virtual coffee hour with members of the Strategic Horizon Network was also mentioned.

Open forum

No items.

ADJOURNMENT

The Faculty Caucus adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

2:30pm on Tuesday, December 8th, 2020 via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Faitell