

# APPROVED September 19, 2014

University Senate

Minutes of the Senate

April 25, 2014

Members Present: Badia Ahad, Lisa Burkhart, Emilie Burton, Timothy Classen, Leanne Cribbs, Alanah Fitch, Lisa Gillespie, Tyler Hough, Pamela Johnson, Aamir Kadri, Claudio Katz, Thomas Kelly, Vicki Keough, Teri Kilbane, Joyce Knight, Ronald Martin, Niamh McGuigan, Alice Perlin, Darcy Peters, Christopher Peterson, Thomas Serena, Noah Sobe, Dian Squire, Anne Sutter, Mary Van Houten, David Yellen

Ex-Officio Members Present: John Pelissero

Members Absent: Shawna Cooper-Gibson, Cass Coughlin, Bren Murphy, Sarkis Morales-Vidal,

## **Approval of Minutes**

Motion: That the March 21, 2014 minutes be approved-L. Burkhart

Seconded by T. Serena

Vote: Approved unanimously

## **Diversity Progress Report-Provost Pelissero Reporting**

Dr. Pelissero, Provost convened a meeting with upper administration to discuss the Chief Diversity Officer position and diversity in General. He stated that Kelly Shanahan chief communication officer will undertake the role of communicating Loyola's work in diversity to the greater community. The Chief Diversity Officer, Provost Pelissero and Paul Roberts will take a closer look at recruiting African-American students. Thomas Kelly, VP Human resources, was asked by the president to recruit for a new VP of Human Resources, Chief Diversity officer. As such, the CDO will have a dual role. The position will report to the president. Mr. Kelly will continue to work closely with the president in various roles.

## **On-line Syllabus project-Dr. Martin and Ms. McGuigan**

The Student Development and Success Committee reviewed the On-line Syllabus proposal and success.

MOTION: That syllabi across the University be made available on-line

That it become a requirement.

Seconded by T. Serena

Discussion ensued.

-Dr. Katz opposed the motion because he has a concern students will avoid taking courses that require needed writing. Students have told him they wish to avoid more writing and they do not feel good writing is essential. He stated that he is concerned that we will graduate students who cannot write well. He further added that all syllabi should require more essential writing.

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- Dr. Fitch asked what is primary reason for the syllabi posting? Is it course information or something else?
- Dr. Katz stated that decent course information is useful but he cannot understand why a syllabus is needed.
- Dr. Fitch asks what else is included, tasks, readings, grading or more?
- Dr. Yellen agreed that writing is important. He added that good communication skills, oral and written are important. He asked what is the definition of a syllabus?
- Ms. McGuigan stated that it should include the description, assignment dates and general requirements of the class. She added that it should show the personality of the professor, and classroom experience. She added that the Committee did not look for definition of syllabus.
- Ms. Peters brought up financial issues as far as knowing what books to buy and plan on.
- Dr. Katz stated that isn't addressed with a syllabus.
- Dr. Sobe stated that LOCUS can be used to list books. He added that he approves the proposal.
- Mr. Hough stated that he finds that syllabi are useful to determine and help him plan his schedule
- Mr. Serena added that students who want to shop for classes will do so anyway usually using *Rate My Professor*.
- Dr. Fitch stated that Chemistry already posts syllabi. She asked what issues are out there with other departments.
- Ms. McGuigan responded that it was inconsistent across the departments as some departments always post, some not at all or others with varied types of information. She added that postings are often for past classes not current ones.
- Dr. Sutter added that instructors not always assigned in time for a syllabus to be available. She also asked if a syllabus changes, would students be upset.
- Mr. Hough asked why faculty are so late being hired.
- Dr. Sutter responded that it isn't ideal, but unfortunately it is a reality.

MOTION called to question (Part A) that syllabi across the University be made available on-line

VOTE:

Favor 14

Opposed 4

Abstention 3

Motion Carries

MOTION called to question (Part B) Make it required not recommended.

Discussion ensued. It was the general consensus that part B was unclear.

MOTION Part B Revised. That each school and college require posting of syllabi.

Moved-Ms. McGuigan

Seconded-Mr. Serena

VOTE:

Favor 14

Opposed 4

Abstention 5

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## MOTION:

Additional recommendation: Part C-That online syllabi be password protected thru Sakai or similar software.

Moved-Ms. McGuigan

Seconded-Mr. Serena

## VOTE:

Favor 5

Opposed 6

Abstention 11

MOTION: Additional recommendation: Part D- That Syllabi from a prior course may satisfy the requirement with accompanying text

Moved-Ms. McGuigan

Seconded-Mr. Serena

## VOTE:

Favor 16

Opposed 2

Abstentions 1

## **Proposal from USGA-Marriage Equality at Loyola University-Reported by Thomas Serena**

A discussion on marriage equality on campus ensued.

Lisa Reiter from Campus Ministry was available to answer questions. She stated that since Loyola is under the Catholic Bishops, the university and its properties belong to the church or are under the auspices thereof. Loyola is only allowed to have Catholic marriages in the chapel on campus and in no other spaces. Provost Pelissero added that Catholics must be married in a parish but the cardinal has granted us permission to marry current students, alums and current staff in the chapel on campus. Violating this may cause the university to lose all wedding privileges.

Mr. Serena suggested that the discussion on the proposal be postponed. It was decided by general consensus that the discussion be postponed.

Motion: Mr. Serena. –That the University create an adhoc committee to discuss non catholic heterosexual marriage on campus, and that the group convening be fully inclusive in regards to diversity.

Seconded- Dr. Kilbane

## VOTE:

Favor: 16

Opposed: 3

Abstentions: 3

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## **Elections report- Dr. Sutter & Dr. Classen**

The provost started off the discussion reporting that the president has approved the recommendation that the University Senate become permanent body.

Dr. Classen then asked us to introduce ourselves to one another, focusing on who is new in the senate.

Dr. Sutter and Dr. Classen asked the Senate to vote on the new executive committee.

Motion: T-Serena That the nomination and voting be on line

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Dr. Sutter & Dr. Classen asked senate members to look out for emails with nomination and voting instructions.

Motion to adjourn: C. Katz

Vote:

Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce D. Knight

Secretary to the University Senate