Library Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes
2005-11-23

Present:  
LSEB: Flynn (chair), Frost, Minatodani, Peacock, Riedy, Rutter, Sack (recorder), Schultz.  
TOTAL ATTENDEES: 19.  
Guests and associate members: Janel Quirante, Lynette Teruya.

Convened:  
9:06 am in Hamilton Library Room 301; the meeting was called to order by Flynn (chair).

1. Approval of the 2005-09-21 minutes.  
Approved.

2. Reports of Officers and Standing Committees  
Flynn reported that LSEB met six times since the last senate meeting. He briefed the senate on the content of the meetings, the memos sent to the UL, the distribution of examples in support of the vote of no confidence, and the distribution of the tabulated results of the evaluation of library administrators. Flynn also reported that at the recent meeting of the All-Campus Council of Faculty Senate Chairs, it was mentioned that resolutions were passed by other campus senates encouraging the legislature to use the budget surplus to support K-12 education.

Frost reminded senators to vote in the LPC nominating election.

There were no other officer or committee reports.

Flynn summarized the evaluation process; his inquiries to faculty in CBA and CTAHR and at the University of Michigan; and the LSEB recommendation to share comments only with the administrator under review. After some discussion of the pros and cons of sharing the comments more widely, a motion was made and seconded that the senate postpone discussion of the sharing of the written comments with respect to the evaluation of library administrators until the next full senate meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Report and Discussion of November 22 meeting with Neal Smatresk, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Regarding
the Vote of No Confidence in the University Librarian

Flynn reviewed the events that led up to the meeting with the VCAA—the statement of concerns, the vote of no confidence, LSEB's request for an assessment of the UL by the VCAA, LSEB's meeting with the VCAA, and LSEB's meeting with the Kem Lowry and Karen Cross of the Program for Conflict Resolution (PCR). He clarified that, as far as we know, the VCAA has not yet conducted an assessment of the UL and that we do not know what the PCR recommended to the VCAA but only what the VCAA is recommending to us.

Senators acknowledged that conflict resolution is appropriate in many situations and discussed the merits of engaging in that process in our own circumstances. It was determined that additional clarification is needed before further discussion can take place. The senate recommended that (1) a letter be written to the VCAA requesting an update on the status of his assessment of the UL's performance and also requesting his rationale for the decision to propose external mediation; (2) a message be sent to the PCR requesting clarification of their recommendation to the VCAA and also inviting them to attend part of the next senate meeting; and (3) a message be sent to lib_ids, apprising all staff of the VCAA's proposal for mediated conflict resolution in response to the senate's vote of no confidence in the UL.

5. New Business

None.

7. Next Meeting

December 15, 2005.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Submitted by Nancy Sack, Secretary

LIBRARY SENATE

