

Faculty Senate President's Report February 2017

- 1) Senate Representatives on Screening Committees –
As discussed at the January Senate meeting, I spoke with Administration and agreed, in the interest in speeding the process, that screening committees for Career positions should move ahead without a Senate representative if I don't provide one within 48 hours of receiving the invitation.

- 2) Search for New Polk State President
The DBOT had its third Special Meeting today to conduct business related to the search.
Membership for the screening committee was approved. Faculty representatives will be myself (Senate President), Rebecka Sare (FHRC Chair), Lee Childree, Ana Myers, Jamie Haischer, and Anthony Cornett.
There will be two public forums to kick off the process:
 Wednesday 2/15/17 – 4:30-5:30 – WST
 Thursday 2/16/17 – 4:30-5:30 – LAC1133

- 3) Procedure 1006 –
Thank you to all who have submitted feedback regarding the proposed changes to the Department Coordinator portion of Procedure 1006. The Senate will discuss the issues that have been raised at the February meeting.

- 4) Grievance Policies –
An ad-hoc committee has been formed by FHRC to address the request for a review of Polk's grievance and discipline procedures. Representatives from all employee groups, Faculty Senate, Human Resources, and Administration met on Friday, February 3 to have a general discussion regarding our current policies and the policies of similar institutions. Another meeting is scheduled for March 17. Once a document is produced by this group it will be offered to FHRC and the other employee/HR groups for approval. At this point, it will come to Senate for approval. Please be assured that all faculty will have ample opportunity to review any proposed new or modified policies.

- 5) Transition from PAL to Canvas -
Our attorneys are working with D2L on some complicated and "interesting" legal issues related to our planned discontinuation of the LMS. Currently, we are hoping to go online with Canvas in January of 2018, using the Fall of 2017 to work on porting materials and content.

- 6) Step Increase –
The Step Increase (1.6% for faculty), effective January 1, will be reflected in our February paychecks. A one-time 1.25% adjustment was approved for faculty who are above the maximum step.

Respectfully Submitted,
--Bill Caldecutt