3-27-2006

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Response:

Clara Krug (CLASS): At this time I would like to bring up a request for an update on the policy of dropping students who do not attend the first class.

Pat Humphrey (COST) Senate Moderator: Nancy Shumaker would you like to address that?

Nancy Shumaker (AVPAA): As you pointed out earlier, we are trying to develop a survey, and we have taken suggestions that were made as a result of the preliminary survey that we put out. And we are going to go back and work with Dr. Jayne Perkins Brown, our IR person here at the University to develop a more specific survey that can produce actual, quantifiable data that we can then use. That will be a web-based survey that will be put out for the faculty and for the students, and we will collect the responses from that survey. That is the next step that we’re working on right now.

Clara Krug (CLASS): When will this come before the Senate for a vote, and when will it come before the Student Government Association for a vote? I think the Senators, if I heard correctly, last time, have been concerned that we are supposed to be part of a shared governance; I think Mike Nielsen used the word “loop.” And we seem to be in a loop-free environment on this one. So, first, when will it come to the Student Government, because Dr. Bleicken had promised Student Government that there would be no action taken on anything involving students without involving students? And second, not if, but when this will come to the Faculty Senate for a vote?

Nancy Shumaker (AVPAA): My understanding was that we were to come back to the Faculty Senate and also go to the Student Government Association, and we were to share information with them about the proposal and then to get feedback from them.

Clara Krug (CLASS): My question was about a vote. Not about giving information or feedback, but a vote. I think you have had a couple of people quote today from the Faculty Handbook about the fact that faculty are to be involved in decisions that have an impact on instruction, so that is in the Handbook, and I would like to ask when there will be a vote in Student Government Association and when there will be a vote at the Faculty Senate for approval or disapproval? The Faculty Senate may always pass a resolution, which I asked about last time, which I think is why Dr. Bleicken then had this remitted to your group of people. So we could pass a resolution, but it seems that our
Faculty Handbook indicates that we are supposed to have a vote. A voice per shared governance. Thank you.

Nancy Shumaker (AVPAA): Clara, I do not think that I can give you specific date, at this point, because I do not think that there has been enough information shared with either the Student Government Association or with the Faculty Senate. We need to collect information from the surveys, and bring that information back to both of those bodies, and share that with them. There cannot be a vote until there is more information about what kind of response and what kind of opinion we have from both faculty and students about this. And whether or not there is a desire to see this occur. So I cannot give you a specific date now, since I do not know when we will have all of the information from the survey.

Clara Krug (CLASS): Can you give us a semester? Would it be spring semester? Summer semester? Fall semester? Because, Nancy, your statement to the Faculty Senators in this room indicated that this is to happen in Spring Semester 2007.

Nancy Shumaker (AVPAA): If you will read the response that I gave to Dr. Novotny, you will notice that it says “the following spring semester,” it does not say which spring semester, and that is because we want to leave enough room there for the information to be shared. I did not specify that it would be Spring Semester 2007. I said the following semester. Therefore, we need to collect this information, we need to share it, we need to get feedback, and we will then proceed from there.

Clara Krug (CLASS): Thank you.

Nancy Shumaker (AVPAA): You are welcome.

Richard Flynn (CLASS): May I ask one more clarifying question? Once the information has been shared, and you have decided how to proceed, you will, in fact then bring it to the two bodies for a vote. Is that correct?

Nancy Shumaker (AVPAA): If that is the procedure that needs to followed here. Linda Bleciken (Provost): I think that the Senate can vote on anything it wants. Candy Schille (CLASS): I really applaud all of the people that are trying to empower the Senate, but we need to face the wretched truth that everything that we do is advisory.

Virginia Richards (CHHS): I missed the last Senate meeting. I apologize. I did have a stand in, but I would like to applaud the Provost's office for bringing this forward. It is something that we have needed for a very long time, and in order to be able to fill up our classes, and have full classes throughout the semester, we desperately need to be able to drop students from our classes on the first day. And I applaud you all. Thank you very much for bringing it forward.
Michael Moore (COE): I think the response to Dr. Novotny is what people are reacting to. When you look at the response to his request for information, the process had the information coming back as an information item to both the Senate and to the Student Government Association, so you may want to take a look at that process again, and you may want to amend the item to come back as a vote in both the Senate and the Student Government Association instead of coming back as an information item.