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Can you give us information for why the Faculty Senate Minutes from the September 16th meeting have not yet been made available?

Submitted by Debra Sabia

10/4/2004

Question:

Can you give us information for why the Faculty Senate Minutes from the September 16th meeting have not yet been made available?

Rationale:

Without the Faculty Senate Minutes, the Faculty Welfare Committee has not been able to begin its charge in reviewing Senator Don Fausett's proposal, "Supplementary Procedures for Faculty Dismissal."

SEC Response:

A recent request for information from Dr. Debra Sabia queried the availability of the Minutes from the September meeting of the Faculty Senate. In a conversation this morning with Senate Secretary Dr. Mark Edwards on another matter, he mentioned that he would be forwarding them to Ginger for posting by end of business today. As a point of information, the Senate Bylaws require that the minutes be posted no later than ten (10) days prior to the next Senate meeting, which is currently scheduled for October

19th. Thus, the Secretary has until this Friday to submit them. It should also be noted, for information purposes, that the literal transcription of the tapes of the Senate meeting by Ginger Malphrus, and the condensation and translation of that transcript into meaningful minutes of the meeting is an enormous undertaking. (I can speak on this from experience!) The effort put into this by Robbie and his team (for recording it), and Ginger and Mark for getting it to us, is sincerely appreciated. The Welfare Committee was given their charge with regard to the Fausett motion the day after the Senate meeting. There has been no indication from the Chair of that committee that their work has been stalled in any way. Quite the contrary, the chair of that committee has provided documentation that a significant portion of their task is complete, and their efficiency is, again, sincerely appreciated. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. Thank you, Jeanette Rice Jenkins

Senate Response:

Jeanette Rice Jenkins reported that the Senate Executive Committee met on Monday, October 11, 2004 at 7 a.m. Rice Jenkins stated that there were two Requests for Information (RFI) both of which were submitted by Debra Sabia (CLASS). The first was submitted on October 4, 2004 and requested information on why the minutes of the September Senate meeting were not yet available. Her rationale for the request was that the Faculty Welfare Committee was unable to begin its charge to process Don Fausett's (COST) motion from the September Senate meeting entitled "Supplementary Procedures for Faculty Dismissal." Rice Jenkins stated that the SEC response to this request was to point out that the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate provide that the minutes must be posted no later than ten working days prior to the next Senate meeting. Ten working days prior to October 19, 2004 would be October 5, 2004 so that the time allotted had not yet expired. Rice Jenkins commended the work done by the team involved in the process of producing the minutes: Robbie Thompson and crew for recording the meeting audio, Ginger Malphrus for typing a verbatim transcript, and the Senate Secretary for summarizing this transcript. She noted that she had been assured by Jean-Paul Carton (CLASS, Faculty Welfare Committee Chair) that the Faculty Welfare Committee was already at work processing the Fausett motion.