

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 3, 2017, 3:30-5:00
STC Board Room
Faculty Senators & Administration

- Call to order: Michael Hengler, Megan Kelly, Erin Zavitz, Linda Lyon, Tyler Seacrest, Shane Borroman, Karl Ulrich, Delena Norris-Tull, Deb Hedeem
- Megan moves to approve from March 20, Karl seconds. Minutes approved
- Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)
 - PLA is the idea of giving students credit for knowledge and skills they possess but do not transfer as traditional college classes. This may be knowledge from job experience or job training, military classes, etc.
 - While we discussed PLA last year, we never adopted a complete policy and we are currently out of compliance. John Cech, Deputy Commissioner for Academic and Student Affairs, has a recommendation as to what this policy should be.
 - A testing center on campus would be a good place for challenge and placement exams for PLA
 - A testing center would also prevent our education majors from going to Helena or elsewhere for the PRAXIS
 - Deb will check with Laura and Bethany and get back to us.
- Cultural Center opening (basement of the SUB)
 - Currently focused on Native American students, but is inclusive of all cultures. May be a place for photos from international trips
- First reading of Curriculum Proposal (CP) 9: Math Pathways
 - This CP creates a new pathway for students to complete their GenEd math requirement that is less algebra intensive. This includes GenEd science classes which can be done with less algebra.
 - Still need to decide which pathway is best for some majors in Education and Business.
- There may be a lot of CPs coming that are currently in the Chairs Committee.
- Unofficial student complaints
 - We discussed that multiple departments have had issue with how student complaints have been handled. Instructors have been reprimanded without following proper procedures.
 - Fixing this issue may take a CBA language clarification, and would have to go through the labor management committee and bargaining.
- We showed concern that student evaluations are not anonymous because instructors can recognize handwriting under our current system
 - We talked about asking the committee to reconsider electronic evaluation. We understood the problem with low response rate if not done in class or with a significant incentive, but perhaps we could develop a solution to this.
 - We will ask Ashley about this next meeting
- NWCCU Accreditation visit

- We wanted clarification regarding our current efforts to write the self-report for our accreditation visit next year. What progress has been made? Who is tasked with writing which section?
- Delena moves to adjourn, Linda seconds. Let's get a drink!