## Minutes

College Senate

April 16, 2013, 12:15 p.m. Burke Library 103

**Meeting Start Time:** 12:15 p.m.

**Members Present:** Ricardo Pita, Mary Catherine McKinley, Billy Kavula, Stephanie Girard, Emily Fife, Meg Smith, Steve Almquist, Mary Krizan, Tim Carmody, Tim Jenkins, Samantha Church, Todd Warren, Andrew Tumminia

**Members Absent:** Peyton Tanner

**Primary Business:**

* Approval of minutes from February 19, 2013
* Reports from Councils
  + Student Success: Has met twice since the last Senate meeting. At the first meeting, the Council heard results of the SHC Student Experiences Survey. At the second meeting, there were only three members present, and so the meeting was rescheduled for 4/18. The next order of business is to report on discussions about retention over the past year and make a recommendation to the Senate.
  + College Community and Wellbeing: There was a special call meeting, at the request of the President, to draft a resolution about Tuition Benefits (more information related to this topic below).
  + Institutional Identity and Planning: Has met three times this semester, but there was no meeting this past month; instead, the Council has been communicating by email. Over the past semester, the Council has met with Bob Stewart (Admissions), Fr. Salmi, Jeff Hilperts (VP for Institutional Advancement) and Jim Hall (Athletics). This Council is still considering the issue reported at the last Senate meeting (possible credit hour reduction). They are waiting to hear about potential changes in the core.
  + Budget Advisory: Elected new staff representatives and came together for one meeting to look at the visioning documents. The Council had discussions with Fr. Salmi about the appropriate charge for of this Council. Currently, the language in place in the by-laws makes it seem as if the Council has oversight privileges; the President believes that budget oversight is outside the purview of the Council. Fr. Salmi prefers that the Council limit itself to looking at initiatives, considering impacts, and making recommendations. The debate with the President about the function of this Council has not been resolved.
    - The ongoing debate between the administration and the Budget Advisory Council concerning what the Council is allowed to know or act on raises questions about shared governance. Does the Senate have approval over each of the Council’s by-laws? Does the President have the authority to tell the Council to change the by-laws?
* Minutes from each Council need to be posted on Badgerweb. Council representatives or co-chairs should send the minutes to the recorder (Meg Smith), and she will post them.
* Tuition Benefit Resolution (Council on College Community and Wellbeing)
  + The current policy on tuition benefits exempts step-children. The Council sent out an unofficial survey to other Jesuit schools to learn more about the language in their policies. All but one school who responded included step-children as eligible for tuition benefits.
  + The Council voted to change the definition of “a dependent child” to the same definition as the IRS definition of a “Qualifying Child” under the Federal Tax Code. This means that step-children of SHC employees are now eligible for tuition benefits, providing that the child lives with the employee for over half of the tax year.
  + The resolution will now go the President.
* Rewak Award
  + The College Senate has been asked by the President to recommend a nominee for the Rewak Award.
  + The co-chairs have already sent out an email to faculty and staff requesting that nominations be sent to the recorder.
  + The recorder will compile all of the nominations and attached information and post to Badgerweb for review by the Senators.
  + The co-chairs will make available a list of past winners.
  + The co-chairs will work with someone from IT to create a survey monkey with only the names of the nominees. Senate members will vote for two of the nominees.
  + The votes for each nominee will be compiled, and we will discuss the top vote getters at our next meeting.
  + In the case that a member of the Senate is nominated and receives enough votes to be included in the top choices, then that Senator will not attend the next meeting (where nominees with the most votes will be discussed); a proxy should be sent instead.
  + The above bulleted points document the Senate process for recommending a nomination to the President, and should be considered as the procedures for next year.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, April 24th, 2 p.m., BL 103

**Meeting Adjourned:** 12:56 p.m.