College-wide Meeting Minutes
Fri., Nov. 22, 2019
Hill Auditorium, Barrows Hall


Approval of Meeting Minutes – September 13, 2019 – Tim Reagan moved and Ian Mette seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on September 13, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

Points of Interest:

PREP Update – Dean Gresham shared that Elaine Bartley had resigned to take another position. Since that time, Dean Gresham had an opportunity to meet with Jim Boothby. We will continue to pay our dues to PREP, remain as a member, and stay involved with PREP.

Strategic Vision and Values (SVV) (handout) – Dean Gresham spoke briefly about Strategic Vision and Values. The SVV framework is a living document that will serve to guide the university over the next five years. Units will be expected to develop goals within the framework and budget decisions will align with the goals. Each school should be participating.

Chapter 115 Update – Mary Mahoney-O’Neil recently attending a State Board of Education meeting on November 13. There was a large vote with the outcome of ‘no’ to accept the recent changes. That triggered an emergency vote to pause on making any major changes. Mary will attend future meetings. She is also happy to speak with anyone regarding their questions and concerns about changes to Chapter 115.

PREP Professional Development Event (3/20/20) – Mary M-O stated that UMaine will be hosting this professional development event for approximately 1,500 teachers. Many offices on campus are helping to organize this event. If anyone would like to offer a session, let Mary know.

Committee Updates:

Curriculum Committee – Sandy Caron is new chair of this committee. The committee has been very busy.
Graduate Affairs Committee (handouts) – The committee is considering a policy to add the add/drop language to every syllabus. Another idea is to have a video on our website. For grad students who want to drop, they usually tell their instructor. A friendly remind that the instructor needs to let Jo-Ellen Carr know so that she can properly drop them from the course.

Format to the independent study/directed reading course guidelines has changed. It was decided to take the language right from the graduate catalog regarding contact hours and add it to the form.

There was an email sent out to faculty from the Graduate School regarding Open Nominations for 2020-2021 Financial Awards and Shared TAs. Each School can submit two nominations for the Waldron. Faculty are encouraged to submit nominations through their school director. These are highly competitive awards.

October 15th is the big day for enrollment numbers. Our graduate enrollment numbers typically lead the University. We are doing particularly well in those areas. Our doctoral enrollment is down a little bit.

Faculty Senate – Chris Nightingale provided an update. Faculty Senate met with the Chancellor last month and the push for Unified Accreditation (One University) is moving forward. President Ferrini-Mundy feels we need to be responsive to this and lead the way in guiding this process for the system.

The General Education subcommittee has begun the process of Gen Ed Reform and Stewardship. Feels that this can tie in with student success initiative and retention goals. If faculty are interested in being a part of this process, please reach out to Dee Nichols and he can facilitate.

The Research and Institutional Planning committees are working together to ensure that support structures are in place to help prioritize research on campus. They are working with former provost Jeff Hecker to make the budget process more transparent and improving models for projecting revenues to better allow for funding.

The Disability Services has added staff as a result of faculty senate recommendations to the administration and is seeking a larger, more centralized space to meet their growing needs.

The Program Creation/Reorganization Committee has approved the system initiative to reduce the new degree and program planning process to streamline it. Athletic Training is following this process and has cleared initial hurdles with the Grad Board and hopes to have its proposal approved by the Faculty Senate in time to be forwarded and make the Board of Trustees March 2020 meeting.

Diversity and Difference Committee – Leah Hakkola mentioned the committee has not yet met. Kaz was the current interim chair. The committee needs a chair.
Discussion Items:

Top Scholars – Mary M-O shared there were initially six students participating in the Top Scholars program from our College. One student decided to leave for the semester; one student is working with Dan Puhlman and there are two elementary students and two KPE students that are hoping to align with a faculty member on their ongoing research. Each student is given $500 to be spent towards that research. If anyone is interested in mentoring one these students, please contact Mary M-O.

P & T Approval – Jim Artesani mentioned that the most recent vote of the College’s P & T document passed with a majority vote: 24 yes; 1 no; 1 abstention. Everyone received a copy of the handout, page 10 of the red-lined version of the document. After the vote was completed, it was noticed that paragraph #3 was not removed after moving the same language to paragraph ‘i’ in paragraph #2.

Back on February 1, 2019, Elizabeth Hufnagel moved and Eric Pandisco seconded a motion to amend as follows: Move paragraph 3 into number 2 as one of the options and make it “(i)”:

The motion passed with 30 votes and 2 abstentions.

Jim asked if it would be OK to make this correction since it was already voted on and approved? Craig Mason would prefer to vote on the change. He is concerned that the Dean’s office is making editorial changes to a document without a vote would not be appropriate.

Tim Reagan made a motion to remove paragraph #3; Craig Mason seconded the motion. There was a strong concern that you just cannot fix this typo without a vote. Discussion of Robert’s Rules and how it applies to this fixing this error. Concerns that if you want to make the fix/correction, there are some faculty who would vote differently. Ian Mette requested further discussion regarding the first part of the sentence “There is the expectation that the faculty member will submit at least”. It was agreed to eliminate paragraph numbered 3. Voted: 17 yes; 4 no; 1 abstention.

Ian Mette made the motion to eliminate the words “There is the expectation that the faculty member will submit at least” and start paragraph ‘i’ with: One external grant application. Sid Mitchell seconded the motion. Discussion included whether to add PI or Co-PI to paragraph ‘i’ and/or should paragraphs ‘h’ and ‘i’ be combined. Amendment made by Craig Mason: to begin the sentence in paragraph ‘i’ PI or Co-PI on one external grant application. Susan Bennett-Armistead seconded the amendment. Voted: 25 yes; 0 no; 0 abstentions.

Next faculty voted on the original motion made by Ian Mette and seconded by Sid Mitchell: eliminate the words “There is the expectation that the faculty member will submit at least”. Voted: 23 yes; 1 no; and 1 abstention.

The Dean suggested adding a sentence, perhaps in the Performance Standards: Progression through the faculty ranks presumes scholarship that demonstrates a trajectory of increasing independence of thought and impact on the field of study. The consensus was to table this suggestion.
Faculty Advisory Council – To promote faculty governance. Only met once. Hard to get started. Elect their own chair and come up with their own agenda. It is listed in the by-laws. It was agreed to keep this council and at a later time decide who will serve on it.

CUGR – Jim Artesani is still serving on this committee. Another faculty member would be welcome to serve. Cat Biddle volunteered.

CAEP Update – The CAEP Steering Committee met with Malina Monaco, VP of CAEP. It was decided that the only advanced programs to be reviewed would be the MSAT and MAT graduate programs.

Other items?

Karen Keim just received a grant and is looking for a student who wants to be a graduate assistant to help in writing curriculum for science. Contact Karen if you know of anyone. Also, she received a grant and has funding to give away to students who are low income, first year students. The monies are from the Maine Department of Health and Human Services. They did not say I could fund four year degrees for education, but she would like to try out an application to get one approved. She is looking for some brave, parenting adults who are willing to beta test whether they’ll fund education for science, computers, and math. Those are the only four year degrees that she is allowed to pay for $6,000 tuition, childcare, dental care. She has funding for 500 students.

Lois Weis, Speaker – Save the date will go out soon. Her visit here on campus will be Mon., April 6, 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Respectively submitted by,

Roxanne McGreevy