

October 16, 2013 Faculty Meeting Minutes – FINAL with approved revisions as presented at January 15, 2014 Faculty Meeting

Faculty Chair Welcome – Faculty Chair Abir Biswas opened the meeting at 1:15

General Announcements – The following general announcements were made:

- Abir indicated that no feedback was provided on proposed changes to the faculty handbook related to the implementation of the online record system and that the changes are now final;
- Abir indicated that the Agenda Committee has decided to hold a discussion at the week five meeting, entitled “Faculty Hiring: Principles and Practices”
- Shauna Bittle announced an upcoming photography open house on October 22nd;
- Scott Coleman reminded faculty of an e-mail from the HP DTF regarding proposals for new faculty hires;
- Sandy Yannone announced a celebration of the 8th edition of the Inkwell that is currently going on;
- Ellen Shortt Sanchez, Mukti Khanna and Sandy Yannone announced a new scholarship in Jacinta McKoy’s honor that will support students engaged in community based learning and action;
- Lisa Sweet requested that the Agenda Committee bring forward a conversation with the faculty as a whole about when and in what form governance occurs;
- Larry Mosqueda announced that former CIA official Ray McGovern will be on campus this Friday; and
- Nancy Murray announced that additional “Academ-X” talks will occur this Friday over lunch.

Approve October 2, 2013 Faculty Meeting Minutes – The minutes were approved as distributed.

Welcome from President Les Purce – Les began with a remembrance of Jacinta. He reflected on his participation in a fieldtrip with Paula Schofield and Andy Brabban’s program. He went on to describe the College’s current enrollment, which thus far suggests a possible reversal of the drop experienced last year particularly if we are able to increase student retention. He went provided an enrollment overview within the state, which suggests greater competition for fewer in-state students, as well as for non-resident students. Les indicated there is much work that is occurring to get Evergreen’s name and pedagogy out into the community. He indicated that our recent visit with the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities resulted in a commendation about the way we have handled the decrease in funding and no formal recommendations, the latter of which is unusual. The reviewers indicated they were impressed by the new academic statement initiative, which addresses their ongoing concern about how Evergreen works with students to meet general education goals. Faculty were thanked for their involvement in private fundraising, which is an increasingly important aspect for ensuring access for all citizens to higher education. Les commented on his faculty hiring decision, which was strongly informed by the provost search committee’s recommendations and in what he felt was the best interest of the College. He framed the decision as one of the most difficult he’s made because he had to make the decision independently. He indicated his continued respect for the faculty hiring process that continues to occur and that he does not consider his recent action to be a normal practice. Les indicated the College is moving forward to secure funding for the purchase of the Tacoma building. In addition, the College is seeking funding increases for to cover classified staff salary increased, which were funded only for 3 out of the six four-year public institutions. A brief discussion ensued, including mention of the budget. A question was asked regarding the manner in which new money from the state has been allocated. Les replied that he would look into this.

Long-Range Curriculum DTF – Co-chair Ruth Hayes reminded the faculty that they are framing their work within the core themes identified in our accreditation self-study, as well as our Expectations and Five Foci. Joe Tougas walked the faculty through a curriculum planning workflow handout. He asked faculty to draw into the handout what it is missing. He continued to discuss the changes in and types of programs that are offered (e.g., shorter programs, repeatable and not, innovative new programs, etc.) and some of the challenges that are inherent in our current curriculum planning model. The faculty were asked to consider if there are useful additional ways to form teaching teams.

Co-chair Karen Gaul provided a handout regarding ILCs and internships, which includes some proposals which will likely be brought forward for a faculty discussion and vote where warranted. A brief discussion ensued.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:59.