

June 4, 2014 Faculty Meeting Minutes – FINAL

Faculty Chair-Elect Sandy Yannonne showed a video of Dr. Maya Angelou reading her poem, “Still I Rise,” in recognition of Dr. Angelou’s death earlier this week.

Faculty Chair Abir Biswas opened the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

Announcements

- Jonathan Lindsay from Alumni Programs introduced his colleague Nate Bernitz who announced that Return to Evergreen will occur on October 18th.
- Nancy Murray introduced Elizabeth McHugh and announced their work on a student well-being initiative grant they are working on, sponsored by AAC&U.
- Several faculty announced end-of-year presentations/screenings by their students.
- Abir announced that the Council of Faculty Representatives proposal will be considered in the fall.
- Abir announced that the inaugural work of the Standing Committee on the Curriculum charge has been framed by the Provost and the Agenda Committee.

Faculty Meeting Minutes -- The May 21, 2014 Faculty Meeting minutes were adopted as distributed.

Academic Statement Writing Contest Winning Essay Readings – First place recipient Seth Lueck and third place recipient Ricky Johnson read their essays to great applause.

Nominations/Vote for the following 2014-2015 Governance Positions

- Agenda Committee -- Frances Rains expressed her willingness to stand for a second two-year term (for 14-15 & 15-16) and was affirmed by unanimous voice vote.
- Faculty Advisory Panel on the College Budget – Carrie Margolin and Peter Dorman expressed their willingness to stand for a second two-year term (for 2014-2015 & 2015-2016) and were affirmed by unanimous voice vote.
- Presidential Search Committee – 14 faculty names were put forward as nominees for the faculty representative to the Presidential Search DTF. Faculty were asked to fill out ballots to indicate their preferences for the Agenda Committee to take into consideration in selecting the four faculty representatives.

Faculty Advisory Panel on the College Budget – Michael Zimmerman was asked by the FAP to provide a quick overview of the current enrollment decline and associated budget reductions decisions, with associated guiding principles, that have occurred within a very short timeframe. FAP Members Ralph Murphy, Peter Dorman, Carrie Margolin and Doreen Swetkis followed by briefly covering the following three key points: 1) this is a unique point in history, 2) reserves are declining, and 3) implications for retention and recruitment, with the greatest leadership needed from the Olympia daytime faculty.

Planning Unit Coordinator DTF – PUC DTF members Anne Fischel and Greg Mullins provided an overview of the DTF’s work and the final proposal that was first put before the faculty for discussion at the May 5, 2014 Faculty Meeting. The floor was open for continued discussion on the proposal. A voice vote was taken to end discussion. It was followed by a voice vote of the proposal as a whole, which passed with the vast majority voting in favor, no voting to oppose, and a small number of faculty indicating they were abstaining.

Academic Freedom and the Quisney Project – Additional time was provided by the Agenda Committee for this discussion. Provost Michael Zimmerman started by providing a chronology of administrative actions. Faculty Member Greg Mullins provided a statement about this as an academic freedom issue. After both presentations, the floor was open to discussion, where a variety of viewpoints were expressed.

Abir adjourned the meeting at 3:47 p.m.