

SEC meeting with Chairs of Faculty Senate Standing Committees, Wednesday, April 16, 2003:

Summary of notes taken at the meeting (submitted by Bob Fernekes):

Members present: David Allen, John Brown, Diana Cone, Marc Cyr, Mark Edwards, Bob Fernekes, Chris Geyerman, and Jim Stephens.

1. David Allen, Chair, called the SEC meeting to order at 4:00PM, Executive Board Room, Russell Union. At this meeting, the second group of chairs met with the SEC to address major concerns, discuss their experiences, and identify strategic issues facing their committee.

Undergraduate Committee (Dr. Phyllis Dallas, co-chair): Co-chair arrangement with Dr. Constance Campbell provided leadership continuity; institutional memory a concern because of annual committee turnover; supported the idea for a new member orientation that centered on a packet of materials (how committee functions, ongoing actions, etc.) rather than another meeting. Issue about alternates. Lengthy discussion about General Education outcomes, core courses, need to be on track for SACS reaffirmation, discussion of new curriculum forms. Question of whether to establish a task force to handle General Education outcomes (would that need Senate or SEC approval. Status of Information Literacy? Raised idea of establishing a key documents repository that would be supervised by the Senate and might be stored in the library. To discuss with Provost.

Faculty Welfare Committee (Dr. David Dudley, chair): Committee commended on its Domestic Partners Proposal. Similar concerns – need a method to get new committee members functional early on, change in committee chair at end of academic year, how best to handle several ongoing actions especially question of defining ‘physical harassment’.

Faculty Service Committee (Dr. Alice Hall, chair): Announced Alison Ridley was leaving; proposal needed clarification, guidelines for notebook, reiterated need for orientation of new committee members.

Faculty Research Committee (Dr. Karen McCurdy, chair): Concerned about not having a clear model, criteria, for grant competitions.

Faculty Development Committee (Dr. Mary Marwitz, filling one year slot): Felt Committee charge is clear. Issue—clarity of criteria and requirements; standards on which to evaluate; time to release awards.

Academic Standards Committee (David Lowder, chair, Alt): Committee works closely with Registrar; runs pretty smooth.

General observations: concern over committee chair and member rotations, continuity of operations, maintenance of institutional memory, and ongoing actions that carry over into next year, division of labor, need for committee orientations to quickly get new members on board and provide direction for the committee as a whole.