

Collin College Faculty Council

Meeting Minutes

October 23, 2009

Call to Order: The regular meeting of Faculty Council (FC) was called to order by President, Dr. Peggy Brown, at 1:00, at the Preston Ridge Campus.

Roll Call: All representatives were present except for the following: Mary Weis and Daphne Babcock. Shellene Foster stood in for Raja Khoury.

Minutes: Dr. Brown asked the secretary for minutes from the last FC meeting. George Jackson moved to dispense with the reading, a motion seconded by John Glass. None opposed. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Paula Miller

<u>Named scholarship requires \$1,250:</u>	<u>Collected</u>	<u>Need</u>
Collections for 2009-2010 Faculty Scholarship	<u>\$732</u>	
Amount still needed \$1,250 - \$732=		<u>\$518</u>

Cabaret commitment for Spring, 2010, \$1,250 (excludes cost of dinners to be paid by those attending):

Amount collected on this pledge	<u>\$214</u>	
Amount still needed \$1,250 - \$214=		<u>\$1,036</u>
Sunshine Fund	\$241	

Paula reported that the Executive Committee of FC met to discuss the use of the Sunshine Fund. Now that we have 350 faculty, FC will send sympathy and get well cards when faculty lose immediate family members or are out for extended illnesses. FC has already sent four cards to those (all from PRC) who lost a mother or father. Paula asked that faculty e-mail her in the future if they know of someone who has had a loss. She has cards and can send one on behalf of the FC to express faculty concern and best wishes. FC also sent one to Toni Jenkins upon the loss of her father even though she is not Faculty.

Dr. Brown announced that she now has FC stationery; she sent a letter to Cary Israel and to the Board of Directors upon the decision to offer an increase in salary during economic hard times. She added that any correspondence to legislators must come from faculty's own stationery using personal postage.

Paula ended her report by mentioning that she had the receipt book in case anyone wanted to pay into the fund.

Vice President's Report: Dr. Joan Kennedy was at a meeting in Austin.

Committee Reports:

Technology: George Jackson

Emergency Planning is working on a report for Tom Rodgers regarding pandemic measures. If classes must close for an extended period from a pandemic, e.g., the H1N1 virus, the college plans to have in place an alternative course delivery, wherein all classes will be conducted through Blackboard or some other online program. In a survey due to be distributed soon, Tom Rodgers' committee will determine the number of faculty who have the technology skills necessary to act as advisors to faculty who need help in implementing an online course delivery to their students. An emergency planning team with skills would go to work to allow student access to 100% of their classes. Definition of "extended period" is for several weeks upward to the remaining semester. To clarify, if classes were to resume after one week, no alternative action would take place.

Blackboard will upgrade from CE6 to CE8 campus edition soon.

Wintermester grades are due January 11; faculty return on January 6, and the new Blackboard will come live on January 14. Spring classes begin on January 19. We don't anticipate that faculty will notice changes of the Blackboard edition; Blackboard CE6 will migrate to CE8 without interruptions. It is essentially the same program with more stability. CE9 is where we are in the Beta testing; this is replacement anticipated to operational in the fall of 2010.

College Policy: Mary Milford/Barbara Lusk

Mary Milford reported that there was nothing going on at this time.

Teaching and Learning:

The committee is trying to schedule a meeting.

Faculty Council Procedures and Nominations:

Dan Lipscomb will meet to consider reapportioning the number of representatives.

Collin Community:

Martha Chaloub reported on the recent Clean-the-Highway activity and thanked the few who participated. Since it was time to renew the contract, there was the following motion: "We shall continue Adopt-a-Highway for another year." [SCC]

Brett Burkett seconded the motion. In discussion, the problem of getting people to show up was raised. In response Martha offered to change the day of the volunteer work so that the same conflict would not continue to stand in the way of those who wish to participate but have conflicting schedules. Peggy suggested that the faculty name on the signs posted on Spring Creek Parkway complied with the college strategic plan that calls on the faculty to publicize faculty presence throughout the community.

15 voted for continuing the Adopt-a-Highway program and one opposed. Motion passed.

All-College Council: Peggy called for a report, but the representative was not present. Although there was no official report, a faculty member there reminded the FC that the All-College Council still has Meals on Wheels, and they need volunteers. The Council will repeat the employ recognition program again this year and urged faculty to nominate.

Academic Freedom:

Dan Lipscomb, speaking on behalf of Kyle Wilkison, said the committee is alive and well and will send its recommendations.

Council on Excellence: Martha Tolleson

Martha Tolleson was ill but sent a message with Kimberly Harris that there was “nothing to report.”

President’s Report: Dr. Peggy Brown

The APT reports that Pick a Prof is a valid cite where we will publish evaluations beginning next year, under its new site MyEDU.

The International Travel document has been modified. For international travel to be approved, the travel has to comply with the College Strategic Plan. The travel has to publicize the College name in some way. The one goal that applies is Goal 2.1 which states that a goal is to increase faculty recognition.

The international travel does not include Professional Development, but can only be used if it benefits the College.

APT suggests that faculty encourage students to get a degree. Statistically it makes a difference if faculty encourage their students to do so.

The Retention Committee meeting was happening at the same time as the FC that afternoon, so she promised to send the results by e-mail.

Paula said it would be good to send the report to the representatives.

Peggy Brown went to the leadership meeting in Austin and learned about faculty’s First Amendment rights. She cited the Garcetti et al. v. Ceballos case as a reference and furnished a summary of the case. When the case of First Amendment rights has been tested, some got their jobs back, but many didn’t.

Textbooks. Students can buy their books, new \$137, or rent the book, \$49.89 at **Chegg.com**, \$49.21 at **bookrenter.com**. The need to make sure they indicate how long they plan to rent the book and the correct edition (12th Ed).

Old Business:

Martha Chalhoub will send out contracts for the Adopt-a-Highway.

The recap of Legislative session is on the Faculty Council website.

Regarding the drop-for-nonpayment motion on the table, Peggy took the issue to APT. Even though the drop date causes the administration problems, the decision weighs in favor of students. To make sure that their access to classes is protected, the drop-for-nonpayment is early enough to allow the classes to be filled with bona fide students who pay, but late enough to allow those students to register early to reserve their spot until they can find financing to pay for their courses. Thus the FC motion to have students pay when they registered was untabled after some discussion. George Jackson asked about not dropping the students at all, but given the response of the APT to the issue, the discussion ended there.

The drop-for-nonpayment date that now stands seems to be appropriate to help students.

Mike Cohick asked about notification to students about the administrative drop. Peggy advised that the Registrar sends them a hard copy two times before they drop them; but the students don’t renew their addresses when they register, so they get a lot of the notices back.

Peggy called for a vote, but Jim Sizemore, the Parliamentarian, recommended that the FC entertain a motion to withdraw the motion: John moved to withdraw it; Dallie Clark seconded it.

All ayes'

New Business:

A. Update on the international student attendance: no federal agency is enforcing mandatory attendance, so the matter is of no consequence. Only for retention could one encourage International students to maintain consistent attendance.

B. Karen Wheland, who is pursuing a doctorate, commented that a lot of professors are pursuing their doctorates and would benefit from a support group. She suggested forming a doc/talk group for accountability. She urged people to contact her if they were interested in joining such a group.

C. Preparation for Emergency Response

Someone questioned the establishment of a technology support group to assist faculty if there is an emergency during which classes must be canceled for an extended period of time. Peggy assured them that there is no problem with those teaching online, or those who have materials online, but some faculty have never had anything online; the College is planning for the worst-case scenario so an ER Team can help them get their courses set up online.

D. Ideas Seminar

There have been requests to have a dinner at night to discuss ideas.

Someone is interested and therefore assuming others are as well.

Also, how do we want to celebrate the 25th anniversary? Submit ideas, can send them to committee.

E. Think tank results from last meeting were distributed, and faculty should look over them to see which ones the FC should pursue. The faculty was asked to turn in recommendations to Peggy Brown.

We need a recommendation that we have an Education Summit to change the way we think about education; we will have a committee to pursue the idea of a broad approach to education; Peggy asked for suggestions from the faculty.

The Next Meeting will be at the Central Park Campus on November 20 at 1:00, following the Chili Cook-off.

The December meeting was cancelled in order to encourage students to go to the Student Showcase of research projects and creative projects (refreshments will be provided).

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by George Jackson and seconded by Bill Ardis. None opposed.

Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:05.

Faculty adjourned for a presentation by John Leonard, a research librarian at the SCC-LRC.

Minutes submitted by: Dr. Kay Mizell

Preliminary approval of the minutes by: Dr. Peggy Brown

Final approval of minutes by: Faculty Council, November 20, 2009