Faculty Senate
Minutes
May 7, 2014

Meeting in session at 1:15 p.m.

Present: James McCrimmon, JoAnn Brannen (proxy for Diantha Ellis), Jason Scott (Proxy for Doug Waid), Chrissy Dent, James Galt Brown, Heather Cathart, Jeannie Paulk and Susan Roe.

Senator Dent conducted the meeting. Senator Urquhart, chair, was unable to attend. She opened the meeting by asking for discussion regarding the newly imposed summer pay schedule.

Senator Scott opened the discussion by noting that the new pay schedule greatly affected faculty who had planned accordingly by agreeing to teach summer classes and assuming the pay was the same.

Senator Dent also noted that nursing faculty turned down other summer jobs that would have paid more than the new pay scale would allow. If the faculty had known the pay scale early, it would have gave them the opportunity to make a better choice.

Senator Brown stated that faculty who agreed to teach summer assuming the regular pay have no obligation to teach summer at the new pay scale.

Senator Cathart gave an example of how the new pay scale would affect her summer pay. Teaching two classes with the new pay scale would be less than teaching the one class she taught last summer. Science classes received 4.5 hours credit.

Senator Brannen mentioned that having a tiered scale for reduction in pay would be more suitable than a flat rate per hour.

Senator Brown also mentioned a possible limit on summer hours taught.

Senator Roe stated that the reduction in classes offered in her area only allowed for one Art Appreciation class eliminating Music and Theater Appreciation.

Senator Brown made three points to consider:
   1. ABAC is not in competition with technical schools in this area.
   2. Faculty Senate should amend the bylaws to include an amendment that allows the senate to go into executive session without administration and note taking.
   3. Faculty Senate should also include in their bylaws a provision for a “No-Confidence” vote.
Senator Scott noted that ABAC needs to attract new faculty and the reduction in summer pay is not attractive.

Senator Brown noted that if summer school is supposed to pay for itself, why is there a reduction in pay? Where is the money going?

Senator Scott made a motion to recommend to the administration that the summer school pay reduction be postponed until Summer 2015 giving faculty time to make plans since faculty agreed to teach summer school with no mention of a reduction in summer pay. The reduction without sufficient notice is going to create a hardship on those faculty members teaching more than 3 hours. The motion was second by Chrissy Dent and carried unanimously.

Respectively submitted:

Senator JoAnn Brannen

May 8, 2014