

Faculty Senate

11/19/2020

Loring

- Summary notes stand approved.
- Old Agenda items on standby.
- Officially the last Fall meeting, Spring meetings are TBD. Zoom meetings may continue.

Terry Wigle

Open Educational Resource (OER) Discussion- Student cost reduction/textbook purchase

Faculty select is an Ebsco service- database that faculty search for OER materials.

Terry Wigle- Manages bookstore contract

- Looking into cost of textbooks to improve cost effectiveness for students
- Students opting out of textbook purchase due to cost (2/5)
- OER free and open education materials
- Provided information of most expensive textbooks and challenges with it
- Lumen offers OER options and Terry provided information to show the comparison of past textbooks and OER available materials.
- Using the OER comparable can tremendously cut cost for students.
- A substantial savings per section.
- Would like to encourage to use of Lumen to reduce cost or utilize the free OER resources
- Is discover there are OER options and Faculty can search for these options through Follett Discover.
- Textbook cost: bookstore required to use primary adopted text, by default the most expensive ISBN version of a text is the most readily available for faculty and the bookstore is required to place that book on the shelf.
- Lowering cost involves looking at all the multiple options available (versions, options, editions, or print, rented, online, used, etc....)
- OER provider options as well (Coursera, nature.com, edx, lumen, khan academy, etc....).
- If a OER is selected it will show to students just as selected textbooks do.
- OER is the best option for cost reduction.
- Looking to partner with Faculty and faculty senate to cut cost and implement OER use.
- Can provide white papers with statistical information showing success of OER use.

Questions:

- Brian Oddi- Would we have the department/faculty contact Terry with questions?
Terry- Faculty can use Discover to make request. General questions
- Arcides Gonzales- Small fees for OER, monthly or one-time fees? Is the fee per semester/course?

Terry- Typically onetime fee for students (example \$25 associated fee) and yes per semester/course

- Arcides Gonzales- How is the rate of use at Cal U?

Terry- Rate is very low. The state system would like for institutions to utilize this more to cut overall cost for students.

- Jesse Eiben- Will share OER gathered database from another institution with Loring and Terry.
- Loring- Faculty select is avoiding the process of overwhelming information or link to search multiple sources and combine it into one area. Do you see Faculty select being complementary with Follett?

Terry- Follett understands the partnership and is understanding of the institutions push to cut student costs. Researching methods to combine resources into a single area of course adoptions and continue to investigate partnerships with the library and their resources. Faculty select requires faculty to build a link to provide materials where Discover does this for Faculty.

Loring asked Terry to send resources and information to Bob, Loring, or Robin.

Craig Smith

- Wanted to make himself available for questions about recent changes.
- Discussed upcoming UCC meetings and the integration plan.

Questions:

- Larger class sizes without adding sections.
- Craig: Send specifics about class sizes being exceeded. Curricular process needs to be followed to change class size.
- With the integration, what information do we have for our department about more integration information or impacts to faculty?
- Craig: 15 different working groups on integration, some working groups do not have faculty representation. Many unanswered questions surrounding integration.
- Do we foresee retrenchment at Cal U?
- Craig: difficult question, avoided letters of retrenchment due to agreements, transfers across departments could have been done without threat of retrenchment. The threat is still there until April 1st. Moratorium is most important at this point.
- Next Fall will have a 50 FTE reductions of FT adjuncts.
- An issue was identified as enrollment data being wrong on a systemic level. "Decisions are being made on bad information".
- A primary concern is a second round of retrenchment, but the University has a responsibility to keep faculty employed. April 1st deadline of retrenchment, after that passes August 1st is the second deadline and must be based on finances.
- Faculty were encouraged to check numbers across all systems and platforms to assess the correctness of student enrollment numbers.
- Bubble programs are asked to complete an action plan but if they are not completed then the programs could "potentially" face the threat of moratorium.

Recorder: Jeff Giovannucci