FACULTY SENATE MEETING OCTOBER 7, 2003
Palanakila 117 12:40-1:25p.m.


Guests: E. Ishida-Babineau, J. Oliveira, C. Whitten

Faculty Senate convened at 12:40.

1. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved

Old Business
1. The matter of the use of faculty social security numbers on Incomplete Makeup Forms was resolved by the registrar. Faculty will not be required to give their social security numbers on this form.
2. OCET has okayed the use of the cafeteria bulletin board to feature various college programs.
3. S. Matsui is seeking a replacement for D. Hilweh as Student Life Coordinator, and hopes to fill the vacancy as soon as possible.
4. Faculty continues to favor some form of revival of the bulletin
5. There is still a lot of confusion about the reorganization, and what the new duties of Chancellor and CAO (Dean of Instruction) are. Are these incumbents taking over Joyce’s duties, at least as they relate to Windward?
6. In part to address this issue, and others, the next faculty senate meeting will be a forum with administration [this meeting was set for 10/21, then postponed to 11/4, then changed to 10/28] Sandy O and M, Steve, Angela and Carol will attend, with Floyd and Ben presiding. C. Whitten mentioned a reorganization of five years ago, which stalled when Joyce said to wait. A. Yim asked whether the questions from the March meeting had been answered [these were the ones that B. Moffat recently circulated electronically]. Members were asked to solicit questions and concerns from the departments. E. Ishida-Babineau asked if the administration had an organizational plan or model. B. Moffat said that some changes, mainly minor, had been made. C. Whitten said that there should be recognition that things are working well, and that it might not be productive to keep asking faculty for reorganization help, other than with sections or aspects of the college that are having problems.
7. Plus and Minus Grades: Faculty reported that there was not a clear consensus. While Humanities had a clear majority (8-1) in favor of the change, some members got split responses or only one or two responses. A motion was made and seconded to get more information. F. McCoy said he would ask for reactions to the change at the All-Campus Council. J. Shibuya said she would bring the handout on the subject she received from Manoa to the next meeting. There was some concern that Manoa figures grades differently from WCC and other campuses. For instance they calculate the N grade as
“F.” S. Ululave pronounced himself satisfied with the registrar’s response to his concerns about an irregularity in grade recording procedure due to delayed fee payment.

New Business
1. J. Oliveira spoke about the Keiki o ka ‘Aina Family Learning Center Hawaiian Language Parent/Child Educational Program. This program is covered by $2 million insurance, and only meets in the mornings from 9-12 in Na’auao 146. When the program is over for the day, they lock their materials away so that the room can be used for other purposes for the rest of the day. Noise has been reduced by keeping the connecting door to the rest of the building closed. Also, the child to caregiver ratio is very high, with only one or two children per caregiver. Children will be accompanied by their caregiver when they use the Na’auao bathroom.

Faculty who occupy the adjoining offices were pleasantly surprised by the lack of disruption caused by the facility. Their main concern was about the lack of communication and participation in decision-making, so that the appearance of the Center was a surprise. J. Oliveira said that things were speeded up because they were evicted from their previous venue. The beginning of planning for the center to come to WCC was in June, but the final stages were not until after convocation. Perhaps in the future they will be located in the White House, and it is hoped that eventually the center will be populated mainly by WCC students and their offspring.

2. CAAC changes, involving four new oceanography courses for articulation, and modifications to ten art classes to conform to the UH system, were all passed unanimously (see attachment containing J. Shibuya’s list of Course Numbers for details).
3. The budget committee continues its difficult work. It now looks like threatened class deletions for Spring won’t happen, but there is some talk of reducing or eliminating lecturers.
4. Members are reminded that parking will be tight for the duration of the water main project on the great lawn.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25.