Faculty Senate Notes
February 27, 2024
Holloway Hall 119
https://www.salisbury.edu/administration/campus-governance/faculty-senate/

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Call to order (3:30 pm)

1. Approval of minutes
    a. Minutes from the February 13, 2024 regular business meeting approved as written.

2. Announcements from Provost Couch
    a. Preparation for reaffirmation by MSCHE (Middle States Commission on Higher Education).
        i. Self-study design was approved, and it led to research questions. Workgroups are coming up with findings and are writing narrative reports to summarize. Getting ready to submit to Steering Committee in mid-March.
        ii. Co-chairs of Steering Committee will use those narratives to draft a final report, which will go to Cabinet in July for review and then to campus in September.
        iii. We will find out our visiting team's chair soon, and that person will come to campus to give feedback in Fall 2024.
        iv. The final visit will be Spring 2025.
    b. Thank you to community for participating in recruitment and retention.
        i. People have been making calls for recruitment.
        ii. People have been working on retention: reaching out to students and doing mid-term grades.
    c. Dean of Libraries is leaving SU. Martha Zimmerman will step in as interim dean. Search will begin at end of semester. Candidates will come beginning of Fall 2024 semester.
    d. Alumni Awards bestowed last Saturday.
        i. Faculty Appreciation Award recipients were Donna Ritenour, Sumathy Chandrashekar, Doug Dewitt, Chris Briand, and David Burns.
        ii. Young Alumni Achievement Award recipient was Niya Brown.
    e. Question from Senator: Senate had charged International Education Committee (IEC) with reviewing procedures and policies for international education: due April, 2024. In the meantime, the Center of International Education just opened a program for faculty to apply to involving free airfare and lodging. Some colleagues will 'make place matter,' but the intention seems about boosting study abroad numbers rather than about making the particular place and context matter.
        i. Answer from Provost: This was the campus's vision. This proposal was brought to the IEC, and the IEC told the Provost that they did not wish to move in another direction. We can continue having discussions about this.

ii. Response: IEC is a few people with complete oversight. A motion will be brought forward in the future to see if they should have that authority.
iii. Provost: The conversation is still open.

f. Question from Senator: There is a search for a VP of Inclusion, Access, and Belonging. Is that taking the spot of VP of Equity and Inclusion, or is this a new position?
   i. Provost: Not sure. Will get back to you.

g. Comment from Senator: Senator asked President's Chief of Staff for data that the Princeton Review uses to make their rankings (the "LGBTQ-Unfriendly" ranking in particular). Princeton Review did not provide the data. Perhaps we should not be trying too hard to respond to this issue that might be based on spurious data.
   i. Comment from another Senator: On Princeton Review website, the quote that seems to be used to make the ranking was positive, so it is not clear where the data comes from.
   ii. Another Senator: We need to do something about it because students use results like this to decide where to go to college.
   iii. Another Senator: Lambda Society on campus has been having meetings on the issue. Other meetings have been had involving queer faculty and students, so there is a genuine issue.

3. Announcements from the Senate President
   a. Special topics meeting on the budget is 3/5 from 3:30-5:00 pm in Assembly Hall. Will have Zoom link available. FFOC questions have been forwarded to President and Provost to respond to at that meeting.
   b. Salisbury will host next CUSF (Council of University System Faculty) meeting on April 25. They asked if SU President or Provost could give some remarks.
   c. Reminder to wait until speaker has finished to raise hand.

4. Committee reports
   a. Faculty Handbook Ad Hoc Committee Report
      i. MOTION: "Resolved, that the Faculty Senate accept the Faculty Handbook Ad Hoc Committee Report updates and pass it along to the Provost to make the recommended changes to the Faculty Handbook."
         1. Friendly amendment: change "it" to "them."
         2. Amendment passes.
      ii. MOTION passes.

5. New business
   a. MOTION to send the Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Concerns' report to the SU President
   b. Motion to go into closed session passes.
   c. MOTION to send the report passes.

6. Motion to adjourn approved

Adjourn (4:28 pm)