

## Portsmouth Faculty Senate August 2016 Minutes

**Date: Friday, August 26, 2016**

**Time: 12:30 p.m.**

**Location: C118**

### **Attendance:**

In attendance: Adam Becker, Teresa Granger, Tom Siegmund, Nicole Walker, Rebecca Vonderharr, Lorenz Drake, Siabhon Harris, Dianne Davis-Wagner, Olivia Reinauer

Absent: Harlan Krepcik, Michelle Scoggins, Nancy Prather-Johnson

Guests: None

### **I. Call to order**

Meeting called to order by Adam Becker at 12:36 p.m.

### **II. Guest speakers**

None

### **III. Minutes**

Approval of May 2016 minutes will be tabled until our next meeting

### **IV. Reports**

- A. Tom Siegmund reported on the May 2016 College-wide Faculty Senate (CWFS) meeting
- B. Tom Siegmund presented updates on two college-wide ad hoc committees.
  - 1. Student Evaluation Committee - Working on research to present. Will likely work with Fred Stemple (AVP for Faculty Professional Development) on any changes or revisions.
  - 2. Student Complaint Process – Committee will continue work this semester.

### **V. Open business**

- A. AAUP chapter – We are still interested in looking into establishing a chapter. There may be other faculty organizations that could serve as best practice organizations. Tom Siegmund will investigate and will report back at our next meeting.

### **VI. New business**

- A. Goals: Move to September agenda
- B. Meeting time/dates: Chair or Vice-Chair will send a Doodle poll to determine the best times for the majority of senators.

### **VII. Other**

- A. Continuing members reviewed CWFS voting for new Portsmouth Faculty Senate members. Portsmouth has four votes, and voting members are marked on our roster. Any Portsmouth Faculty Senate member may attend, and any can serve as an alternate

when a voting member is not able to attend. The group agreed that the Chair should alert us of any important items up for vote on the CWFS agenda.

- B. Discussion of the student complaint process. Some Portsmouth faculty feel a lack of support from administrators when they are the subject of a student complaint. There is also concern about students bypassing faculty and deans and reporting complaints directly to Provosts or other high level administrators.
- C. Discussion of credentials for hiring faculty in a particular academic field. One discipline submitted proposed credentials to administration, and what was returned had been altered without explanation. Different departments have had different results with this process. What is the process for approving educational credentials for new faculty hires? How and why might they have been changed? Possible agenda item for CWFS, or perhaps better handled at the executive board meeting or by private discussion. Will ask PFS Chair to follow up.
- D. Question about how to proceed with potential Curriculum changes. Needs to begin with Deans, then move to Curriculum Committee. Suggestion to contact Kelly Sorey (AVP for Academics) for guidance.
- E. Discussion of General Education Competencies. There is dissatisfaction with some of the rubrics, but changes will have to wait until the SACSCOC accreditation process is complete.

**VIII. Next meeting**

TBD

**IX. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:44 p.m.

Submitted by Olivia Reinauer