Faculty Senate Meeting  
Tuesday, May 8, 2007

Call to Order

Old Business

1. Classroom Temperatures

Instructors are still experiencing problems with temperatures in their classrooms especially during night classes. Temperatures in the Pate building during night final exams were 81 degrees. Student evaluations also reflect their dissatisfaction with classroom temperatures either being too cold or too hot.

The Senate recommends that maintenance check the night schedule and set the heating and air conditioning to accommodate these classes. If possible can instructors be given some control over the classroom temperatures or the Night Administrator?

Alan Gainer will talk with Bernie Wall and Richard Lynn about possible solutions for the Brewton campus.

Buddy Combs will talk with Louis Banks concerning problems on the Atmore campus.

2. Student Advising

Faculty are now able to see a list of their active advisees. This has been a help to faculty members. Non active advisees may still contact advisors if they decide to return to college.

Deborah Albritton will check with Anthony Hardy concerning the status of the ability to mass email all active advisees.

3. Telecommunication Classes

The Faculty Senate was provided the results from the Spring 2007 Student Telecommunications Survey. The biggest complaints seem to be related to problems with the equipment. Instructors teaching regularly over IITS believe most of the problems have been corrected, although one of the instructor microphones has disappeared. There also seem to be fewer student microphones in the classrooms.
The Senate expressed concerns over the possible differences in IITS classes when taught by full time faculty or adjunct instructors. It may be more difficult for adjunct instructors who are not as familiar with the equipment. It also depends on the adjunct instructor and their experience.

The Faculty Senate recommends that adjunct instructors receive more focused training on the use of the telecommunications equipment.

4. Overload Pay

Dean Hall’s office provided the Faculty Senate with adjunct pay rates for several area community colleges. Our pay rate is consistent with and higher than most of the other area colleges. Pay rates for Bishop and PJC were not included.

Since JDCC’s pay rate is in line with other community colleges, the Senate determined there was no need to pursue the matter further.

5. Travel pay

Cornelia Miller provided the Senate with the current Inter-Campus Travel policy. Discussion was held on how to determine your home base. According to Marie Heaton, an instructor’s home base is determined in the Fall Semester of each year based on where they teach the most classes. The Senate feels potential employees should be aware of the college’s policy and that the policy be consistent for all.

The Senate recommends that guidelines be established for determining an employee’s home base and when filling a position that the final three interviewees be informed of these guidelines.

New Business

The Senate had no new business.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m. No further meetings will be held this year. A new Faculty Senate will be elected in the Fall.