

Faculty Senate Meeting
3/12/99
Pintler Room, 2pm

Present: Doug Cameron (recorder), Curtis Link, Mary MacLaughlin, Celia Schahczenski, Don Stierle, Larry Smith

Guests: Butch Gerbrant, Doug Coe, and Bill MacGregor

Butch Gerbrandt discussed an Administration directed initiative to quickly establish some Web-based courses on the Tech campus. Selective faculty are being offered one course of release time plus \$2,500 to develop a course. A financial incentive will also be offered to deliver these courses. It appears that there is little or no faculty input into the general planning and selection of course offerings. It also appears that there will be a Web-based M.S. degree in Mine Waste Technology. It was decided to invite Dan Bradley, acting VCAAR, to the next faculty senate meeting to discuss the implementation of the Web-based courses.

Doug Coe suggested that the Faculty Senate look at clarifying the various definitions of "faculty" as it is used on this campus. A question in this regard was recently raised at the Graduate Council meeting and is pertinent to the activities of the Northwest Accreditation subcommittee on Standard 4. A partial list of various faculty positions includes; instructional, research, part-time, temporary, adjunct, and graduate. Distinction is also made between the COT faculty and the "North Campus" faculty. It was suggested that we need to also look at rank within these categories. It was decided that contract type, faculty/staff handbook, and the current AAUP guidebook be considered in defining these terms.

Bill MacGregor's item did not make it to the agenda prior to the meeting. Bill will be scheduled on the agenda for the next meeting.

The minutes were approved for the February 19 and 26 meetings. A copy of the minutes from the 26th meeting will be mailed to Regent Margie Thompson.

The Faculty Achievement Awards will be funded by the Tech Foundation this year. The committee decided that there will be one \$1000 award for each college. The current plan is that the winner from each college will be decided by a vote of the students and the faculty.

Tim Sulser, ASMT President, has visited with several campus groups to discuss the idea that each student on campus would be required to have a notebook computer. This concept is used on several campuses across the country. There appears to be strong student support for this idea. Tim and some faculty representatives will be traveling to a school in Minnesota to investigate how successful this has been.

There is a strong push by Dan Bradley to have the Senate develop a common faculty evaluation form. This will be one of the Senate's major goals for the remainder of this semester. Don Stierle will construct a flow chart of the current procedures for faculty

evaluation from the Faculty/Staff handbook. Several of the current Northwest Accreditation Evaluators will be invited to the next meeting to discuss Northwest's requirements/perspective on faculty evaluation. (Those to be invited: John Rutland, Diane Wolfgram, Susan Patton, Doug Abbot, and Paul Beatty.) Don handed out evaluation forms used by several different faculty members.

The next meeting will be Friday, March 26, 1999.