From: Jannette Finch, Faculty Secretary

To: Faculty and Staff

These are the highlights from the Faculty Senate regular meeting on 1 November 2016. Full minutes to follow.

The Speaker called the Senate to order at 5:06 PM and adjourned at 7:48 PM.

There was one adjustment clarifying language on the 11 October, 2016 minutes before they were unanimously approved.

There was a change to the agenda approved by friendly amendment. Consideration of the new program, BPS Hospitality Operation Management, will move to December.

Reports

Speaker of the Faculty Todd McNerney

Speaker McNerney shared the most pertinent information from each of the Board of Trustees (BoT) meetings he attended, including BoT election of new officers, the FLSA (Fair Labor Standards Act), a series of resolutions around 2 bonds issued in 2007, and the restoration of the College Seal. Meeting minutes from the BoT meetings will be posted on their website: http://trustees.cofc.edu/index.php

The Speaker spoke of the upcoming Alumni weekend, November 17, the creation of a shared governance listserv, and the activities of several ad hoc committees, including one studying the General Studies or Liberal Studies online degree, which includes three Senators.

Provost Brian McGee

Provost McGee spoke of the hiring of the new Athletic Director, Matt Roberts, who is dedicated to athlete academic success.

The Provost spoke of information he shared and obtained from Board of Trustee meetings, including enrollment, retention rates, and graduation rates.

He thanked the College Reads committee for their efforts organizing successful College Reads events.

The Provost reiterated what challenges we may experience with the FLSA. Please address questions about how FLSA changes affect you with your Chair, Dean, or supervisor.

The Provost shared other information, including:

- SACSCOC feedback on our compliance narrative, expected next month;
- the QEP course proposals deadline, extended due to Hurricane Matthew;
- an update of strategic goals, including the need for a smaller list of key metrics;
- student access and technical colleges’ Bridge program;
- Ad hoc Committees, including the committee being formed to study the Graduate School structure (Dean Fran Welch has agreed to serve as co-chair);
• Academic Standards proposals, including pass fail rates in the undergraduate catalog, Major GPA calculation.

Divya Bhati, Office for Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

Dr. Bhati brought the compliance binder, which was quite thick. She extends gratitude to all who contributed. Dr. Bhati shared the timeline, what we will have to do next, the QEP, and asked us to mark our calendars for the onsite visit on March 27-30.

There was no old business.
New Business

The Chair of the Committee on Graduate Education, Continuing Education, and Special Programs, Christine Finnan, presented course changes for Biology, English, and Mathematics. All proposals passed.

Gayle Goudy, Chair of the Faculty Curriculum Committee presented proposals for French, changes in INTL, and a new concentration in POLI. All proposals passed.

The chair of the General Education Committee, Shawn Morrison, presented a PowerPoint on the Gen Ed Cycle of Freezing and Course additions during the Freeze. Much discussion for and against followed, with Senators, Guests, and Administrators discussing some of the following:

• requests for clarification;
• concerns that curriculum is being driven by assessment;
• discussion of confusion of students’ confusion over which set of GenEd counts, based on their catalog year;
• questions on the software capabilities;
• inquiries on what are other institutions doing;
• complications when advising students;
• how the freeze would affect curriculum improvement;
• past Senate voting concerning GenEd;
• electives v. GenEd
• cycles of review;
• lack of cohesiveness in GenEd courses;
• cycles of assessment;
• sampling;
• cultures of assessment.

A motion to call the question was voted on and defeated.

A motion to amend the language of the motion provided in the agenda was voted on and defeated.

Another motion to call the question was seconded and voted on.

The Motion did not pass.
Quinn Burke, Committee on Academic Standards, Admissions, and Financial Aid, presented a proposal to modify the Academic Progress Standards for the Honors College to be inclusive of (a) no Class I or II Honor Code violations & (b) no conduct violation resulting in suspension or expulsion.

The proposal was discussed at length, including a student’s right to appeal, the appeal process, and honor code violations. A friendly amendment altering the language of the proposal was accepted.

The proposal passed.

Next, Dr. Burke introduced a proposal that the International Test of English Proficiency (ITEP) be added as a qualifying exam to meet the admission criteria for undergraduate candidates for whom English is not their first language.

Senator Krasnoff pointed out that he appreciates matters like being brought to us, but that we should not vote on it.

Senator Westerfelhaus called for a quorum. 18 faculty remain. The Faculty Senate no longer had a quorum.

All remaining business will move to Old Business for the next Senate meeting on December 6, 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jannette Finch, Faculty Secretary