**GEACC Minutes**

**Thursday, October 12, 2017**

Chairperson: Jason Seabury

Vice Chairperson: vacant

**Attendees**: Lisa Anderson, Ed Clancy, Sandra Edd, Amy Lenoce, Jason Seabury, Erin Strauts, Beth-Ann Scott, Pete Benzi, Larry Venuk, Jeff Damino, Susan Houlihan

**Guests**: Janet Gangaway

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 by Jason Seabury

1. Approval of minutes from September 28, 2017 meeting.
   1. Motion to approve: Pete Benzi
   2. Seconded: Amy Lenoce
   3. Approved with 1 abstention
2. Review of Creative Competency submissions. Review and vote handled by discipline.
   1. ART 1112 motion to approve
   2. ART 122 Motion to send back
   3. Motion to accept motions: Beth-Ann Scott
3. Seconded: Pete Benzi
4. Approved: Unanimous
5. Review of Creative Competency submissions. Review and vote handled by discipline.
   1. DAN 102, DAN 111, DAN 113, DAN 221, DAN 222
   2. Motion to accept motions: Amy Lenoce
6. Seconded: Larry Venuk

Approved: Unanimous

1. Review of Creative Competency submissions. Review and vote handled by discipline.
   1. THR 110, THR 226
   2. Motion to accept motions: Jason Seabury
   3. Seconded: Beth-Ann Scott
   4. Approved: Unanimous
2. Discussion of Shared Governance. Guests Kathy Taylor & Jane Wampler

Kathy Taylor, President of the NVCC Faculty Senate joined us for a discussion of the future role Faculty Senate may play. Currently, there is a gap between the constitutional and actual operation of the Faculty Senate (henceforth abbreviated as FS). How does one create a “stronger” Faculty Senate?

Larry V- explained the history of NVCC’s Faculty Senate and what the goals were when established with President Sanders. It was established with an advisory role.

Kathy- Asks us to ponder if by definition, is being advisory making the FS weak? Can a committee be advisory, but with power? Does that make it formidable? How does one make our FS formidable? We are presently in a subservient role; wanting to be equal.

Beth-Ann- suggests Faculty Senate re-write their constitution. No strings of control from above.

Amy- Asked how the function or role of the Faculty Senate will be impacted by President Ojakean’s message of One College to be delivered on October 18, 2017?

Kathy- FS is not organized in a way to mobilize on a range of issues nor to speak as a collective on issues.

Jane- CEAC is concerned a strong FS will make CEAC voice weaker.

Kathy- I see FS & CEAC & Academic Standards as standing voices on ALL college issues. We need strong Senators to speak up.

Beth-Ann- suggests that could mean Senators will be Tenured/ Full Professors

Kathy- does not want Tenure to limit voices

Jane- NEASC asked for a “beefed-up” Constitution in 2015. FS President Rachel Sackett attended to this.

Kathy- Feels it is time to make our changes regardless of new college structures. We need to create a voice and not be passive participants any longer; to have a structure that outlasts personalities running the committee or the college.

Jane- CEAC has created a handout of their concerns about a stronger FS

Kathy- concerns are a jump ahead. Let us look at structure first, then discuss. Do not “attach end process if we have not gone through the process.”

Jason- Will FS be the umbrella above all committees? What would/could that mean in practice? Leading a recurring all-faculty meeting in which votes and committee reports/concerns could be shared would make sense.

Kathy- We don’t know how the process will work. We are exploring ideas and asking people to commit to working on ideas.

Jason- Do we want faculty to decide committee structure at NVCC? (if possible, this would be desirable)

Larry- suggested we replace a Pro-Staff day with a Faculty Meeting to talk about these committee issues.

Kathy- She is meeting with a Dean to talk about adding a Professional Development Day to the calendar to talk about these issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Lenoce