Faculty Council Minutes

February 7, 2025

MCC Mission: To educate our students—improving their lives and enriching our community.

In Attendance:

- Holly Webb, FC secretary.
- Bob Ammon- Physical Education
- Stephan Rohatyn - Interpreting Training Program
- Alma Wlazlinski - Math dept
- Lori Watts–English
- Tammy Tull-Business, Real Estate
- Samantha Buerger, Associate Degree Nursing
- Stephen Cook, Fire Academy
- Joseph Ferguson, English
- Colin Porter, Library Services
- Charles Jaquith, EMS/Paramedicine
- Donald Keltner, History / SBS
- Jennifer Chapman, Child Studies/Education (HSE)
- Erik Emblem, SBS/GOVT
- John Spano SBS/Phil
- Danny Rodriguez, LLC
- Ivanna Campbell, Science
- Amy Antoninka, Philosophy & FCP
- Karen Crump, Business/HITT/Paralegal
- Jon Fox - Music Industry Careers
- Peter Olson - Music (transfer)
- Ken Walker, LLC
- Benjamin Mason, Theatre
- Kayla Willis FCVP
- Maria McElroy Associate Degree Nursing
- Mary Sides, Science
- Jan Robertson
- Susan Spooner SBS
- Andrew Clayton, Government
- Natalee Oliver, LTCA
- Katie Stevens, Speech/LLC
- Anne Merchant, Science
- Leslie Henderson/LLC
- Alex Shiu

Absent:

- Bernard Smith
- Heather Davis
- Bobby Patterson
- Marighny Dutton
- Glenn Downing

Call to order 11:01

I. Welcome Call to Order: Amy.
II. Please sign in to Teams and in the chat

Old Business

I. Approve Minutes from the January FC Meeting
    A. Motion: Charles
    B. Second: Donald
    C. Approved
    D. Best practices encourage the FC minutes to be shared by FC representatives.
        1. Vote: Yay wins.
II. Anonymous Feedback tool: Link: https://mclennan.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6Pt85J2daPWiWfc
III. Late registration improvements for faculty are in the works. Survey to faculty coming soon.
IV. RSI.
    A. Approvals are coming quickly.
    B. We need 100% of faculty to fill out the forms.
    C. The division chairs will work to make sure everyone fills out the forms.
V. Highlander Days: Brandon Hill invites feedback.

Dr. Hill is thinking of creating "Student Engagement Advisory Board." Faculty council liaisons under Dr. Hill's purview (student success services, the counseling center, success coaches, CREW, and Student Life) would transition to this board.

    A. Tammy expressed concern about Division Chairs. And concern that people are not on contract and would not be paid.
    B. Amy: Dr. Hill's idea means fewer events than in the past. One session will be held in the morning and one in the afternoon. Faculty participation will voluntary, not required. Amy will let Brandon know that faculty may be interested in participating in only one session rather than two. New Highlander Days may be more casual, interactive, in our buildings, about 45 rather than 30 minutes.
    C. Participation fits under service to the college.
    D. Tammy: This is a great event. But, our division chair is very busy. It will be hard to serve all day. It may be harder to get faculty to commit to a full day.
    E. Jan: In the past, faculty who were not teaching during the summer were not responsible for the college events in the summer.
    F. Jon: This is for future students in the spring in fall, not just summer students. It makes sense that faculty would participate.
    G. Karen: Is it possible to receive PD hours for participating?
    H. Steve Cook: Care is needed. If this is left to the division chair there could be undue pressure put on faculty. My faculty is paid hourly. They cannot be expected to work without compensation.
    I. Jennifer: Question? Who will be on the student engagement advisory board? Amy: Only student Liaisons under Brandon Hill's purview will be part of the new advisory board.

VI. Learning Framework
    A. Last month Instructional Council discussed learning framework. Feedback is still welcome. Please share with Kayla and Amy
    B. Peter: How do we learn about learning frameworks?
        1. Syllabi on website links: under child studies and education

VII. Graduation Regalia
   A. Regalia is expensive. If you can share or if you need something let Amy know before commencement.
   B. Karen: Where do we store old regalia?
      1. We do not have a central place to store regalia. Amy will try to keep track of it.
   C. Ride sharing for commencement. This is needed. Share needs with Amy.
   D. Tammy: You can rent regalia from MCC bookstore.

VIII. Brightspace
   A. Concerns? How is it going?
   B. Karen: I wish there was a "best practices" resource for Brightspace.
      1. Holly: Brightspace Mechanics course available on Brightspace.
      2. Kayla: Resources include: Brightspace mechanics course on Brightspace, teaching online fundamentals, teaching online advanced, IDI/CTL . We would like to have examples to share. People are not sending in examples.
   C. Clint: Will course merging come back? Putting multiple sections in one shell.
      1. Amy: talk to your division chair or coordinator to plan that in advance.
      2. Jennifer: A PD day topic: "Level up your Online Course."
      3. You only need to let your Division Chair know in advance if you want to merge your course shells.
   D. Jan: Clint: Is there a way for announcements to be emailed to students automatically?
      1. Kayla: This is not an option yet, students have to opt in to get emailed announcements through the Brightspace notifications.
   E. Merging courses is complicated by caps and loading guidelines in each department. Discussions about merging and fairness in loads is ongoing.

New Business

I. Reports from committees
   A. Donald Keltner: Bookstore
      1. Jan 22 bookstore meeting was a sales show for I A.
      2. Admin will not mandate us to adopt a departmental text or materials.
      3. Amy: Brad Christian has been very helpful in communicating with the Bookstore and is committed to academic freedom.
   B. Donald Keltner: Elections
      1. The ballot is functioning after issues on day 1.
      2. The drop-down lists are practical on the election and run-off ballots.
      3. Nominations close Tuesday so make nominations soon.
      4. Ivanna: My name doesn't show for conversion for Tenure committee.
      5. Donald: That ballot is tied to HR databases; there might be an error there and only HR has access to that database.
      6. Leslie Henderson: Can't people put their names in if they want to be nominated?
      7. Donald: We want wider interest and participation on committees. But, you can put in rather or not you would accept a nomination.
      8. Anne: Can we ask in this meeting who would be interested in VP?
      9. Donald: people can nominate themselves as well as someone else for VP. Two nominations for VP available.

C. Clint Dennard: Data Taskforce: Clint: the first meeting was productive. Two types of data are needed; Individual faculty data and global data. Please, solicit ideas from your departments: What data seems incomplete? What data are needed on a department or division level that we are not getting?
    1. Amy: Student records also wants precise data on student success and late registration.

D. Mary Sides: Policy: Mary: We met with Dr. Wichman and Eggleston about TASB. A link to recording of the meeting is in TEAMS.
    1. The board voted to use TASB. This houses the legal part of the school policy. MCC pays a fee for TASB service. (State and federal policy are covered)
    2. Local policy is the responsibility of the president and the board.
    3. Procedures, faculty have more say over
    4. MCC manual will be separated into policy and procedure. About 50% will go into policy and about 25% deleted, and 25% will go into procedure.
    5. Timeline: Laura wants to be done September 1 (but we will still be adjusting procedures in the upcoming years).
    6. Laura is interested in working with faculty on this. Some of the policy will fall into procedure over which faculty will have more control.

E. Alex Shiu: Compensation Initial draft of the compensation committee report was before Christmas. The committee met after Christmas to update the data on the CPI. Also, the report uses CCTCA data and the great colleges to work for survey. We will meet next month and update again before finalizing.

II. Faculty Evaluations Changes
A. Evaluations will contain no comparative data.
B. There will be probably one section only on values.
C. Amy shared a summary of feedback (collected from faculty) with Chad. It was helpful.
D. Lori: How does tenure change the evaluation process? Answer: Classroom evaluation for some faculty is only 3-4 years but the written evaluation is every year.
E. Karen: are upward evals available?
    1. Amy: Upward evals not available yet but we will keep pressing.
F. Jan: What is the policy on evaluation for those tenured? Is it up to the program director?
    1. Amy will look at Policy B-12 We will look for clarity if the language is for a minimum requirement of evals?
    2. Jon: Policy B-12 was emailed Monday
    3. https://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/B-XII.pdf
    4. Amy: We will get more news soon with your feedback considered.

III. IREPO: Kayla: Bryant is open to changes in feedback.
A. Changes have already been made.
    1. The type of tech check box is optional
    2. The reason for need box has been eliminated.
    3. Dual credit aspect from last semester has been addressed.
    4. Bryant feels it's important that students talk to faculty about their needs, so faculty filling out a form is useful.
    5. Exceptions have been made for students with a lower GPA.
    6. Amy: there are still about 50 laptops available at this time.

7. Jan: No hotspots available now.

IV. Caring Campus: This will be started with staff very soon. Selecting volunteers to start. They will be forming groups to make plans to implement a Caring Campus plan. More info to come.

V. Next meeting March 7, 11 AM

Adjourn: 12:57pm