



ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES
Friday, December 11, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in DLC 03 and RHSI 119

A. READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- No minutes were presented for approval.

B. GENERAL INFO / ANNOUNCEMENTS

C. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES (LIMIT 2 MINUTES EACH / TIME LIMITS CAN BE WAIVED BY VOTE IF NEEDED)

- Curriculum Committee: Course changes you would like to begin in Fall 2016 need to be into the committee before final exam week.
- Flex/Staff Development: No report.
- Program Review
- Budget: No report.
- Equivalency: No report.
- Distance Education Committee: The committee has been meeting and working on the transition to Canvas as well as other relevant issues related to Distance Education. NetTutor will be available in Spring 2016.

D. REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES

1. Hiring Committee Updates: The committee for Psychology and Math completed their work and are waiting on the results of final interviews. We need volunteers to give tours.

E. ACTION ITEMS

1. SENATE RESOLUTION PROPOSAL FROM THE DL COMMITTEE
 - i. In order, to ensure academic quality, student learning, and institutional effectiveness in distance education at COS, an orderly and well-planned transition to Canvas LMS, and to ensure adequate time for implementing student, staff, and faculty training, as well as time to migrate courses from Etudes to Canvas, we, the Academic Senate, support joining the April 2016 Canvas cohort. Course offerings in Canvas would not begin until Fall 2017.
(Approved unanimously)
2. Institutional Master Plan Approval: a discussion occurred about the role of the Senate in the plan. Plan will go to the Board for first reading in January 2016.

Academic Senate Officers:
President: Jayne Turk
Secretary: Chris Vancil
At Large: Bill Hirt

Vice-President: Steve Reynolds
Past President: Dave Clarke
Immediate Past President: Mike Graves

F. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Policy on students who are 15 and under in college classes: a lengthy discussion occurred about changes to the District's policy on permitting children 15 and under to take courses at COS. Currently, children 15 and under need an instructor's permission to enroll in a class. The District wanted to change the permission to the VPI. The faculty listed a broad range of concerns with allowing children 15 and under into college classes, including:

- a) maturity level of students
- b) the potential for introducing student to content that may not be suitable for children 15 and under faculty do not have the training need to teach that age group

The VPI agreed that that counseling would act as the gatekeeper and work with faculty to generate list of courses that would be appropriate for that age group. The counseling office will also work closely with instructors when making decisions on adding children 15 and under into classes.

G. NEW BUSINESS

H. ADJOURNMENT at 1:50 p.m.