Approved minutes for the regular meeting of the CU Faculty Senate, November 13, 2009

Officers Present: Chris Keller (Chair), Matt Jenkins (Chair-Elect), Justin Walton (Secretary)


Agenda Items

I. Call to order (Keller)

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

II. Approval of Previous Minutes

Dr. Fennema moved to accept the previous minutes without amendment; Dr. Frisby seconded the motion. Without objection, the minutes were accepted.

III. Old Business

A. Clarification of PQIR Process/Institutional Assessment

Benson Warren, Chair of the Institutional Assessment Committee, discussed the history of assessment at Cameron University and the purposes of the PQIR process. According to Warren, the primary mission of institutional assessment is to support institutional effectiveness and the university’s mission of providing a superior educational experience for all our students. The PQIR program is to provide feedback to the academic unit and the university on the performance of its curriculum, the achievement of student learning outcomes, research and scholarly activities and accomplishments, and service. The review allows each unit to plan improvement or change to its programs. It is not an evaluation of individual students or of individual faculty or staff.

Warren stated that PQIR calendar for next year had been mailed out to the Deans and Department Chairs. The committee welcomes feedback from the faculty.

Warren also noted that less than 50% of our academic programs had submitted their PowerPoint presentations on time.
B. Instructional Technology

Responding to Dr. Frisby’s request, Dr. Keller shared an email from Debbie Goode regarding the use of a “Power User” account which grants faculty access to smart classroom computers in the event that the campus network is nonfunctional. Faculty members are encouraged to contact IT to receive a “Power User” account.

IV. New Business Items

A. Faculty Senate Start Time

Dr. Keller has received several requests to change the official meeting time of the CU Faculty Senate. He will solicit feedback on this issue in the coming weeks.

B. Replacing Joe Jones on the Academic Appeals Committee.

Joe Jones is retiring at the end of this semester. He presently serves on the Academic Appeals Committee. Those interesting in serving out his term should contact Dr. Keller.

C. Faculty Advisory Council Assembly Meeting (11-7-09)

Dr. Keller attended the Faculty Assembly Meeting in Oklahoma City on November 7, 2009. He discussed the results from the Faculty Opinion Survey.

D. Diversity Committee

Dr. Duckett has expressed interest in creating a Diversity Committee at Cameron University. Due to his absence, the issue was tabled for a later date.

E. Clarification of the Faculty Handbook

Dr. Huckaby asked for the Faculty Committee to clarify the role of academic advisement in the faculty evaluation process. She noted that there was some discussion in her department over the role of advisement and enrollment in the faculty evaluation process. Huckaby stated that she would formally submit her query to Dr. Jenkins as soon as possible.

VI. Adjournment

Dr. Fennema moved to adjourn. Dr. Hernandez seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for 1 p.m. on December 11, 2009.