Unapproved minutes for the regular meeting of the CU Faculty Senate, October 9, 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 1:03 p.m.

II. Approval of Previous Minutes

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

III. Old Business

A. Finalization of Committee Assignments

Dr. Keller briefly introduced the various standing committees as designated by the Faculty Senate Constitution. The following Faculty Senate Standing Committees are outlined in Article VI of the Faculty Senate Constitution:

- Academic Standards and Policies
- Faculty Committee
- Fringe Benefits and Retirement
- Long-Range Planning
- Rules Committee

Dr. Heflin moved to accept the committee assignments presented before the body; Dr. Fennema seconded the motion. Without objection, the motion was accepted.
B. New Faculty Award Finalizations
Dr. Keller reviewed the new faculty awards. The three awards are:
  o The President’s Award for Excellence & Innovation in University Service
  o The President’s Award for Excellence & Innovation in Instructional Technology Integration
  o The Award for Excellence in Scholarship & Artistic Endeavor in the Educational Enterprise

Dr. Heflin moved to accept the three awards without amendment; Dr. Johari seconded the motion. Without objection, the awards were accepted.

IV. New Business Items

A. Google Website for Faculty Senate Committees
Dr. Keller briefly demonstrated the CU Faculty Senate Wiki on Google.com. The web address for the Wiki is cufacultysenate.pbworks.com.

B. Retention Strategies at Cameron University (Open Discussion).

Dr. Keller opened the conversation by discussing a proposal to send out midterm grade reports to college freshmen. Among the various ideas and proposals mentioned, members discussed the Early-alert system (MyCU), peer groups, and teacher-student meetings.

C. IT Exploratory Committee

Dr. Frisby asked for an exploratory committee to investigate ways of keeping classroom technology viable whenever the campus network is nonfunctional. Dr. Keller will invite an IT representative to discuss the issue at the next meeting.

D. Institutional Assessment – PQIR

A motion was made by Dr. Huckaby, and seconded by Dr. Duckett, to enforce a five year moratorium on the PQIR process so that comparative data could be collected and analyzed without annual adjustments to campus assessment procedures. Huckaby noted that shifting deadlines and standards created an undue burden for academic departments. Opposing the motion, Dr. Vitense suggested that the Faculty Senate invite a representative from Institutional Assessment to discuss the issue before a moratorium was passed. By a vote of 2-14, the motion failed.

VI. Adjournment

Dr. Vitense moved to adjourn. Dr. Frisby seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for 1 p.m. on November 13, 2009.