Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2021, 3:00 PM

Virtual

The meeting convened at 3:35 PM

Campus Update: Provost Hartman

Provost Hartman provided an update regarding student enrollments. Undergraduate enrollments for fall are down, but graduate enrollments have increased. The number of students in on-campus housing also is higher than what was anticipated. The overall budget, with federal support is strong at the moment. The University community is in full compliance with our vaccine mandate, although some students still need her/his second shot. Vice-Provost Nash is leading an initiative through CELTS, for faculty who wish to explore “hybrid” courses going forward in our post-pandemic world. Finally, the ADVANCE Office for Faculty Equity is being formed to continue with the work initiated by the WAVES project.

5_3_21 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes, (President Graves)

A motion was made to accept the 5_31_21 Faculty Senate Minutes. The motion passed with 67 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

Reports from the Faculty Representatives to the Board of Trustees

- The notes from the May meetings are included in the agenda, the oral report reported on the meetings last week.

  Essentially the Board was focused on more ways to commercialize research being done on campus and industry engagement. To that end, CASA, the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs was changed to the Committee on Academic Affairs and Economic Development.

- IFC Statement condemning racist acts on our campuses

  In response to recent racist acts committed on the Amherst and Boston campuses, the Inter-campus Faculty Council (IFC) issued a statement condemning such acts and requested that our separate campus faculty governing bodies support the statement.
A motion was made to support the statement. The motion passed with 67 in favor, 2 opposed, and 2 abstaining.

Graduate Policy and Affairs Committee (GPAC), (Professor Humberd)

- Proposal for a Materials Chemistry Specialization in the MS Degree in Chemistry

  A motion was made to accept the proposal. The motion passed with 69 in favor, 1 opposed, and 2 abstaining.

- Proposal to change the Admissions Policy for the Applied Psychology and Prevention Science Doctoral Program

  A motion was made to accept the proposal. The motion passed with 68 in favor, 1 opposed, and 4 abstaining.

- Policy on Alternative Graduate Admissions requirements for Graduate Applicants in response to COVID-19

  A motion was made to accept the policy. The motion passed with 60 in favor, 9 opposed, and 2 abstaining.

GPAC – For Information Only

- Proposal to revise courses in the MS and PhD in Plastics Engineering

The meeting adjourned at 4:21 PM.