



Faculty Advisory Council

October 20, 2015

Minutes

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Cade 219 AACC

1. Meeting called to order at 1:37 by Nicole Dombrowski-Risser, Chair
2. Attendees: Nicole Dombrowski-Risser, Chair; Nayna Phillipsen, Vice Chair; Ken Kerr, Secretary; Richard Siciliano, Solomon Alao, Terry Bridger, Jolly Davis, Sharon Fechter, Curt Rainey, Dipa Sakar-Dey, Bill Stuart, Bill Talley, Angelique Cook-Hayes, Kathy Corley Murray, Kathy Jones, Angelita Yu.
By phone, new member Nancy Smith from Salisbury University
Absent: Joan Landon, Brockett Horne, Linda Martinak
Guests: Jennifer Hunter-Cevera, Acting MHEC Secretary; Ronda Brown, MHEC Staff
3. Approval of Minutes of 9-15-2015.
 - a. Minutes were corrected for name misspellings and approved.
4. Chair Updates
 - a. Nicole Dombrowski-Risser attended a commission meeting and heard a report on 2- and 4-year graduation rates. The commissioners requested five-year projections.
 - b. Dr. Hunter-Cevera proposed that all foster children in Maryland be given free tuition. Any nursing student from out of state be given in-state tuition if they agree to practice in Maryland for two years.
 - c. Adjunct policy proposed by FAC will be reviewed at the next Commission meeting.
5. State Updates: Acting Secretary, Jennifer Hunter-Cevera
 - a. The Secretary asked that the FAC introduce themselves and indicate if they had ever served on their institution's faculty senate. Her interest stems from her experience as a university president; she relied on faculty governance structures to get things done. As faculty are those closest to students, they are able to help her understand what is going on.
 - b. MHEC wants to be more transparent and proactive with the General Assembly in Annapolis. Maryland is a leader in areas like dual enrollment and many other states look to us. Faculty can be a valuable voice in helping MHEC and elected officials understand how policies will affect students and institutions. She also sees a lack of faculty voice in K-12 policies and practices and asked where those opportunities for faculty input exist.

- c. November 16, 2015 at UMBC there is an event concerning digital on-line textbooks. The American Association of Publishers is looking for schools to pilot the use of digital textbooks. The interesting element is the personalized coach available to students when they are studying. Some studies show increased graduation and persistence rates.
 - d. She has concern about adjuncts and the over reliance on them to keep cost low. How are they incentivized, retained, and compensated?
 - e. [MHEC has launched its new website](#) and encourages everyone to visit it. She asks that faculty take the time to review MHEC proposals and comment during the 30-day period. Faculty opinion is vital at this point prior to Commission consideration.
 - f. MHEC's website has video resources to counter sexual violence and will host student panels in the spring to discuss how to prevent campus sexual violence.
 - g. Academic Affairs is now called Program Review and Compliance. The new review process has at least three people review each program before it gets to the Secretary. A color-coding system will make workflow more efficient. She is looking at a regional approach to programming and placing programs that lead to regional employment in the areas of the state where the jobs are likely to be.
 - h. Dr. Hunter-Cevera appreciates the FAC presence at Commission meetings and encourages all faculty and students to make their voices heard. Thirty-six percent of Maryland's budget goes to education. That presents a responsibility to be good stewards, but also a responsibility to lead in this area. Faculty and student input will lead to better legislation and better policy.
 - i. She will make available to the FAC her "Roadmap to Higher Education" that helps students with goal setting and pathways to completion.
 - j. Jolly Davis asked if Dr. Hunter-Cevera sees the FAC role broadly enough to have workgroups and individuals provide input and seek contact with MHEC staff since the FAC meets only a total of 14 hours a year. Dr. Hunter-Cevera was supporting of this and invited members to do so.
6. MHEC Operation Updates: Acting Assistant Secretary, Jennifer Frank
7. Old Business
- a. Review of FAC Internship Ad
 - a. The group was asked to review the job description and suggest changes or additions. William Talley suggested the qualification be expanded to include "or a closely related field." Richard Siciliano requested that a link to the Yammer site be included on the FAC-MHEC page. While not specifically related to this job description, it is included as a skill on the job internship ad.
 - b. By-law Amendments, Attendance Issue
 - a. MHEC legal counsel has concerns about the legality of our proposed amendments to the FAC by-laws. Richard Siciliano will speak with Jenifer Frank.
8. New Business

- a. Dr. Hunter Cevera requests that the FAC web page be included in the revised MHEC website. Richard Siciliano pointed out that if MHEC hosts the FAC site, he, as webmaster, would not have access. Genny Segura suggested we make no decisions today, but continue to consider this.
 - b. Kathy Jones, Presentation to CC Representatives—when thinking about the AFACCT conference, Kathy suggested a breakout session where she can talk about the adjunct faculty guidelines. Nicole suggested that her experience with the Commission is to request additional information and this may be a good opportunity to collect more information from community college adjuncts.
 - c. Curt Raney, Proposed Policy Work Group, Part-time Faculty—He suggested we not go forward with the issues he presented. On his, adjunct faculty pay issue, he suggested that adjunct faculty provide a necessary and vital role in cost savings and flexibility. But he withdraws his suggestion that FAC take up this issue. Nicole Dombrowski-Risser suggested that this is related to the proposal that will be considered by the Commission at then next meeting. She suggested that we wait until we hear from the commissioners before making any decision on Curt’s issue.
9. Policy Implementation Work Groups--
- a. William Talley, Chair, Faculty Work Issues/Digital Textbook—surveys have gone out. Five of the colleges have responded, 20 others have opened the survey but not completed it. The group asks the FAC chair send a letter to colleges asking them to complete the survey.
 - b. Nayna Philipsen, Chair, Inter-Institutional Workings—working on defining where subgroup responsibilities lie and setting up Yammer.
 - c. Kathy Jones, Chair, Student Success and Adjunct Issues
10. Adjourned: 3:32 p.m.