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6-2014

June 2014 Minutes

USM Council of Chairs

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Recommended Citation

USM Council of Chairs, "June 2014 Minutes" (2014). *Council of Chairs*. 29.
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Council of Chairs
June 24, 2014
Meeting Minutes

- Stacy Breazeale, Director of Academics, Student Academic Enhancement Program (SAEP) and Daniel Feig, Senior Associate Director of Athletics for Administration and Compliance, gave a presentation about observer role access in Blackboard
 - idea proposed as a way to minimize risk to athletics department
 - would be turned on for student athletes, faculty would have to opt out
 - observer would see class from the perspective of the particular student athlete, have access to all materials and postings in course shell, all student messages
 - online classes are thought to have more assignments than face-to-face classes and so periodic updates from instructor less timely
 - some CoC concern that this system would not be parallel with face-to-face classes
 - would be analogous to an advisor sitting in on a face-to-face class, raises privacy issues for other students in the class
- outgoing chair, Thelma Roberson, reviewed actions from 2013-2014 year; noted CoC accomplishments
- elections held
 - Wayne Kelly elected chair-elect by acclamation; no other nominee
 - Eric Tribunella elected secretary by acclamation; no other nominee
- Tisha Zelner reviewed proposed changes to the CoC bylaws
 - Section 6.1.1: amend to "...Council will meet monthly."
 - Section 2.2.1: amend to "...election shall be held at the June meeting."
 - Section 3.4.3: amend to "...end with the June meeting."
 - Section 6.1.4: amend to "Resolutions brought before the Council for a vote must be distributed at least one week in advance of the vote. A two thirds majority vote of the Council may suspend this rule in order for the resolution to be approved."
 - amend approval date to June 24, 2014
- motion to adopt revised bylaws was approved by acclamation
- Zelner reviewed proposed changes to the Constitution of the Council of Chairs
 - Section 1.1.2: amend to eliminate "Sec 2.11.2"
 - Section 2.1.2: amend to "The Council may invite persons to serve as liaisons from units not meeting criteria for membership outlined in Section 2.1.1 of the Constitution. Liaisons are non-voting participants."
 - Section 3.1.1: amend to "during the June Council meeting."
 - revisit issue of what it takes to revise Constitution
 - Section 4.2.1: leave in (establishment of bylaws)
 - renumber final section to 4.2.2
 - amend date of approval
- need two-thirds of all members to approve revised Constitution; will call a special meeting to coincide with retreat
- question raised: do we want to combine constitution and bylaws?
- new members announced; still waiting for Arts & Letters; new members invited to next meeting
- discussed Skip Hughes proposal involving tiered rank system for instructors; will revisit at retreat and consider a CoC sub-committee to consider resolution

-discussed athletics observer function in Blackboard; will solicit feedback from faculty (see above)

-Computer Exchange Program: we now need a computer to acquire a new computer for incoming faculty; deans could provide unused computers to exchange for incoming faculty; if computer is approaching 8 years, it should be exchanged before reaching 8-year maximum

-new SACS-related requirements for faculty credentialing coming this summer