

UPDATE ON THE CANCELED TRUSTEE FORUM

The point of that meeting was for the trustees to talk to us about the parameters of the presidential search, and to introduce the two finalists for the positions. In addition, the trustees wanted to hear from us about what we wanted from the president so they could convey that to the candidate.

Why was that meeting canceled?

One of the two candidates declined to continue with the interview process due to the financial standing of the College. The other candidate checked around with people outside of the College, learned about the nature of our Board of Trustees, and backed out the interview.

Today—February 2—they are interviewing new candidates. It's possible that they'll be acceptable candidates. Or, they'll decide to cancel the search.

THE J-TERM/CALENDAR

The provost has decided to move ahead with his J-Term calendar without the faculty senate's consultation.

Provost's amendable to Linda Kesler's **calendar** for 2013/14.

For 2012/13, the provost wants to increase the amount of online offerings... By 2013/14, his goal is for half of the faculty to participate in J-Term.

The new carrot for participation is the **reinstatement of retirement matching**.

Discussion

Q: Does the provost via the handbook have the right to do this?

A: We could attempt that conversation.

UPDATE ON THE PROVOST'S MEETING WITH THE DEANS

- E-Verification of student workers
- Summer School/J-Term increase offerings (so we can budget for it)
- Possibility of opening dorms for summer school.

NEXT YEAR & J-TERM

Next year, we can't do much because he wants to double faculty participation and student enrollment. Nothing has been said about compulsory faculty participation at the moment.

What should we do?

1. The faculty senate has lost some control of the calendar. Should we bring the calendar forward to the full faculty in an attempt to regain control?
2. Should J-Term be the purview of the strategic planning group?
3. Who is monitoring these short-term changes in J-Term?
4. How will J-Term fit into our strategic plan?
5. Who will approve online courses?
6. Who will assess and monitor these online courses?

Course Proposals: Via curriculum committee

Suggestion: The faculty senate should come up with how to handle the growth of J-Term and we should present options to the full faculty.

Response: We can propose all we want, but since it involves the running of the college the administration has to be involved. In other words, this is a way to deliver content via j-term and summer school. It matters to the degrees that they receive. It has to be addressed coherently.

Question: When would a proposal to the faculty take place? It seems to all hinge on the strategic plan.

Comment on the Strategic Plan: It appears that the school will be for anything that makes money. In other words, the faculty senate could author a plan because if we don't somebody else will.

One Possibility of Action: The faculty senate could say that it's too early for us to do anything about J-Term. Send our ideas to the strategic planning committee. That way we could delay any matter of obligatory participation, an agreement to a curve of growth, etc. yet we're assuming that J-Term will be part of the college and a revenue-generator later. In addition, that prevents us from abdicating our role as a senate in the decision-making process.

Response: This seems like a good idea, but do we really have a say in this? Well, we need to say something in order to have a say. We need to give him something to work with.

Response: The provost is probably under a mandate to generate more money for the College. He needs to make money. The faculty needs to protect itself and the quality of the courses. Our job as a faculty and a faculty senate is to make sure that j-term and summer school are in line with the mission of the College. If it doesn't fit, then we have a legitimate objection.

Right now, everything seems to be generated by financial panic.

Aside about Online Classes: There is a philosophical/pedagogical concern about the validity of online teaching. How can we assess students when you can't be sure they're doing the work?

POSSIBLE WAY TO GO FORWARD WITH J-TERM

Suggestion: Formulate what we'd like to do with J-Term: Say to the provost that we understand what is going to happen for 2012/13, and we're going to give our ideas to the strategic planning committee for input into 2013/14.

Response: Right now, we're persuaded by the impact on course quality. If we way we have a plan for J-Term, how do we stay in the conversation going forward? Potentially, by insisting on course quality.

Gary Question: Where do you want to go? Two options for moving forward: 1) J-Term for food for thought for the strategic committee. 2) We want J-Term this way and we want it right now?

Response: We have to do something now. If there's something that we want, we should put it on paper, give it to the strategic planning committee, and forward it to Rick.

Concern: We should send any definitive plan to strategic planning committee without letting the full faculty have input.

Response: The vision of J-Term will be developed by hearing from the faculty. We can say to the faculty that this is the way we want it to look it, but it won't necessarily be this way.

Gary Suggestion: Individually send to the strategic planning committee your own ideas for J-Term. That way, as senators, we're moving the proposal forward individually. Then, Gary can have an idea of what to send out to the Provost.

THE ACTION ITEM FROM TODAY'S MEETING

Revised Suggestion: Pluses and minuses will be presented via email to you as a faculty senator. You give your opinion on each point. Gary and Forrest will compile everything. Pluses and minuses are coming to your mailbox today. You have two weeks to comment.