

FACULTY HANDBOOK – GRIEVANCE

Gordon Grant has been appointed the head of the Hearing Committee. The handbook is vague on the operation of these committees, but they are operating under the dictates as written.

Essentially, these committees are operating to insure that our colleagues are protected.

PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH

When the trustees gather next week, each of the two candidates who are finalists will be here. It's unclear if we'll be seeing these people at all. In fact, the president of the senate has been asked not to involve himself until the meeting on Monday night.

After the meeting with the trustees, the visits will begin. Dr. Freeze has recommended that the faculty senate will have a meal with these candidates. If that occurs, we'll be notified in plenty of time.

Freeze has also recommended that the staff be involved in some of these conversations.

FACULTY SENATE REPORT TO DR. OXENDINE

Gary has prepared and sent a memorandum to the President about what we've been working on as a Senate. In addition, he has voiced faculty concerns about: 1) data about faculty salaries, benefits, loads, etc. and 2) technology.

SWINK AWARD & TRUSTEE AWARD

Swink

Time to send out call for nominations, encourage your colleagues to send in nominations. If you're nominated, please remove yourself from deciding committees.

Trustee

This tends to be a surprise award. You don't know if you're nominated.

SGA – TEXTBOOK RENTAL ARRANGEMENT

Students are upset about this new proposal. Students believe that the "better" students will end up paying more because of this. In addition, they're feeling exploited because it doesn't give them the opportunity to buy textbooks on the cheap on the Internet.

DISCUSSION: If students perceive this move as in their best interests, then it'll work well. Mainly, though, it's a PR move. It seems like it's a blunder on the administration's part not to explain it to them better. Now, students feel like they're getting ripped off (not benefitted from).

The fear here is that we the college are gambling on this working. It could backfire and we could end up owing money to the bookstore. It's risky.

If a student stays for 8 semesters, then the total class will be \$2400. It seems like a good deal.

The students think that renting is bad for the good students because they'll end up keeping the books. It'll cost them more.

THE QUESTION: What does the faculty senate want to do about this? Should we bring this matter to the trustees? Do you want to authorize Dr. Freeze to speak about this to the trustees?

THE THOUGHT: There's not enough information for us to weigh-in on this...

How about saying we're on the side of the students until we know the facts?

Sounds good... because it lets the trustees know that we're listening to the students concerns.

THE ACTION: Gary will speak to the Trustees.

THE J-TERM DILEMMA

Is it bad that we're lollygagging, or is it a good thing given the flux of the College?

DISCUSSION: Perhaps, we should not propose anything about J-Term. We should table our discussion except we're going to say it should empathically only be voluntary. Because of that it will not be frontloaded into the tuition.

Right now, because of the flux of the strategic plan, we can't say what J-Term should look like.

POSSIBLE SOLUTION: We could say because of the transitional leadership and the creation of a strategic plan that we won't withhold our opinion. That said, however, we do have the following caveats... (voluntary, no frontloading, etc.).

THE PLAN: Dr. Schroeder will write up a plan for J-Term. It'll be sent to us in a week. And we'll vote on it (or discuss it electronically) before the next meeting. After that, what we come up with will be forwarded to the provost and the chair of the strategic planning committee.

