

RCFAC Meeting Minutes

12/9/22 0900-1100 Teams

Present: Denise McEnroe-Petitte (recorder), Noelle Bowles, Qunxing Ding, Tamra Courey, Zhiqiang, Wang, Dean Shadduck (from 1000-1100)

Approval for Agenda-All approved.

Approval of November 18, 2022 minutes-All approved.

VP Shadduck Report-

A State of the RC system is being planned with Steven Ward, President, Provost, and Dean Shadduck to talk about things-she will let us know when and the topics after organizing with Steven Ward. There will be common messages to everyone followed up with specific information. Will probably be in Feb 23.

Chair's Report-None.

Other Business

Regional Campus Workshop-

In Jan 23, RCFAC can suggest topics for Dean Shadduck to talk about for the State of the RC system. Comments can be forwarded to FC's of the campuses to share for the Jan 23 RCFAC meeting.

Retreat for faculty-Getting late to plan something specific. Suggestion was made to utilize the KSUT mentoring retreat for this purpose as it includes faculty from the other campuses and offers many interesting topics. RCFAC will promote this with their faculty to attend.

Zoom class classification-

Discussion about zoom room classification was held as this was an area of concern at KSUT (see below): <https://www.kent.edu/provost/curriculum/online-courses>

The question asked is whether a class taught in the Zoom Room is classified as an in-person class or a distance learning class. Beth Osikiewicz (from KSUT), consulted AAUP-KSU about the modality classification of classes taught in the Zoom Rooms. Beth asked Deb Smith, President of the TT unit of AAUP-KSU, whether the Zoom Rooms classify as in-person class or a distance learning class and whether a faculty member can be forced to teach using the Zoom Room. This has been voiced as a faculty's concern. Here is Deb's response:

There are different respects in which a class can be treated as an in person class. One of them is how it shows up in the schedule. That's okay if they treat them as in person classes in that regard. However, Zoom Room classes clearly meet the definition of distance education in the CBA. I have made that clear to Melody and Kevin at our Thursday meetings. If there are faculty who don't want to teach a Zoom Room class, they should decline to do so citing the relevant CBA language.

Beth additionally asked whether the courses that are taught in the Zoom Room still need to be approved by the department to be taught using the Zoom Room? Her answer was Yes.

Therefore, if planning to teach in the Zoom Room, please make sure that your department has approved that course for Zoom Room teaching.

RCFAC discussed the above information and voiced that many are having trouble with the zoom room. It is mostly administrative issues such as needing to work with other campuses to use the system and the intercampus coordination has been difficult. Low number of students using this form. Stark using more for business courses, but after additional use with it, the process is going much better. Faculty needs to have training. Is there any type of training for this? Need to ask RCID/IT to come up with standard guidelines/list to teach in a zoom room. OCDE is another group that we could talk with. Not sure as to how much this room is being used. Is there a cap for this form of teaching? Course caps need to be the same and we should not be asked to add more students. Need to bring to the deans to discuss. Will share with Dean Shadduck to discuss with other deans. Why does the cap tend to change and should this be a change in the load given? Kevin West is working on teaching loads and should be transparent as has been stated by Deb smith.

When Dean Shadduck entered the meeting (1000), the above content of the meeting was re-addressed. She will look into the zoom as it should be face-to-face, as the assistant deans coordinate this and how they work with the criteria that has been sent up.

Per Dean Shadduck, course caps look at things that are under this and there is no magic course cap that works for everyone. We need to look at accreditation and faculty needs. When looking at caps it is related to the different campuses, their rooms, and faculty preparation as each situation is looked at differently, so this may make a difference in the process. Do they have teaching assistances? RC does not, need to document why it would be different. We need to be safe with numbers. Dean Shadduck will ask the assistant deans to discuss this and can RCFAC request a formal listing of course caps and look at "load guidelines?"

Ad hoc advisory committee

Still concerns about the SUPER RCFAC committee were voiced including the name. It is felt that we need to have minutes from all the FC meetings to support the discussion of this situation and the nominations. All agreed minutes are needed for the record about the SUPER RCFAC.

Overall RCFAC discussed the general confusion about the SUPER RCFAC. What is the urgency to set up the committee members and Dean Shadduck responded with the need to be proactive. Administration wanted a smaller committee to work with and this was also agreed with the union leadership. It was to add NTT individuals to give them a voice. Asked about the time/activities and it was offered by Dean Shadduck that it would be meetings every 2 weeks, sub committees will be made, the duration of the committee would depend on how things go and there will be a record of the meetings.

Denise McEnroe-Petitte