

RCFAC meeting

Friday, 1/13/2023, 8:00-10:09 am

Attendee:

Rachael Basiman (Chair), Noelle Bowles, Tamra Courey, Donald Gerbig, Denise Mcenroe-petitte, Qunxing Ding (notes-taker), Stephen Neaderhiser, Zhiqiang Wang, Peggy Shadduck(VP), Smith Deborah (AAUP guest), Sue Clement (AAUP guest)

The meeting started at 8:00 am

Agenda approval: motioned by Noelle, seconded by Denise, unanimously passed.

December minutes approval: motioned by Tamra, seconded by Noelle, unanimously passed.

Dr. Shadduck updates:

The total FTE offering in each campus, the FTE of online offering in regional campuses, and the total FTE by student preponderant in each campus were presented. The data indicated that regional campuses offer a relatively large portion of online courses, and with online course fee adjustment, the income of regional campuses will be affected significantly. The provost's office has approved a wall to block the students from the Kent campus to take courses in regional campuses, which will be effective in fall 2023.

Questions related to the online course fee, waiting list, course cap, and summer courses were raised, it's explained that the course registration wall may not apply in the 2023 summer. A student on the Kent campus still can take a regional campus course with the approval of the advisor or knowing the SRN number of the course. The course registration wall is a one-way blocking Kent->regional, but a student in a regional campus can take a Kent campus course with a higher course fee. Course cap is a complex question, different campuses, and different programs/departments have different rules. More communication could help. Dr. Shadduck also expressed concern about the portion of online courses that may affect the way to complete our mission.

Dr. Shadduck asked about the comments about the first meeting of the regional ad hoc committee, some concerns including the long time, no meeting agenda, encroachment on what we do, distribution of the age of current students, and application of these data were discussed.

Deb comments:

Cap for online courses is a severe problem in provost advisory meetings. The load related to course cap is associated with the type of courses, the personality of the instructor, and the types of course assessments. The ad hoc committee is temporary, and the RCFAC is still the appointed advisory body.

Suggestion to release NTT teaching load for service is raised. Deb stated that the workload is controlled by the faculty senate. The FC can advise doing so without any policy problems. One condition is that some university committees require TT faculty to involve, and with the decline of TT faculty, representatives are limited in regional campuses. Deb suggested communication between

RCFAC and the committee of committees to revise the requirement of those committees. A motion was made by Stephen and seconded by Noelle for Rachael to send the email.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Faculty salary issues were discussed. Deb stated that the FC should be counseled with new hires including the starting salary of new faculty according to CBA, and it is the responsibility of the administration to allocate the workload, not the faculty.

Course cancellation and related financial issues were discussed. The concerns are the loss of students and the overall financial health of the whole university and each regional campus. The process of NTT review was discussed. The reviews of NTT reappointment and promotion are completely different processes, FC should act according to the handbook. Frozen of new hires including faculty and staff was also discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 am.