College of the Marshall Islands Friday, January 14th: 11:10 AM – 12:00 PM Faculty Senate – Minutes of Discussion

Chair: Alvin Page – FS President

Deputy Chair: Rosalinda Sumaoang – FS Vice President

Minute Taker: Alexander Velasquez – FS Secretary and Treasurer

Quorum: 23 required, 37 in attendance.

- 1. The meeting was called to order.
 - i. Quorum was reached at 11:13 AM.
- 2. The College Mission Statement was read.
- 3. Review of the Minutes from December 10th, 2021
 - i. Minutes were approved and seconded with two abstentions.
- 4. Special/Urgent Business
 - i. Faculty Senate still has \$4,500 to spend for team building. The money has to be used by September 31st, but we should plan ahead because of how long it takes to plan and execute a team building event.
 - We could plan the team building event after finals but before graduation somewhere within those 10 days. It's difficult to do it Monday through Friday because of faculty teaching schedules.
 - ii. There is also the money, \$2000, that could be used to continue or replace the Faculty Teaching & Learning series that was started by Dr. Andrea Hazzard.
 - 1. One faculty member brought up the possibility of starting some sort of book club and use the money to buy copies of books that cover pedagogy techniques, or something teaching related.
- 5. Curriculum Committee RSA
 - i. More course outlines were approved, including, but not limited to:
 - 1. Ethics
 - 2. Psychology 101
 - 3. Psychology 201
 - 4. Philosophy 101
 - ii. CC is currently working on getting the rest of the course outlines approved.
- 6. Plant & Facilities Committee
 - i. Many of the faculty shared their concerns that plant and facilities had not done much, if anything, to make the classes presentable for the first week of class.
 - 1. One faculty member said that one classroom had been a mess, with papers in the class dating back from the previous year, and had to clean and set up the room on her own.
 - ii. Also, some air conditioners need maintenance or need to be fixed completely.
- 7. Information Technology Committee
 - i. There was no meeting, but some faculty were concerned about the missing remote controls for projectors.
 - 1. There are missing remotes in the following classrooms:
 - a. WH 104
 - b. WH 107
 - c. RH 205
- 8. Learning Services Committee
 - i. There are department representatives for this committee, but there is no Faculty Senate representative for this committee.
 - 1. The Faculty Senate President will or secretary will contact Learning Services to see if they would want a FS representative; in the case that there is no need for a FS rep, this item will be removed from the agenda going forward.

9. Discussion

- i. Faculty brought up that there have been no responses/feedback from the previous PMS cycle.
 - As a whole, Faculty Senate is requesting responses/feedback for the previous cycle.
 This way, faculty know what to improve on while collecting evidence for the next
 cycle.
 - a. Marson will soon be taking the faculty comments regarding PMS to HRC for discussion.
- ii. Faculty also brought up the issue that contract renewals can take a long time.
 - This could lead to problems with issues such as insurance: if an employee is working
 while their old contract has expired and have not renewed their contact, should
 something happen to them where they require insurance, the College may not be
 obligated to pay because the employee is, technically, not working under any
 contract.
 - a. It was brought up that, legally, faculty are supposed to be informed thirty days before the expiration of their contract.
 - i. Faculty Senate, therefore, wants clarification from HR on contract renewals: specifically, to be informed at least thirty days before the end of a contract so as to avoid any potential legal issues.
 - It will try to be arranged so that HR could attend a future Faculty Senate meeting and discuss contract renewals with all faculty present.

10. Meeting Adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Alvin Page Faculty Senate President Alexander Velasquez
Faculty Senate Secretary/Treasurer