

**MANSFIELD UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY ASSEMBLY MEETING  
April 24, 2008  
Allen Hall Auditorium  
4:00 PM**

Scott Davis called Assembly to order: 4:04

45 faculty needed for a quorum. Present: 20

**Agenda:**

1. Revision of the constitution and by-laws to clearly spell out the procedures for each committee in the curricular process
2. The Strategic Plan
3. The need to bring Gen Ed syllabi and assessment data collection into compliance with Mid-States regulations

**Proposed senate constitution changes.** In fall, we need to spell out responsibility of each committee, clarify flow charts, etc. Procedures need to be officially adopted.

Some procedures needing clarification:

- If there is a negative vote in senate, most think that a course/motion dies, but there needs to be clarification.
- Gen Ed does not approve, Ad Hoc committees do not take precedent over a main committee (SD).
- Should APC do anything more than an impact report? What is APCs function? Request for review.

RT: Some committees can hold motions “hostage”. Individual programs can put a motion on the floor even if it has not been approved by a committee.

APC: the problem has been resources, a need for clarification and more info (not taking anything hostage).

SD: all anyone does is recommend. Question to be asked: does this fit the scope/direction of the university currently (a holistic view)?

RT: could AAC look at the courses even if APC thinks resources may be lacking?

AM: something had come to senate from Gen Ed that had NOT been CANed. Senate did not have any info and refused to vote on the course.

SD: if a *new* course it should go through AAC. If the course is on the books and looking for Gen Ed approval, it is different matter

AM: 1 course had been on the books but not taught.

EW: APC is looking at what they have been doing, what constitution says... their activities have not always jived with constitution. APC – not much planning going on... some would like more room for vision rather than just assessing.

APC constitution - Duties:

e: To introduce, monitor, and review cross-disciplinary, interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and intradisciplinary initiatives, including but not limited to Canadian Studies, WAC, GE, Assessment, and Continuous Improvement initiatives.

f. To monitor and review new and existing academic programs to ensure that they are compatible with the SSHE mission, the University educational goals, and the standards of appropriate accrediting agencies.

RT: (f) – should this be a mandate, or be removed?

Answer – this can only be done through program review.

SD: APC looks at resources, AAC looks at academic rigor. They co-exist. Senate constitution review committee needs to go through these procedures. Program review used to be presented in senate. Do we as a faculty think a course/program fits in with the mission with the university?

RT: committees have evolved certain procedures but these were never adopted; may be in our bylaws.

SD: see article 4 in by-laws.

#### **Article 4** Review of the Constitution

The Senate shall establish bi-annually an ad hoc committee to review the constitution and make recommendations for necessary changes.

RT: will begin to put this ad-hoc committee into place (perhaps over summer?) so we can act on it in senate and assemble (electronically?).

#### **Strategic Plan:**

TM: Under “Leadership” - “we will hold all employees accountable for contributing in a meaningful way to our mission.” Concerned about how these evaluations will be done concerning faculty.

AB: Strategic plan – intent was to uplift and implant in a positive light, not for this to look like a stick/threat. Holding employees accountable – with the union – is to uplift culture here. Wish to empower dept. chairs – to uplift, not to give power (hire/fire) but to do a more effective job and make a positive effect on depts.

They will be working on this until June – are still looking for feedback. Nothing written in stone. This is a guide to plan over the next few years.

SPIT should help us prioritize what needs to be done when. (Strategic Plan Implementation Teams).

#### **Assessment:**

RT: concerned with assessment. Mid States found us seriously lacking. GenEd syllabi need clear statement of goals & objectives and how they will be fulfilled, also collection

of material to provide assessment committee proof it was done (these are assessment tools we are using). What measures are being taken to improve/change program? If these things don't happen, the GenEd committee can initiate a form to withdraw the GenEd designation.

Q: assessment has never been planned on anything but the 5 blocks, not anything tied to the 16 core credits. Nothing written anywhere

AM: Wellness courses have no objectives, so they will probably be dropped. All courses should be assessed (UNV, wellness,...).

Not all faculty have collected artifacts or changed syllabi. There will now be repercussions (GE designation will be withdrawn, or paperwork will be drawn to recommend that it be withdrawn).

From Constitution:

2. Duties: The GE Subcommittee (GES) oversees the General Education Program. It leads the assessment of the GE Program and the GE Program Review. GES considers changes to the program and forwards program changes to AAC, just as any other academic department would.

a. to serve as the General Education Curriculum Committee of the University.

d. to conduct the General Education Program Review and recommend curricular changes to the Academic Affairs Committee based on that review.

RT: collecting artifacts does not mean getting something from *every* student.

AB: we might have to revamp what our outcomes, goals and objectives are.

Syllabi generally look good (because of PDE), but we are not doing anything to assess them.

EW: at strategic plan meeting, suggestions were made how campus can go green. It is clear this is something we should be doing. Wish faculty could put voice behind having campus go green. Can we do this immediately? Dave Flesh had 5 concrete ways of implementing some of these things (supplement that was pulled).

SD: how about ask depts.: how can we each engage our students to go green, how can we teach people, engage students and faculty to do this.

Why aren't we recycling, using biodegradable materials, etc. Go directly to departments, what can we each do?

Assembly adjourned: 5:06

Minutes respectfully submitted,  
Christine Moulton, Senate Secretary