

MAFS Executive Board Minutes 4/17/17

Agenda Item	Notes
Attendance	Present: Dr. Achampong, Mike Doncheski, Ermek Nurkhaidarov, Kendra Sites, Somjit Barat, David Seitz, Dan Dandy. Unable to attend: Hanifah Harvey,
Call to Order	Chair Ermek Nurkhaidarov called meeting to order at 12:20 pm
Election of New Members	<p>The following individuals have volunteered for nomination:</p> <p>1.1 Executive Board: Presently, Susan Graff, Kim Hermann and Oliva Hammond have volunteered</p> <p>1.2 UC Faculty Councilor: Jacki Schwab has volunteered</p> <p>1.3 Ombudsperson: Somjit Barat has volunteered.</p> <p>1.4 Promotion & Tenure: 14 of the 20 eligible voters has cast their ballots. Results are pending.</p>
MASF Agenda Items	<p>2.1 Faculty profiles will now be on PSMA Homepage: Staci Grimes will provide a presentation on this upcoming process</p> <p>2.2 Hybrid / Online classes: Academic Affairs Committee is working on their final presentation regarding the standards for instructors of these courses.</p>
PSMA Faculty Conference	<p>3.1 Presently 29 faculty members will be attending this conference. Additional, non-faculty members have been invited including library staff and Staci Grimes. May 1st is still the deadline for registration – it is anticipated that the final count will approach 35. Presenters for the conference, including the keynote speaker, are now scheduled. The 4 question, post-conference assessment will be included in the conference packet. This assessment will provide feedback not only on the effectiveness of the conference, but on the value of repeating the conference as an annual PSMA event.</p>
3-year Committee Term Exemptions	<p>Presently, committee members are limited to serving on the same committee for three consecutive years. Discussion focused on possible reasons for exemptions to this practice. Extensions for service will be at the discretion of the MAFS Chair and may be granted for reasons such as strengthening one’s service record.</p>
Other	<p>4.1 There will be some Gen Ed course title changes. Additionally, there are eight digitally formatted courses now in development; a format that will allow the courses to be offered at other courses. These courses should be completed within three years.</p> <p>4.2 Discussion regarding curricular consistency noted that it is still a mandate of the Faculty Senate that 80% of a given course be consistent between instructors; 20% at the discretion of the individual instructors.</p> <p>4.3 Discussion concerning a student’s first amendment rights, the display of offense symbols and the mission of PSU to promote a safe campus environment emerged. A student with second hand knowledge of a Confederate flag being displayed in a student’s room on campus, voiced concern to a faculty member. Dr. Achampong then requested that Andrea Christopher investigate the matter and speak to the student who is hanging the flag. The student declined to remove the flag: to this student, the flag is not a symbol of hate, but rather one of history. As this matter was discussed, the following recommendations were offered:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">A. This timely matter should be the topic of an upcoming PSMA Campus Forum.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">B. Dr. Achampong will discuss, as appropriate, the recent related campus situation at the next MAFS meeting.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">C. Dr. Achampong will be forward a link to the plenary speech given by the president of the University of Virginia during the ACE conference.</p>

	http://www.chronicle.com/article/In-Defending-Free-Speech-Says/239469 .
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Adjournment	Chair Ermek adjourned the meeting at 1:10pm
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