

Senate Growth and Development Committee
Meeting Minutes 11.16.18
10:00-11:00am
Hall Building, Room 123

Present: Robert Bird, Ben Christensen, Ming-Hui Chen, Kylene Perras, Andrew Moiseff, Johnny Banks, Joerg Graf, Louis Lewis, Lyle Scruggs

Guest: Peter Diplock, Assistant Vice Provost for Excellence in Teaching & Learning

The minutes from the October 26, 2018 meeting were approved.

Introductions were made by both the committee's guest and attending committee members.

Peter Diplock discussed the Learning Spaces Committee (LSC). The LSC has representatives across campus and is examining how to better use the university spaces on campus. The LSC supersedes the earlier classroom committee. The committee is tasked with developing standards for active learning classrooms and working to recover or revitalize classroom spaces.

Learning from best practices at other institutions, other schools have had great success in creating learning spaces that lean themselves to active learning, more faculty-student interaction, innovation, and peer-to-peer learning.

The LSC anticipates working with faculty to develop capabilities to use the kind of space faculty need for classes. There are specific subcommittees for particular subjects with the LSC, such as an active learning classroom committee that is developing principles for active learning spaces. The LSCs work involves not only the Storrs campus but also the regional campuses.

A goal is to introduce more choice to faculty to encourage experimentation in the way of they teach within other constraints. Faculty and students should feel more satisfied with their facilities regarding what they want to achieve in learning space and get learning spaces "roughly right."

There is a significant need for better data that are more precise to help use the existing spaces we have. This information could help discern the classrooms in most need of assistance, and better utilization of any slack in the system. Walkabouts are being considered to visit classrooms when students are not in session.

The committee adjourned at 10:57pm.