Senate Growth and Development Committee

Meeting Minutes 4.13.2018

2:00-3:20 pm

Senate Conference Room, Hall Building

[Approved 4.27.2018 via e-mail]

Present: Janet Barnes-Farrell, Tracie Borden, Faquir Jain, Laura House, Michelle Judge, Carolyn Lin, Andrew Moiseff, Kylene Perras, Carl Rivers, Lyle Scruggs

Minutes from the 3.23.2018 meeting of the Committee were reviewed and approved as corrected.

This was the last meeting of the committee for 2017-2018. It was devoted, in part, to discussion of what the committee learned this year and any recommendations that committee wishes to make to the Senate. These will form the basis of the Annual Report, which will be submitted to the Senate by April 20, 2018, for approval at the last Senate meeting of the 2017-2018 year. The Chair will prepare a Google docs draft of the Annual Report and invite comments/suggestions before finalizing the Annual Report for submission by April 20.

There was also extended discussion of the charge of the committee and strategies for increasing its effectiveness and long-term influence. Some comments and suggestions for attention by the committee came out of this discussion, including the following:

* This year the charge of the committee primarily revolves around learning about changes, challenges, and opportunities for growth.
* If we want to improve our ranking (a goal of the university), emphasis must be given to increasing the graduate/undergraduate ratio. Currently, much of the emphasis is on undergraduate STEM (a good pipeline initiative), but additional attention needs to be paid to growing the graduate education function.
* A strategy of interspersing speakers with reflection/recommendation/planning meetings would provide more opportunities for the committee to develop thoughtful recommendations.
* One approach would be to focus on a current key strategic goal of the university – identify speakers who are relevant, and have them answer questions and provide data relevant to a standard set of questions. A goal of the committee might be to develop one specific recommendation based on what is learned from those discussions.
* To ensure that the committee’s findings and recommendations move from the committee to those in a good position to act on them, the last meeting of the year should be a discussion with the Provost or the President.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.