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Faculty Assembly Minutes, 3-7-12

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Salve Regina University, "Faculty Assembly Minutes, 3-7-12" (2012). *Faculty Assembly Documents*. 266.
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FACULTY ASSEMBLY MEETING
MARCH 7, 2012
ANTONE CENTER, ROOM 128
2:30 PM

The meeting was called to order at 2:36. There was a hand count for quorum: Clickers were not available .

1. The Faculty Assembly meeting minutes from February 2nd were approved as written

2. Reports and Announcements

Opening remarks It was announced that there will be a Faculty social at KJs in Middletown after the meeting until 7:00 pm.

Sister Jane asked to address the Faculty Assembly regarding recent occurrences which had led to negative publicity for the University. Sister Jane acknowledged the three separate events as isolated incidents that had been looked at individually, and evaluated, with the proper action taken. She emphasized the importance of recognizing respect for each individual with attention to the reputation of the University.

Sister Jane also cited disproportionate media attention, particularly due to citizen journalism, bloggers, and social networking. She reported that the Office of Public Relations will be handling the negative publicity, while protecting the legal process for all individuals involved. She then opened the meeting for comments and questions. A member of the assembly thanked her for her candor and openness regarding the situation.

Treasurer's Report (Craig Condella) Dr. Condella announced that 75 faculty members have paid dues, and the current balance is at \$783.14. There was a reminder of the end of the year party in May.

Elections committee (Sarah Matarese) It was announced that ballot notifications had been sent, and 68 faculty members have voted to so far. Ballots will remain open until March 23.

Aljazeera Satellite Project (Michael Thombs) Dr. Thombs gave a brief history of the project, and announced that the Aljazeera Network is now available for viewing in the Jazzmen café.

Turn It In (Matt Ramsey) Dr. Ramsey reported that, to date, 18 faculty members are making use of Turn It In. He reminded faculty that the University discontinued paying for the Turn It In service in the past due to insufficient faculty usage.

Core Curriculum Task Force (Alison Shakarian) Dr. Shakarian reported that the Core Curriculum Task force will be forming three sub-committees that will help in reviewing the current core, as follows:

- Student Survey- a student survey will be issued through the Office of the Provost, asking students to relate their experience with the core. Prizes will be offered for participation. The online survey will be accessible for two weeks, with a March 23 deadline.
- Faculty Feedback- a faculty survey will be issued, through the Executive Committee, asking for feedback on the current core, and ideas that should be considered when reviewing the core.
- Best Practices- an examination of the core curriculum at a number of different universities, looking at a wide variety of components.

Curriculum Committee (James Mitchell) Dr. Mitchell reported that he and Dr. LoPresti had met with Dean O'Toole to discuss the best plan for combining ideas for a curriculum committee.

Revised Academic Vision (Provost de la Motte) The Provost invited questions regarding revisions made to the academic vision.

Several issues were raised:

- Does “meeting the students where they are” take into account the diversity of backgrounds our students have?
- Who is responsible for the implementation, leadership, and organization of the Academic Vision?

There was an ensuing discussion, RE: The newest viewbook, and faculty involvement in the viewbook process.

International Studies Major Revision (Chad Raymond) Dr. Raymond gave an overview of the charge to the committee and the proposal for revision of the major. Both documents had been made available to faculty online.

There was discussion regarding the scope and timeliness of the program. Drs. Clark Merrill and John Quinn both expressed concern that the program could have a detrimental impact on the number of majors in the Political Science and History Departments. It was pointed out that there had been conversations with both departments prior to submission of the proposal. A vote will be taken at the April 4 meeting.

Faculty Emeritus (James Mitchell) Dr. Mitchell reported that the Executive Committee will be working on an edited draft of the proposal.

The meeting adjourned at 4:02 pm, with no clickers missing.