

Faculty Forum

17 August, 2016

1:30 – 2:30, E-203

1. Class cancellation determination – Debbie Brooks
 - Geology has changed their name to Earth Science, enrollment has decreased due to student confusion. Current practice – if the class is at 20 students, the class has enough students to run. If the class is under 20, the class may get cancelled unless there are other circumstances (major's class, need for other classes, need the class for the instructor to make load, etc.).
 - How is FTES calculated? Same calculation for lecture and lab (although units and rate of pay are different). If the lecture and lab are linked (combo class), FTES is doubled.
 - Proposal to open a discussion (Enrollment Management Committee or Academic Senate) about having more than one measure on what is a class to keep. Low enrollment but same FTES should be OK to go.
2. Adding Classes to the schedule – Mark Smith
 - More money from the state so we should be adding classes (District is not confirming this).
 - Classes need to be added early rather than a few weeks before the semester starts.
 - There is a board policy for having 20 students minimum per class, if a class goes under and is allowed to continue, it must go through the chancellor. Can the administrator justify the class?
3. Summer calendar – Mark Smith
 - Why is our summer schedule the way it is when our feeder schools end a week after we start?
4. Learning Management System – Scott James
 - Update on our LMS – Blackboard vs. Canvas.
 - LMS Task force voted unanimously to accept Canvas (entire state is moving towards Canvas, need Canvas to be part of the online education initiative).
 - When will this occur? Need to go through the tech committees to get a recommendation, AS needs a resolution, college council, then to district. At least one semester to get approval. Probably a 1.5-year transition from that point (maybe Fall 2018 if all goes well).
 - Proposal of a task force for the transition.
 - General training is available as well as videos for self-teaching.
 - A conversion tool is available for the transition.
5. Virtual office hours – Narges Rabii
 - Working to get 1 hour of the 5 required office hours to be virtual.
6. FARSCCD update – Narges Rabii
 - Introduction of the new board.
 - Still trying to close the 15/16 contract, no 16/17 contract.
 - Negotiations: close to finishing the 15/16 contract (cost of living adjustment and health benefits are holding it up).
 - Board of trustees election: there are 10 candidates for 4 positions.
 - Budget: \$10 million profit last year.