Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2021
9:00-11:00
Microsoft Teams

Present Lorraine Dubuisson (Chair), Steven Wallace, Troy San, Stephan Steckowski, Amanda Chase, Java Frazier, Julie Lester, Duane Day, Monica Miller, Stephanie Tolleson, Chris Hornung, Kara Svonavec, William Gary Co (, K)ee-committee communication0 Td ( )Tj /TT1 1 Tf 0.

Discussion about inter-committee communication:

x Governance Historian explained that some chairs are not aware or do not follow up on

would ease the shared governance process and would allow for the minutes to be up on the shared governance site faster, where faculty members can read them and be aware of what is being discussed.

x The committee structure and the boards are still new and most faculty still unclear about the role and function of those boards and committees

Discussion about the need for better onboarding of new faculty- HR policies, faculty handbook, how to get tenured, etc…

    x Dr. Dubuisson mentioned that Senate passed a new faculty mentoring program last year; questions from EC members arose as to, are there instructions for this mentoring program?, who is supposed to implement this proposal?

    x Dr. Wallace and Dr. Dubuisson explained that the Dean or Chair are supposed to be the ones implementing it, and that there is latitude for schools on how to implement the mentoring program

    x Many committee members expressed concern that the multitude of Provosts in the past years have had a negative impact on these important practices. A suggestion was made that the Faculty Affairs committee should follow up with the implementation of the faculty mentoring program.

    x EC members felt very strongly that onboarding of new faculty is an issue that must be addressed.

Dr. Dubuisson stated that she will present the results of the survey to the Senate and to Provost Matthews and she will also discuss the need for better onboarding of new faculty

[Full report "Effect of Covid on Shared Governance" in Appendix.]

    b. Creation of Subcommittee to Create Process Guide for Governance Entities

Dr. Dubuisson called for the formation of a subcommittee to update/expand the document she has created (process guide). The objective is to have the chair of EC update this document every year and disseminate to committee chairs at the start of the academic year to help with transition

Subcommittee: Gary Cole, Sabrina Wengier.

    c. Subcommittee to collect data on senators on committees?

Dr. Dubuisson explained that EC collected data last year on the presence of Senators on committees (a new policy that stems from the restructuring of committees and boards.) Individuals who chose to respond to the survey were in favor of Senators serving on committees and boards. Some individuals said that one year of implementation of this practice was not enough meaningful data and that this should be revisited. Question to EC members: Should we revisit?

Discussion

Appendix
Executive Committee Ad-Hoc Subcommittee:
Effects of Covid-19 on Shared Governance
Questionnaire Results

The following questionnaire was sent to the current chairs of all committees and boards of the Senate, to the chair of the Senate, and to their immediate predecessors.

1. How much do you agree with the following statement?

(1 represents 'strongly disagree,' 2 represents 'somewhat disagree,' 3 represents 'neither agree nor disagree,' 4 represents 'somewhat agree,' and 5 represents 'strongly agree'):

Shared govenance at Middle Georgia State can and has conducted its business well during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

2. Did the University's response to the Covid-Pandemic curtail or modify the agenda or business of your shared governance entity? If so, please list example of the agenda items that were postponed, changed, or eliminated.

3. What is your opinion of the effectiveness of your shared governance entity to conduct its business by using technology such as Zoom or Teams for the administration of meetings?

4. Please add any additional information you would like to report about the effect of COVID-19 on the work of your shared governance entity or suggestions or recommendations you would like to make.

Of the 42 possible, we received 18 responses. The results may be summarized as follows:

1. The mean score for this question was 4.17 with a standard deviation of 0.99. The respondents agree somewhat strongly with the statement.

2. The answers to this question fell into three general categories: (i) 8 respondents said that the work of the governance unit spoken for was not affected significantly (other than changing meetings to a virtual format) by the pandemic response, (ii) 5 said that items on the agenda for the governance unit were postponed significantly or some other difficulty/curtailment of the business of the unit was experienced, (iii) 5 said that items were canceled from the agenda or highly significant disruption to the business of the unit was experienced.

3. The answers to this question fell into roughly four general categories: (i) 11 respondents said that virtual meetings and technology used for those was very effective, (ii) 2 said that

the technology and virtual meeting format was adequate but had significant faults, (iii) 3 said that virtual meetings were not effective in the respondent's opinion when compared to a face-to-face meeting, (iv) 2 said that this question was not applicable or commented on a different question.

4. Seven categories of responses to this question arose: (i) 2 suggested that shared governance