Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting  
October 27, 2020  
WeBex, 11:30-1:30PM

I. Convening of the meeting - Denis Blackmore, President  
The meeting started at 11:31AM


IV. Guests Present: Ahmed Omran (Engineering Technology), Laurent Simon (Undergraduate Studies), Eliza Michalopoulou (Mathematical Sciences), Ravi Ravindra (Physics), Charles Brooks (Humanities), Wayne Fox (MTSM), Chase Wu (Computer Science), Sotiri Ziavras (Graduate Studies), Mohamed Mahgoub (Engineering Technology), Jay Meegoda (Civil & Environmental Engineering), Christian Borcea (Computer Science), Sahidur Rahman (Engineering Technology), David Bader (Computer Science)

V. Approval of minutes 10/13/20 meeting  
Motion to approve the minutes by A. Rosato and seconded by A. Gerbessiotis. The minutes were approved with 0 no’s and 0 abstentions.

VI. Report of the Faculty Senate President  
D. Blackmore gave his report to the Faculty Senate. Talked about more faculty involvement in Institute Faculty meetings and Faculty Senate meetings. Discussed a possibly extra IFM with just faculty and no administrators. Looking for suggestions to get more people involved with Faculty Senate. Also mentioned layoffs in the mailroom and organizational restructuring. Will discuss with administration.

VII. Presentation by Kamalika Sandell (CIO)  
CIO Kamalika Sandell gave presentation on progress and plans. Presentation covered SWOT Analysis, Immediate Focus, The Challenge Ahead, and Next Steps. Discussion and Q&A followed.

VIII. Proposed changes in University Senate Constitution  
Motion to approve proposed cosmetic changes in University Senate Constitution by E. Thomas and seconded by Q. Jones. Motion was approved unanimously with 0 no’s and 0 abstentions.
IX. **CUE Report (Laurent Simon on behalf of David Horntrop)**

*CME-minors in Mechanical Engineering*

Motion to approve by D. Blackmore and seconded by P. Armenante. Motion was approved with 0 no’s and 0 abstentions.

*MTSM-Minor in Business*

Motion to approve by E. Thomas and seconded by D. Blackmore. Motion was approved with 0 no’s and 0 abstentions.

*Maintaining Registration Policy*

Discussion with Q&A. Friendly amendment changing language to “Undergraduate Students”. Motion to approve by D. Blackmore and seconded by A. Rosato. Motion was approved with 0 no’s and 0 abstentions.

New Course information and other course updates were shared.

X. **New Program: BS in Data Science (David Bader)**

David Bader gave a presentation on the new BS in Data Science program. Discussion w/ Q&A followed. Motion to give preliminary approval to initiate the process by A. Gerbessiotis and seconded by M. Bandelt. Motion was approved with 0 no’s and 0 abstentions.

XI. **Changes in Faculty Handbook (Nancy Steffen-Fluhr)**

Vote to un-table this motion from last time. Motion by D. Blackmore and seconded by A. Rosato. Motion approved to un-table and discuss. Presentation by N. Steffen-Fluhr on a proposed stylistic & organizational changes to the Faculty Search & Selection Guidelines. Discussion and Q&A followed. Change of language to: Interviews shall commence once EEO applicant data has been reviewed and all steps consistent with the faculty search guidelines have been taken to maximize the diversity of the applicant pool. Motion to approve by D. Blackmore and seconded by N. Maher. The motion was approved with 0 no’s and 0 abstentions.

XII. **New Business**

Discuss more about the new mailroom procedures and opening people’s mail.

The meeting ended at 1:30PM with a motion to adjourn by A. Rosato and seconded by A. Borgaonkar.