

TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, OCT. 5, 2016

The ECU Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Transparency Committee met Wednesday, October 5, at 10 a.m. in Crabbe 201.

Attending were members: Deborah Givens, chair; Paula Kopacz; Randall Swain.

Absent: Advisory member Ginny Whitehouse

Committee members reviewed the updated Committee Checklist and Special Meeting Poster that had been drafted by Givens for use by all committee chairs and members to set regular meeting schedule and to call special meetings. The checklist had been shared with Executive Committee at the August 29 meeting with a recommendation made to clarify the need for minutes to be filed after approved.

Motion by Kopacz, second by Swain to approve. All aye.

The documents will be posted on the Faculty Senate website and updated as needed.

Committee members discussed the implementation of the electronic voting system at the Faculty Senate meetings. No complaints had been heard other than it would take time to become familiar with the system. The Executive Committee had recommended creating a backup plan. Givens will create a list/hard copy to be used at meetings. The question of when to post minutes of Faculty Senate meetings was discussed. Review of Open Records/Open Meeting Laws show that minutes not required to be posted until after approved at next regular meeting. But, several people had requested the minutes after the meeting to learn what had taken place. Committee agreed to suggest to Executive Committee that minutes could be posted 48 hours after meeting but with note not “official.” No action taken.

Committee members discussed the issue of alternates that had been brought up at the Executive Committee. The new system has brought attention to the problem that several departments do not have alternates listed. Only alternates, not substitutes, can vote. Givens agreed to contact departments without alternates and to continue updating the list.

Committee members discussed the standing of the Ad Hoc Legislative Forum committee in view of Open Meeting Law requirements for Faculty Senate committees. Executive Committee at September 26 meeting had agreed to continue the Forum. Concern is that if listed as a committee of the Faculty Senate should comply with Open Meeting Laws including having a regular meeting schedule. Since majority of members not from Faculty Senate, this could be a problem. Perhaps continue as a university committee with Faculty Senate representation. No action taken.

Meeting adjourned.