

**DEPARTMENT MEETING
POLITICAL SCIENCE
FEBRUARY 19, 2019**

ATTENDEES: Dr. Roger White, Dr. Philip Dynia, Dr. Sean Cain. Minutes taken by: Wendy Porche

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes approved with minor changes to August minutes from Dr. Dynia. Dr. Cain moved to approve. Dr. Dynia seconded. Minutes approved.

REMARKS FROM CHAIR

Dr. White stated that he read an article in the Wall Street Journal that lower student performance is happening all over the country. We did not drop the ball. Dr. Dynia stated that we should keep a copy of that article with the minutes. Student debt load has gotten so high that Pell grants are becoming popular and students who receive Pell grants are not always acclimated to an academia culture. It's more of the business model. In addition, most consultant firms work on short-term solutions for budgetary purposes, but not long-term.

Dr. Dynia inquired about a sense of the administration's awareness of how financially bound we are? Department members discussed the online program's possibility of better cash flow, but are there any data to indicate that this is a good solution? Department members were not aware of administration's sense of online program's cash flow. Dr. White will inquire about this.

Dr. White stated that students expressed concerns about the student finance department and whom they could talk to about scholarships? There is also a concern about scholarship misplacement where they cut their contribution from the school when students receive scholarship. Maybe we could work with the student body to help these students find scholarships.

Dr. White will follow up with SCAP to make sure we get internships through Career Services.

REVIEW OF QUESTIONNAIRE

Dr. Cain's plan is to complete the questionnaire during senior Capstone, as per the SCAP report. Dr. Dynia moved to approve the senior questionnaire. Dr. White seconded. Questionnaire approved.

NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIR

Dr. White stated that he is concerned about the health and welfare of the department and is supportive of any faculty member who wishes to serve as chair. March 1st is the deadline.

Department members decided that Wendy would send out a secret ballot for chair nominations and then send out a secret ballot to vote.

Chair nominations will be due Friday at 12noon and voting ballot will be due Tuesday at 12noon.

Wendy will send results via email.

Dr. Cain asked if the course release would return? Faculty stated that their opinion was that it is unlikely.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Cain volunteered to teach FYS seminar in the fall. Drs. White and Dynia thanked him for volunteering. Dr. Dynia stated that FYS's a good way for students to experience a political science class. However, Dr. Dynia stated that 20 students per class is a high number to be considered a seminar. In the future this number could also be raised to 30, which is not ideal for a seminar.

Dr. White asked when the next meeting should be? Drs. Dynia and Cain stated after Easter would be a good time. Dr. Cain stated that the questionnaire should be completed by then.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15pm.