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ELGIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE FACULTY ASSOCIATION

Full faculty ECCFA meeting, Opening Day, August 14, 2008

Sarah Dye, ECCFA President, presiding.

Meeting called to order by Sarah at: 12:20 pm.

Greetings and Welcome by Dr. Sam

Sarah Dye welcomed everyone back for a new school year. She then introduced Dr. Sam, President.

Dr. Sam welcomed everyone back. He reminded us that last year he had asked us to trust him and “take a leap.”

He referred specifically to the administration of the Noel-Levitz survey and an administrator issue of concern to the ECCFA. He pointed out that both had worked out well this past year. He then asked us to take another leap with him and work to get the word out in the community next April if the Board of Trustees approved the referendum he was proposing.

President's Report

Sarah Dye introduced the ECCFA officers and Senators.

She acknowledged Linda Hefferin's years of dedication as President of ECCFA with the presentation of a gift.

She shared some musings on the ECCFA including her pride of all members of the ECCFA and her positive view of the future. She encouraged all members to stay in touch with her and share any problems that may arise.

She encouraged us to participate in the Student Convocation on Friday, August 15. Connie Orbeta is speaking.

Lunch will be provided at the Campus Jam. All participating need to be in the robing room by 10:30 a.m.

Senate meetings are open to all and all members are encouraged to attend. Consequently, Senate meetings are moving to the Alumni Room this year so there is more room for guest. The first meeting of the school year is Wednesday, August 20th at 3 p.m. Send agenda items to Sarah.

Committee service is required by contract. The Senate is compiling a committee service database so it is easier to find people available to serve on committees.

The administration would like for us all to use the calendar tool on Outlook. This is not contractual. However, the union is insisting that committee meeting times be scheduled so faculty can attend. Keeping our Outlook calendars up-to-date facilitates this process. If committee meeting times are scheduled in competition with teaching responsibilities, please let Sarah know.

Sarah gave a health insurance update. The ECCFA leadership was asked to review the proposed changes only about 2 days before the change would take effect. Consequently, the response of the ECCFA, in conjunction with SECCA was to not agree to the changes, in principle. The reasons given were that we were given too little information too late. Our plan for the future is to be proactive by educating members of the insurance committee and union leadership regarding options and decisions and coming to the decision process with our own proposals. Al Szabo will be helping us with this process throughout the year so we are better prepared next year. The change is actually an equal or better program. If, however, anyone experiences problems, please notify the union immediately.

Sarah gave an update on the results of the Noel-Levitz survey administered in Spring, 2008. She reminded us that the agreement was that no database would be generated of the results that could trace results back to any individual faculty member. The Senate would receive an executive summary of the results. We did quite well.

Secretary's Report

Mary Arndt and Cindy Hutman distributed minutes from the last Opening Day, January 10, 2008. John Slawson moved to approve the minutes. Maureen Lange seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

1st Vice President's Report

Dan Kernler announced that the grade deadline for Spring 2009 was changed to extend grading time. The contract version on e-Net is inaccurate. It should be corrected within a week.

He then discussed the evolution ECCFA emphasizing that with recent and upcoming faculty retirements and changing administration it was an ideal time to take time, reflect and make sure ECCFA adapts to these changes. Several things planned for this year:

1. Senate Workshop—Senators will be provided training on several issues including reaching consensus, Senator duties and communication with constituents.
2. Conversations with members—like the college did for branding, one hour focus groups will be planned throughout the year to discuss issues like ECCFA identity, the role of ECCFA on campus. The goal is to make participants comfortable so the leadership can get valuable feedback.
3. ECCFA Retreat—outcome from the conversations will provide a focus for a retreat planned for Spring 2009. A general invitation was sent out for volunteers to help plan the retreat. Planning is still on-going. Some details will be in the next Sentinel. Basic summary—
 - a. 30-40 participants
 - b. Senators given first opportunity and then extended to the general membership for remaining spots.
 - c. Off-campus, overnight.
 - d. Meetings are mandatory for all participants on Saturday and a breakfast and reflection session on Sunday.
 - e. To keep the cost to ECCFA reasonable, participants will be asked to take on some of the expense of their stay.
 - f. After the retreat, an all-ECCFA meeting will be scheduled to give feedback on the results of the retreat.
 - g. \$3000 have been budgeted. Not funded by dues. Funded by savings and out of the \$10,000 in the legal defense fund.

Dan also thanks the planning committee for their work in the past year.

2nd Vice Presidents's Report

Sue Ford announced that there are 9 new UAF2's this year and that 4 new full-time hires were from the UAF2 population.

Office space for adjuncts is an issue for this year.

We will be working on getting signatures on membership forms. Some of us may be asked to gather these signatures and return them to Tim Anderson, Membership Chair.

Since communication with adjuncts is difficult, UAF's will be survey to determine the best means of communication.

3rd Vice President's Report

Dan Kocher announced that we need 3 new UAF1 Senators and a new 3rd Vice President.

Treasurer's Report

Linda Hefferin presented the budget for 2008-2009

Linda explained the budget and explained that the treasurer's position is still in transition as Linda McEwan steps down.

She pointed out the savings item at the bottom of the budget that Dan Kernler referred to when discussing funding of the retreat.

Pattie Jackowitz moved to approve the budget. Lynn Ducar seconded. It was approved unanimously.

Sue Ford explained an important issue relevant to the UAF's. If a UAF makes over \$12,000, his/her dues for IFT/AFT will double. The budget will have to be amended once Human Resources provides an accurate list of adjuncts making \$12,000 or more.

Committee Reports

Curriculum Committee

Maureen Lange explained the role of the committee and its meeting times.

They are developing a new program to communicate regarding proposals called curriculum.net

If anyone needs help with paperwork for course additions and changes please consult Maureen or a committee member.

Faculty Development

Beth Santel explained that faculty development funds could be used for opportunities to learn, grow and improve learning.

The new Faculty Development Handbook would be online including the new forms. Consult with Beth or a member of the committee for assistance. There will be handbook for UAF2's as well. The group proposal process has changed. Funding will be separated for fall and spring. The due date for fall group proposals are due by September 30th.

Grievance

Howard Russo introduced members of the committee and announced that a new UAF1 member. The committee meets every other Tuesday at 3 p.m. The Tuesdays before Senate meetings. The committee had a busy summer and the results are summarized in the powerpoint presentation.

Negotiations

Sue Ford announced that midterm negotiations had corrected an oversight in the contract. UAF1's were excluded from the section of the contract that provided a process for lane movement. Working successfully with Tony Spahr, Director of Human Resources, this oversight was corrected. Clarification of adjunct load and assignment of load was also done this summer.

Academic Policy

Linda Hefferin provided meeting information on the powerpoint. On the list of issues for this year is a new grade appeal process.

Membership Committee

Tim Anderson announced that AFT/IFT membership cards should be in our mail soon. He asked us all to sign membership forms if we had forgotten and to encourage colleagues to sign.

Sick Leave Bank

Gretl Kramer recognized members of the committee and gave some history of the sick leave bank. Withdrawal of days is petitioned through Human Resources. Applications are totally anonymous when they reach the committee. ECCFA members can donate 0, 1 or 2 days per year. 758 days had been donated since the bank was established. The forms for donation were distributed.

Elections Committee

Bill Demaree reported that 3 divisions still needed members on the committee.

Sentinel

Bill Demaree announced that print copies of the first Sentinel of the 2008-2009 school year are on the tables and the electronic version will be available on Friday, August 15th. He asked for articles, suggesting that members interview new faculty in their area.

Website

Tim Kaar, webmaster, is updating the site so it will work on browsers other than IE. An FAQ page will be added which will be helpful especially for new UAF's. Other items on the website—constitution, contract, minutes and sentinels (including archived versions). The new site will be easier to search. Podcasts are coming soon.

MAGIC

Sarah Dye reported that there are a series of Webinars available on diversity strategies. A handout summarizing these are available from MAGIC committee members.

IFT Rep Report

Jennifer Marsh passed out information about a proposed state constitutional convention. The IFT does not support this proposal and we are all encouraged to vote "NO." The concerns are that politicians in Springfield may not make wise decisions in changing the constitution. It would cost \$100,000 and might likely result in a threat to state pension plans.

Old Business

No report.

New Business

No report

1:35 John Slawson moved to adjourn, Dan Kernler seconded

Respectfully submitted by:

Lucinda Hutman

ECCFA Secretary

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