April 22, 2015 Faculty Meeting Minutes – FINAL

Agenda Committee Member Brian Walter chaired the meeting in Faculty Chair Sandy Yannone’s absence. The meeting was called to order at 1:25, inviting Eirik Steinhoff to read a poem, I Know a Man, by Robert Creeley.

The following announcements were made:

- Alumni Programs staff member Nate Bernitz asked faculty to complete a survey that was distributed via e-mail regarding the next fall’s Return to Evergreen on the theme of creative exploration. He thanked faculty who have recently contributed or are about to contribute to alumni events.
- John Hurley introduced Bill Mikesell, the new Emergency Response Planning Coordinator, who provided a brief overview of his work.
- Nancy Murray announced the upcoming AcademX.
- Julie Russo announced a visiting queer studies faculty position, which is currently advertised.
- Media Services staff member Melanie Valera introduced herself and encouraged faculty across the curriculum to discuss possible collaborations with her.

Faculty Meeting Minutes -- The April 6, 2015 Faculty Meeting Minutes were approved as distributed.

Nominations for Upcoming Elected Positions – Brian encouraged faculty to consider the governance positions that will be up for election later this quarter. The following nominations were made:

- Council of Faculty Representatives – Eirik Steinhoff was nominated.
- Faculty Advisory Panel on the College Budget – Ralph Murphy indicated his interest in standing for re-election and also nominated Larry Geri.

Hiring Priorities DTF Update – Scott Coleman provided an update on the work of the Hiring Priorities DTF, including a recommendation from the deans to prioritize the immediate hire of a computer science position to replace Judy Cushing, who recently retired. He also announced that the four suspended hires, along with two additional positions, have been approved for next year. Discussion ensued. An advisory voice vote was taken to determine the level of support for the Deans’ proposal, with the vast majority of faculty indicating support with a “yay” vote. There were no “nay” votes and a handful of abstentions.

Standing Committee on the Curriculum – Committee chair Rita Pougiales introduced the committee members and provided an overview of their work thus far, which has been largely to frame the most urgent work the committee should undertake. Committee member Krishna Chowdary indicated that the questions that will be posed for the week 6 faculty meeting will be around what makes a good program and what makes a good curriculum. A brief discussion ensued.

Academic Statement Mentor Council Initiatives – Council Chair Shaw Osha and members Miranda Mellis and Eirik Steinhoff provided an update on Orientation Week; the next All-Campus Mentoring Day on May 13th; a reminder of the May 14th, 2015 deadline for submitting an academic statement for summer/fall registration; 2015-2016 common read author Elaine Scarry’s visit next month in preparation for faculty working with new students in the fall; and a handout of quotes from students who submitted essays to the Academic Statement Essay Contest on what they found valuable in writing their academic statement. A brief discussion followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:03 p.m.