NEO Executive Council Minutes

Monday, March 28th, 2022

Minutes

The minutes from the January meeting were approved by email vote. There was no meeting in February.

Faculty Senate Report

Rick Cohn reported on the previous two Faculty Senate Meetings. Among the highlights are:

1. The University now has an on-line textbook service that enables needy students to save money. Thus far, over $400,000 have been saved.

2. There are serious shortages in staff positions due to the pandemic.

3. The Faculty Assembly needs a quorum to pass resolutions, but it has been years since a quorum attended. A resolution to change the by-laws failed.

4. The Faculty Senate overwhelmingly passed a resolution supporting academic freedom in K-12 schools.

Old Business

Bernie Dobroski reported on AROHE saying that NEO is looked upon as an exceptional organization.

Erv will look into having NEO represented at meetings of the University Trustees.

The grant from the Alumnae was discussed, and it was suggested that they may be “giving back” in the sense that over the years, many current NEO members have taught for them.

It was suggested that the next President of NEO should be trained in how to use the hybrid equipment.
New Business

The Alumnae will publicize our mini courses and has invited us to send two members to their meeting to discuss race and diversity.

Roger Boye proposed the following amendment to the Charter in the hope of getting fresh blood into leadership positions:

*The Executive Council shall consist of (a) the four officers, (b) the immediate past president, (c) six additional members, three of whom shall be elected annually by the membership for two-year terms with eligibility to serve one additional two-year term, and (d) the NEO representative to the Faculty Senate and the editor of the NEO Newsletter, both of whom shall be elected by vote of the 11 Executive Council members listed above and shall serve co-terminously with their service in those positions.*

The Executive Council passed the amendment by unanimous vote. It will now be sent to the membership for ratification.

After the meeting, Roger sent out a clarifying email which said:

*In the past, both the NEO secretary and the NEO treasurer were elected to one-year terms. But with the Charter amendment passed in February, starting this year (an even-numbered year), the secretary will be elected to a two-year term and starting next year (odd-numbered year) the treasurer will be elected to a two-year term.*

*So not only does this change build in some EC continuity (because we are not electing a new secretary and a new treasurer every year), it also expands the number of EC members eligible to serve on the nominating committee. Next year, for example, the secretary will be eligible because that person will be a “continuing member” of the EC.*

Mary Poole agreed to serve on this year’s Nominating Committee. Erv will also ask Holly Clayson and Michal Ginsberg.

Jeff pointed out that emeritus faculty still receive the University rental car benefit, which amounts to about 30%.