Task Force on Governance
Minutes
January 22, 2015

Attendees: Denise Bruesewitz, Michael Burke, Paul Greenwood, Adam Howard, Sandy Maisel, Bruce Maxwell, Lisa McDaniels, Andy McGadney, Betty Sasaki and Stewart Stokes

Chair Maisel opened the meeting at 8:30am and commented on the agenda that was sent out to the group in advance of the meeting. Sandy shared some of the broad questions that could be discussed by this task force including the following: What should the faculty have responsibility for within the college? Should we look at the relationship between board and faculty governance? What roles should students have with this committee? Do we need to engage students with our outcomes?

Sandy reiterated language in our existing bylaws. “This bylaw article establishes that the faculty has primary authority over setting the curriculum, graduation requirements, and identifying academic priorities.” Any steps we take beyond that would, therefore, require Board approval.

Sandy referenced the goal for the task force to complete its work by April, noting that the date might be too aggressive but worthy as a target.

The task force then discussed areas within the college that faculty have primary responsibility or advisory or oversight roles. The list below was created with task force member participation.

Currently, Colby faculty has responsibility for the following items:
- Curriculum
- Graduation requirements
- Identifying academic priorities on?
- Athletics
- Library

Currently the faculty has some combination of actual responsibility or potential responsibility
- Faculty Allocation
- Strategic Initiatives (CMP)
- Budget
- Facilities design & planning
- Personnel Workload
- Promotion & Tenure
- ITS
Areas that faculty in other institutions have primary authority or influence/control:
  • Admissions
  • Museum
  • Student Affairs
  • Slot (FTE) allocation
  • Budget
  • Strategic Initiatives
  • Technology: ITS, classroom, media

Areas in which faculty have less influence—what should role be?
  • Development
  • Alumni Affairs
  • Career Services
  • Physical Plant
  • Communications

In the next meeting we will continue this discussion with focus first on our perceptions of appropriate faculty roles in the areas of Admissions, the Museum, Student Affairs, and ITS.