Armstrong Atlantic State University
Faculty Senate Bill FSB-2014-05-12-01:
Institutional Accountability, Transparency, and Communication

Presidential Action

Delivered:

Signature: [Signature] Date: 5/13/14

Approve: √

Disapprove: ___

Remand: ___

Comments: (please attach an additional sheet if necessary)

Signature: [Signature]
Dr. Linda M. Bleicken, President
Armstrong Atlantic State University

Date: 5/13/14
Whereas the Faculty Senate is troubled by the state of accountability, transparency, and communication between the administration and faculty;

Whereas the Faculty Senate is concerned about the stability and health of the leadership;

Whereas the Faculty Senate believes that the administration, along with the faculty and staff, have the best interests of Armstrong at heart;

Whereas the Faculty Senate reaffirms the centrality of Academic Affairs to the function of the University and anticipates strong leadership and shared governance;

We offer the following requests as a pathway to move Armstrong forward:

1. Whereas the recommendations of the Planning Budget and Facilities Committee (PBF) Faculty Budget Priorities Report 2013-14 state “this survey supports the conclusion that high expenditures on administration by administration are draining funds that could be devoted to teaching and instruction;”

The Faculty Senate, in recognition of this transitional time in academic leadership, requests that no administrative positions requiring new funds be created until the end of the 2014-2015 academic year. And if such positions should be deemed necessary, they will be brought to the Faculty Senate for discussion. Academic Affairs will retain any lapsed faculty salaries as well as salary savings associated with filling open faculty positions at lower ranks and/or lower pay.

2. Whereas recruitment, retention, and support of faculty should be a priority as referenced by the PBF Faculty Budget Priorities Report 2013-14;

The Faculty Senate requests that by the end of fall 2014, a three-year plan will be developed and implemented with the target of attaining an average faculty salary of 100% of the CUPA average as referenced in the Faculty Salary Study of 2013-14. Funding to achieve this target will be dependent, in part, on institutional revenues.

3. Whereas communication has been an ongoing source of frustration for faculty and staff and whereas our Core Values and articulated mutual desires depend on shared governance and transparency;

The Faculty Senate requests that the Senate President and Vice-President be invited to monthly meetings of the President’s Cabinet and Deans.

The Faculty Senate requests that the Senate President be offered the option of appointing a faculty representative to any cross-divisional committee (e.g., search and policy-making committees) convened by a member of the President’s Cabinet if there is not already a faculty representative.

The Faculty Senate also requests that the President ensure the creation and maintenance of a webpage listing all standing committees convened by a member of the President’s Cabinet for each academic year, including their chairs and faculty representatives.
4. Whereas by administrative expansion or churn, the proliferation of job postings for administrative positions has been a continuing concern of faculty;

The Faculty Senate requests that a monthly report of all future job postings identifying the position as new or replacement as well as a justification be sent to the Faculty Senate President.

5. Whereas Armstrong's use of consultants has represented an expenditure in excess of $350,000 per year for the past four years;

The Faculty Senate requests a consulting services plan for the upcoming academic year listing major consulting projects ($25,000 or greater), timeline, justification and cost be presented to the PBF Committee in the fall.