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Bowling Green State University

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CSC discusses proper steps in discipline cases

Members of Classified Staff Council discussed at its Aug. 15 meeting procedures for handling discipline cases. Chairwoman Hylope told the council she has talked with Robert Martin, vice president for operations, and Anmarie Heldt, interim personnel director, about some recent cases where council thought the proper procedures had not been followed. In all such cases, disciplinary panels are supposed to be chaired by a University employee unanimously agreed upon by personnel support services and CSC. However, recently some hearings have been chaired by an administrative staff or faculty not approved by CSC.

Previously a neutral list of names had been approved by CSC for use in the hearings, but Hylope said it was discovered that two meetings of names being used to select chairs that was never reviewed by the council.

In addition, council member Bob Kreienkamp said in recent discipline cases the proper order of steps has not been followed. He said the Classified Staff Handbook specifically notes that a disciplinary hearing is to be the third step of the policy, following a verbal warning and a written warning. If the violation is serious enough it could warrant bypassing the first two steps.

However, in a recent case involving a classified employee, Kreienkamp said a supervisor skipped the first two steps and immediately commenced a disciplinary hearing after Hylope said she had not considered serious violations.

Kreienkamp said he was worried about the incident setting a precedent. "In this case a supervisor bypassed an employee's rights. The policies and procedures have been approved by the Board of Trustees and should be followed," he said.

Judy Hogemans, chair of the Personnel Welfare Committee, said the committee has been discussing the grievance procedures and plans to rewrite it in order to clarify certain sections.

Hylope said she is waiting to hear from Martin and Heldt on their reactions about the specific cases.

In other business:—Hylope, who is a member of the search and screening committee for the position of personnel director, said 115 applications have been received for the post. It is hoped that the job will be filled by January.

An administration team has decided to present a $400 cash award to the recipient of the Enid J. Best United Way Classified Staff Scholarship Award that will be given at the annual Classified Staff Convocation Sept. 29.

Judith Leavitt, chair of the Scholarship Committee, said three recipients have been chosen to receive $100 scholarships from the classified staff scholarship fund. They will be awarded at the convocation.

Leavitt agreed that several changes to the bylaws. The changes include:—Remove one vacancy in the Classified Staff Council in the same area and one of the vacancies holds a longer term then the other.

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Stone dubs grad 'edunauts'

Speaking to a commencement crowd of 1,025 students and their parents and friends, Dr. W. Stone challenged the graduates to aspire to greatness.

"Greatness," he said, "is not found in possessions, power, position or prestige. It is discovered in giving, humility, character and service."

Stone, associate dean and director of graduate admissions and an associate professor of ethnic studies, told the graduates he was confident that their "outstanding education" at Bowling Green will permit you to "safely" demonstrate the required personal qualities to aspire to greatness in any field, in any city, in any state, in any nation, on any continent in this interdependent world, as we enter the 21st century, the age of ethnicity with the promise of world peace, the promise of full employment, the promise of a clean environment, adequate housing and the elimination of hunger, poverty, racism and sexism in America, apartheid in South Africa and oppression in China and South America."

He announced a special designation for the graduates; one that describes the qualities they will need to make a difference in their lives. "I bestow upon each of you the title 'Edunaut,' " he said. The term was one he was inspired to create 20 years ago while watching the U.S. Apollo VIII. "Edunaut" symbolizes the dynamic and intelligent students attending our universities, Stone said. "As edunauts, you possess the ability to facilitate the development of full human potential, in order that we, as passenge rs on this spaceship called earth, will experience more fully, live more broadly, perceive more keenly and find happiness and self-fulfillment and gain the wisdom to see that our future is inseparable from the welfare of others."
Commentary

Editor, the Monitor:

Most BSGU faculty have watched with only casual interest the debates over General Education that have swirled around the campus in recent years. Previous attempts to discipline students and staff members have been successful.

Woodruff, reported that his students and others have agreed with the general education program that includes non-Western, non-traditional and non-traditional works taught from a variety of perspectives. At Stanford, Columbia, North Carolina, and other institutions, the struggle between academic conservatives and liberals has split faculties, threatened administrations and unsettled students. So fundamental to higher education are the issues raised by this debate that the future of general education for decades to come rest upon its outcome at leading universities.

Faculty members at BSGU, which has a long tradition of including interdisciplinary and non-traditional courses in the general education curriculum, have taken little more than casual interest in the debate that has raged elsewhere. To most of us, it seemed these issues were long ago resolved here. Along with conventional departmental offerings, courses in American studies, women's studies, environmental studies, legal studies and non-traditional areas have long been accepted throughout the University as viable options within a student's general education program. In approving these courses, the University community has recognized the legitimate place within general education of methods and disciplines, and of curricular materials which are likely to fall outside the great tradition of Western culture. The University is well-advised to adopt a liberal approach to non- traditional curriculum. Indeed, it could be argued that BSGU would scarcely be the same institution without the commitment to academic innovation that has characterized its history. In many instances, faculty and students alike have been attracted to Bowling Green by our tolerance for academic innovation, experimentation and change. While not all faculty or students would agree that all non-traditional programs or courses are equally valuable, few would argue against the spirit of freedom and intellectual inquiry which was central to the institutional development of BSGU. As we watched other institutions break into warring factions over attempts to liberalize curriculum, we here perhaps felt a bit too smug by comparison. Little did we know that while we slept, the forces of academic conservatism were stealing a march that threatens the very foundations of general education at Bowling Green State University.

Late last spring, after hearing the College of Arts and Sciences committees and administrators who might have been expected to have an interest in a policy change that impacts heavily on resources as well as challenges an established general education philosophy, the College of Business Administration announced a curriculum reform which excluded from their list of acceptable general education courses all non-traditional or interdisciplinary humanities and social science courses. This exclusion includes introductory courses in women's studies, ethnic studies, environmental studies, political science and American studies. Whatever its avowed purpose, allowing College of Business Administration students to take only traditional departmental courses while conserving academic space for their general education programs that could be interpreted as a racist, sexist, elitist and anti-environmental policy. The clear effect, if not the intent, of this action is to limit exposure of students in business studies and science, to ideas and issues pertaining to race, class and gender as well as to limit their opportunities for innovative, non-traditional and interdisciplinary coursework.

The College of Business Administration action sets a dangerous precedent. The right of any college within the University to unilaterally change the general education requirements is a good one if its aim is to find objectionable is a principle that a student's identity as a student in the College of Business Administration's curriculum is to pursue academic opportunities other undergraduates. Further, let us adopt a University-wide general education curriculum to assure that in the future no action by any single college or individual can restrict the freedom of intellectual inquiry that is the bedrock on which an institution of higher learning must be built. William E. Grant English and American studies

Computer account numbers need renewed

With the start of the academic year, it's time to renew IBM 4381, IBM 4341, VAX 11/785, VAX 11/780 and VAX 8530 computer accounts. Computer Services validates User-IDs and forces new passwords as security measures. Anyone who had one or more mainframe academic computer accounts created prior to Aug. 14 and wishes to continue to use those accounts has one of two options:

-Go to 241 Math Sciences between 8 a.m.-noon or 1-5 p.m. Monday through Friday;
-present a current BSGU-ID; and complete a new application form. The secretary will then update your accounts for another year.

Also, obtain a blank application from your department, complete the form, obtain your department's signature and return both copies of the form to Computer Services at 241 Math Science. The accounts will be updated and one copy of the form will be mailed back to the applicant.

Faculty/Staff positions

The following faculty positions are available: Information Literacy: Reference Librarian. Information services, related to Library: Reference Librarian (2-2856). Revised deadline: Sept. 1.

Math: Teaching Assistant/associate professor. Also, assistant professor. Deadlines: Sept. 30. Also, visiting professor. Deadline: Oct. 1. For all positions, contact James S. West (2-2401).

Languages: Chair. Contact Richard Hebein (2-2667). Deadline: Nov. 1.

The following administrative positions are available: