Dear Faculty Senate,

I write this statement as the Chair of the Subcommittee for Curriculum. My purpose in writing this is to IMPLORE you all to make the decision to go ahead with all faculty governance meetings (even in virtual forms) for the rest of the semester. I will now demonstrate why I believe this is **important**, **prudent**, and **possible**.

**IMPORTANT:**

The number of curriculum items that we would not be able to pass through directly affects SEVERAL departments. Here are the current numbers:

* In this week’s Academic Affairs meeting, there are 12 proposals which the Faculty Senate needs to pass. These include the following departments:
  + Kinesiology
  + History
  + Sociology
  + Counseling
  + Music
  + English, Theatre, Foreign Languages
* If we cancel April’s Subcommittee for Curriculum Meeting, Academic Affairs Meeting, and Faculty Senate Meeting, we will have over 100 proposals from departments that will not go through until next year. These include:
  + Nursing
  + Education
  + Biology
  + Computer Science
  + Geography
  + Music
  + Philosophy and Religion
  + Counseling
  + Psychology
  + Social Work
  + Business
  + Bachelors of Interdisciplinary Studies program
  + Criminal Justice and Sociology
  + Social Work

As we all know, these proposals will get tabled until September and they CANNOT be implemented until the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar!

**PRUDENT**

I realize that this is a very confusing and bewildering time for all. I have heard that people are concerned about trying to hastily pass curriculum. However, since all this curriculum was input before the March 9, 2020 deadline into Curriculog, most of these were carefully considered and passed by departments before the current Covid-19 pandemic became more acutely obvious. I ask that you all take into account the hard work and dedication of departments, deans, the registrar, the provost’s office, the Teacher Education Committee, the General Education Subcommittee, and the Graduate Council that have enabled all these proposals to REACH the Curriculum Subcommittee. Please consider the many hours of work people have already committed to these plans. I believe that we can prudently pass these items in our committees since this we are in the final stages of all these items.

**POSSIBLE**

I take as a model the Academic Affairs meeting that occurred this past Wednesday, March 18, 2020. Over 20 people were able to attend via WebEx. Was it a perfect meeting using technology? No. But it was incredibly FUNCTIONAL! I believe that as colleagues we should embrace the opportunity to utilize technology in our committee meetings. Is it preferable to meet in person? Certainly. Is it necessary? No; Robin Snead and the Academic Affairs Committee clearly demonstrated that this model is possible.

In conclusion, I would like to entreat the Faculty Senate to make the decision to NOT cancel faculty governance for the rest of the semester, especially taking into account the hard work so many have put into the process for passing curriculum.

Sincerely,

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