



Southwestern Oklahoma State University
SWOSU Digital Commons

Faculty Senate Minutes

Faculty Senate

8-29-2003

August 29, 2003 Minutes

SWOSU Faculty Senate

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/fsminutes>



Part of the [Adult and Continuing Education Commons](#), [Higher Education Commons](#), and the [Higher Education Administration Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

SWOSU Faculty Senate, "August 29, 2003 Minutes" (2003). *Faculty Senate Minutes*. 54.
<https://dc.swosu.edu/fsminutes/54>

This Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at SWOSU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate Minutes by an authorized administrator of SWOSU Digital Commons. An ADA compliant document is available upon request. For more information, please contact phillip.fitzsimmons@swosu.edu.

Faculty Senate Meeting
2:00PM, August 29, 2003, Stafford 104
Approved Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISH QUORUM:

The August 29, 2003 meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 2:00PM in Stafford 104 with FS President Cynthia Foust presiding. The following members were present: Fred Alsberg, Melody Ashenfelter, Ric Baugher, David Bessinger, Nancy Buddy Penner, Stephen Burgess, Tom Davis, Tommye Davis, Gerry East, Cynthia Foust, Terry Goforth, John Hayden, Todd Helton, David Hertz, Jason Johnson, Robin Jones, Kelley Logan, Andrew Marvick, Nina Morris, Steven O'Neal, Gus, Ortega, Marion Prichard, Carroll Ramos, James South, Bill Smartwood, Mark Tippen, Karen Travis, Don Wilson, and Jon Woltz.

II. CERTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTES: There were no substitutes.

III. PRESENTATION OF VISITORS: Pamela Roys, Art Department was present.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (FS Handout 2003-08-29): Minutes of July 25, 2003 were approved without corrections or additions.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. From FS President Foust:

1. Welcome to new faculty senators Dr. Melody Ashenfelter from the School of Business to replace Dr. Larry McKee; and Mr. David Bessinger, Music Department.
2. Pilot study from the OSRHE will be conducted this fall.
3. Finals schedule changes added to include classes that meet MWF at 2:00, 3:00, and 4:00pm.
4. Acceptance of Dr. Don McGurk's resignation as Computer Science Senator. He has been reassigned to Chemistry. To date – Computer Science has not named his replacement.

B. From Provost Becker: Requested that senators consider the composition of the University Tenure and Promotion committee that reflects the academic reorganization for next year. There are currently 209 full-time faculty slots but all are not filled. The eight faculty positions mentioned in the reduction of positions (18) remain in the departments – unfilled but not cut.

C. From the COD: This council is being reorganized to reflect the reorganization and will meet soon under a new name and composition of members.

D. From Administrative Council: No August meeting. July minutes were emailed. Refer to the last page of these minutes for activities scheduled in the fall semester.

E. FS Secretary/Treasurer: Dr. Buddy Penner

1. Roll Sheet – please sign

2. Treasurer’s Report: BancFirst checking account balance: \$1,698.09

University account balance: \$453.90

3. Faculty Senate Dues may be sent to: Nancy Penner

School of Business

STF 302

F. FS President-elect Dr. South: No Report

G. FS Past President Dr. Hayden: No Report

H. FS Student Government Representative Mr. Bensch: Absent

VI. REPORTS FROM STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEES: None

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Motion to accept 2002-2003 President’s report form Dr. Hayden

FS Motion 2003-08-01

It was moved and seconded to accept the 2002-2003 President’s report submitted by Dr. John Hayden.

The Motion passed by voice vote.

B. The Ad Hoc Committee to revise the Faculty Handbook includes Melody Ashenfelter, Cynthia Foust, Judy Haught, Don Wilson, and Robin Jones.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. FS Constitution revision – Judiciary Committee

FS Motion 2003-08-02

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the Faculty Senate of Southwestern Oklahoma State University

It is moved that the phrase "The School of Arts and Sciences, the School of Business, the School of Education, the School of Health Sciences, and the Sayre Campus" in Article II, Section 1 be amended to read "The College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Professional and Graduate Studies, the College of Pharmacy, and the College of Associate and Applied Programs-Sayre Campus", and that the last word in Article II Section 1 be changed from "school" to "college".

Motion was seconded.

The Motion passed by voice vote.

The above changes are "housekeeping" changes necessary to align the "Faculty Senate Constitution" with the new organizational structure of Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Ratification of these changes must be approved by a 2/3 majority of voting faculty members within eight week of the passing of this proposal by the Faculty Senate

FS Motion 2003-08-03

It was moved and seconded to conduct the vote for ratification of the proposed changes to the Faculty Senate Constitution contained in FS Motion 2003-08-02 by electronic vote (email).

The Motion failed by voice vote. Division of the House was called.

The Motion failed by show of hands.

Cindy Foust and Ric Baugher using Campus mail will conduct the ratification vote on the proposed changes to the Faculty Senate Constitution.

B. FS representation changes – Judiciary Committee

The Faculty Senator representation changes that may occur because of the reorganization of the University will be addressed later in the fall semester.

Currently each School is allowed one senator per seven faculty in the School.

- C. A discussion was held concerning using ITV as an alternative for Sayre and OKC faculty to attend FS meeting. This alternative may reduce travel and time costs to the faculty senators. Faculty Senate will continue to meet on the Weatherford Campus.
- D. Other business:

FS Motion 2003-08-04

It was moved and seconded that the Faculty Senate issue a statement to the President and Provost of SWOSU as follows:

The faculty senate protests the changing of nomenclature of Chairs and Departments within the School of Arts and Sciences. The Senate would like to remind the Administration that the titles “Chair” and “Department” are part of a nine-hundred-year-long academic tradition that have their origins in the founding of the Sorbonne University in Paris in the 11th century. The Senate would also like to point out that, quite apart from their historical value, the terms “Chair” and “Department” are a nearly universal standard in Academia throughout the United States and the world. The replacement of these titles with contrivances like “director” and “curriculum unit” is not only dehumanizing and insulting to the faculty and to the history of academic life itself; it also poses a real danger to the careers of both the faculty and our graduating student body.

FS Amendment 2003-08-01 to FS Motion 2003-08-04

It was moved and seconded to strike the phrase “School of Arts and Sciences” in the first sentence and replace the phrase with “Colleges”.

The Amendment passed by voice vote

FS Amendment 2003-08-02 to FS Motion 2003-08-04

It was moved and seconded to add to the final sentence “; and to the process by which new students and faculty are recruited and the risk of escalating costs.”

The Amendment failed by voice vote.

FS Amendment 2003-08-03 to FS Motion 2003-08-04

It was moved and seconded to strike the phrase “is not only dehumanizing and insulting to the faculty and to the history of academic life itself; it also” in the last sentence.

The Amendment failed by voice vote. Division of the House was called.

The Amendment passed by show of hands.

FS Motion 2003-08-04 as amended

It was moved and seconded that the Faculty Senate issue a statement to the President and Provost of SWOSU as follows:

The faculty senate protests the changing of nomenclature of Chairs and Departments within the Colleges. The Senate would like to remind the Administration that the titles “Chair” and “Department” are part of a nine-hundred-year-long academic tradition that have their origins in the founding of the Sorbonne University in Paris in the 11th century. The Senate would also like to point out that, quite apart from their historical value, the terms “Chair” and “Department” are a nearly universal standard in Academia throughout the United States and the world. The replacement of these titles with contrivances like “director” and “curriculum unit” poses a real danger to the careers of both the faculty and our graduating student body.

FS Motion 2003-08-04 as amended passed.

FS Motion 2003-08-05

It was moved and seconded that the Faculty Senate issue a further statement to the President and Provost of SWOSU as follows:

The Faculty Senate strongly protests the statement included in the Provost's recent campus-wide memo which reads as follows: "Associate deans will assume several of the responsibilities now held by present chairpersons, such as ...personnel actions..." This change would appear to transfer the advice-and-consent function of the Department Chairs to a new extra-departmental administrator (the 'Associate Dean'). As such, the change constitutes what can only be interpreted as a new attempt by the Administration to disenfranchise the faculty from those few vestiges of influence which academic personnel still possess over the hiring, firing, and promoting of colleagues within their own profession and discipline. Such a change clearly runs counter to the Administration's past repeated assurances that all academic decisions would remain within the purview of the faculty themselves. Blithe statements to the effect that "the result won't create another layer of administration" do not reassure the Senate, in the face of the current proposal by the Provost to introduce just such a layer.

FS Amendment 2003-08-01 to FS Motion 2003-08-05

It was moved and seconded to strike "clearly" and "repeated" in the next to last sentence and strike the last sentence.

The Amendment passed by voice vote.

FS Amendment 2003-08-02 to FS Motion 2003-08-05

It was moved and seconded to strike the phrase "constitutes what can only be interpreted as a new attempt by the Administration to"; strike the words "few" and "still" from the third sentence; and add an "s" to disenfranchise.

The Amendment passed by voice vote.

FS Amendment 2003-08-03 to FS Motion 2003-08-05

It was moved and seconded to strike the word “strongly” from the first sentence.

The Amendment passed by voice vote.

FS Motion 2003-08-05 as amended

It was moved and seconded that the Faculty Senate issue a further statement to the President and Provost of SWOSU as follows:

The Faculty Senate protests the statement included in the Provost’s recent campus-wide memo which reads as follows: “Associate deans will assume several of the responsibilities now held by present chairpersons, such as ...personnel actions...” This change would appear to transfer the advice-and-consent function of the Department Chairs to a new extra-departmental administrator (the ‘Associate Dean’). As such, the change disenfranchises the faculty from those vestiges of influence which academic personnel possess over the hiring, firing, and promoting of colleagues within their own profession and discipline. Such a change runs counter to the Administration’s past assurances that all academic decisions would remain within the purview of the faculty themselves.

FS Motion 2003-08-05 as amended passed.

FS Motion 2003-08-06

It was moved and seconded that the Faculty Senate submit to the Provost the following questions from Faculty Senate:

1. Would the Provost please explain precisely how the interjection of a new layer of administrators (to be known as ‘Associate Deans’) does not create another layer of administration?
2. Would the Provost please explain, in specific terms, what is meant by the phrase “pooling of clerical support”?
3. Would the Provost please offer specific data to support the statement that “Pooling of clerical support and anticipated savings from the reassignment amounts to \$300,000 per year beginning in FY ’05?” In other words, how many secretaries are to be fired? How many hours of Chair release time are to be revoked?

FS Motion 2003-08-06 continued

4. Would the Provost please explain how two half-time Associate Dean positions, to be filled by people who have no experience in any of the disciplines or departmental procedures of the various 'curriculum units' they are to be given authority over, will be able to make intelligent and useful decisions for all those 'units'?

5. What checks and balances will be introduced to ensure fair and equal treatment by the Associate Dean with regard to departmental management outside the Associate Dean's own academic discipline?

FS Amendment 2003-08-01 to FS Motion 2003-08-06

It was moved and seconded to strike the word "two"; add the word "may" after "who"; strike the phrase "intelligent and useful" and replace it with relevant in fourth question; and strike the word "any" and replace with the phrase "some or all."

The Amendment passed by voice vote.

FS Amendment 2003-08-02 to FS Motion 2003-08-06

It was moved and seconded to rewrite the questions in parallel form.

The Amendment passed by voice vote.

FS Amendment 2003-08-03 to FS Motion 2003-08-06

It was moved and seconded to strike the words "half-time" from question number four.

The Amendment passed by voice vote.

FS Amendment 2003-08-04 to FS Motion 2003-08-06

It was moved and seconded to add question number six.

6. What is the incentive for someone to serve as a director?

The Amendment failed by voice vote.

FS Motion 2003-08-06 as amended

It was moved and seconded that the Faculty Senate submit to the Provost the following questions from Faculty Senate:

1. How does the interjection of a new layer of administrators (to be known as ‘Associate Deans’) not create another layer of administration?
2. **In specific terms, what is meant by the phrase “pooling of clerical support”?**
3. **What specific data supports the statement that “Pooling of clerical support and anticipated savings from the reassignment amounts to \$300,000 per year beginning in FY ’05?” In other words, how many secretaries are to be fired? How many hours of Chair release time are to be revoked?**
4. How will Associate Deans who may have no experience in some or all of the disciplines or departmental procedures of the various ‘curriculum units’ they are to be given authority over, be able to make relevant decisions for all those ‘units’?
5. **What checks and balances will be introduced to ensure fair and equal treatment by the Associate Dean with regard to departmental management outside the Associate Dean’s own academic discipline?**

FS Motion 2003-08-06 as amended passed

The Faculty Senate will invite the President and Provost to the September meeting to address the concerns expressed.

IX. ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:43PM.

Next Faculty Senate meeting: September 26, 2003, STF 104 at 2:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Foust, President

Nancy Buddy Penner, Secretary