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January 30, 2009 Minutes

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**Southwestern Oklahoma State University
Faculty Senate Meeting
2:00 PM January 30, 2009, Education 201
Approved Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISH QUORUM.

II. The January 30, 2009, meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 2:00 PM in Education 201 with FS President Les Ramos presiding. The following members were present: Lisa Appeddu, John Bradshaw, Kathy Brooks (Sayre), Stephen Burgess, Kevin Collins, David Esjornson, Terry Goforth, John Hayden, Rita Hays, Todd Helton, David Hertz, Robin Jones, Sophia Lee, Joe London, Jim Long, Scott Long, Anil Pereira for Warren Moseley, Les Ramos, Ann Russell, Jeff Short, Bill Sticka, Sue Ball for Muatasem Ubeidat, Kathy Wolff and Jonathon Woltz.

III. CERTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTES: Anil Pereira for Warren Moseley, and Sue Ball for Muatasem Ubeidat.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the December 5, 2008, meeting were approved.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. From FS President Les Ramos:

1. Executive and Administrative Council meetings of December 12, 2008:

- a. **403b (pre-tax contribution) Retirement Plans:** The IRS has announced a one-year postponement of the 403b/401k retirement plan regulatory changes planned for January 1. However, the regional universities have decided to move forward with compliance in respect to these regulations. Group and individual sessions with Lincoln Financial Group representatives are ongoing.
- b. **Health Insurance:** The regional business officers and HR directors plan to select a consultant January/February. The consultant will then prepare an RFP for vendors and begin to receive bids. The University Benefits Committee continues to invite any suggestions or concerns regarding health insurance. Affordable dependent coverage and improved coverage for out-of-state treatment have been identified as important issues. The goal is to have the vendor in place and providing services by January 2010.

2. Senate Executive Committee meeting with Provost on January 28, 2009:

- a. **Email and Web-Use (Information Resources and Systems) Policy:** Currently under review by Vice President Tom Fagan and HR Director David Misak.
- b. **Status of the Faculty Handbook and the Revision Process:** The Provost is finalizing the revisions to the latest edition of the Faculty Handbook. The Provost plans to send the revised edition to the Associate Provost, Faculty Senate, and Dean's Council for comments.
- c. **Alternative Admission Students:** In respect to Fall 2009 courses, sections designated "signature only" are the sections for alternatively admitted students.

- d. **University Scholarly Activity and Research Plan:** The Provost invites discussion and comments from the Faculty Senate – these may be made through FS President Les Ramos.

B. FS Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Appeddu:

1. **Roll Sheet** – please sign.
2. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - a. BancFirst Checking account (No change): \$1986.53
 - b. University account balance (No change): \$129.15

C. FS President-elect Scott Long: None.

D. FS Past President Robin Jones: None

E. FS Student Government Representative Greg Franklin: Not present.

VI. REPORTS FROM STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEES:

- A. **Personnel Policies Committee:** A report was presented to the Faculty Senate regarding proposed changes to various faculty compensation rates.

1. The following motion was moved and seconded:

FS Motion 2009-01-01:

It is proposed that the Faculty Senate recommend the proposed adjustments to various faculty compensation rates.

Rationale: Adjustments in pay schedules are thought to be long overdue. Adjustments in adjunct faculty pay schedules were based on the application of an inflation calculator and were made relative to the Masters base rate. Proposed adjustments do not reflect the potential for mileage compensation. Adjustments in promotion pay schedules were made based on the assumption that the increase in rank from Instructor to Assistant Professor was a proposed minimum, in that department salary adjustments would still apply.

2. The following motion was moved and seconded:

FS Motion 2009-01-02:

It was moved and seconded to table **FS Motion 2009-01-01**, so that Faculty Senators may receive input from their constituents.

The motion passed by a majority count.

- B. **Ad Hoc Committee on Developing an Honors Program:** The Committee is meeting immediately following adjournment of the Faculty Senate meeting.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS: None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Les Ramos, FS President

Lisa Appeddu, FS Secretary

**Next Faculty Senate Meeting:
Friday, February 27, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. in EDU 201**