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Faculty Senate Minutes

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8-27-2010

August 27, 2010 Minutes

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University
Faculty Senate Meeting
August 27, 2010
***APPROVED* Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**

- I. Call to Order:** The August 27, 2010 meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 2:00 p.m. in Education 201 with FS President Muatasem Ubeidat presiding.
- II. Establish Quorum:** The following members were present: Warren Akers, Amy Barnett, Kathy Brooks (Sayre), Erin Callen, Dayna Coker (Sayre), Kevin Collins, Fred Gates, Terry Goforth, Rita Hays, Dick Kurtz, Sophia Lee, Joe London, Jim Long, Ralph May, Evette Meliza, Warren Moseley, Edna Patatianian, Eric Paul, Chad Ramirez, Les Ramos, Ann Russell, Lisa Schroeder, Muatasem Ubeidat, Tamra Weimer, and Dennis Widen. Also present was Josh Buxton, Student Government Representative.
- III. Certification of Substitutes:** Curt Woolever for David Esjornson, Faruk Khan for Scott Long, Jane Long for Jonathon Woltz.
- IV. Presentation of Visitors:** None
- V. Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of July 20, 2010 meeting were approved by voice vote.
- VI. Announcements:**
- A. From FS President Muatasem Ubeidat:**
1. The new faculty reception will be held from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. on September 8, 2010 in the Bulldog Beanery. The Senate will sponsor the event and seek the financial support of the SGA.
 2. The Council of Deans has approved the changes in the Continuance procedures passed by the Senate this year. They are in effect for the current academic year and will be included in the updated Faculty Handbook.
 3. The Executive Council has issued a policy for verifying the identities of students. (See attachment to August agenda.)
 4. The administration believes that a rise in student fees is likely. One proposed fee, a fee for freshmen, is tentatively entitled a “remedial fee.” Among other things, the fee would permit the University to hire more counselors to serve freshman students to boost retention. There was some discussion of the term, “remedial fee” for a fee that is levied against all freshmen, proposing “counseling fee” and “freshman fee” as alternatives.
 5. FS president announced that effective July 1, 2011, it shall be the policy of SWOSU that all tobacco products, as defined in an attachment to the August agenda, are banned from campus.

In response to Senators’ questions, FS president specified that this policy applies to facilities administered by SWOSU only, that SWOSU activities in other facilities are governed by the administrators of those facilities. FS president also specified that the policy applies to tobacco products only, not to nicotine products such as patches or gum. Senators expressed concern about the possibility that properties surrounding the campus could be affected by the policy. FS president agreed to pass on this concern to the administration.

B. FS Secretary/Treasurer David Esjornson:

Acting Secretary/Treasurer Kevin Collins read the report of Secretary/ Treasurer David Esjornson.

1. **Roll Sheet** – please sign.

2. **Treasurer’s Report:**

a.	BancFirst Checking Account	
	July Meeting Balance:	\$1904.07
	Dues Collected:	\$835.00
	Expenditures (receipt books for dues payments):	(\$20.12)
	CURRENT BALANCE:	\$2728.95

b. University account:

July Meeting balance:	\$106.00
Current Balance:	\$106.00

C. FS President-elect Kevin Collins: Nothing to report.

D. FS Past President Scott Long (proxy Faruk Kahn): Nothing to report.

E. Student Government Representative Josh Buxton: the deadline has passed for announcing candidacies for the Student Senate, which will meet for the first time on September 9, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. He also announced that SGA was proposing a “greener” (i.e., more earth-friendly) model of graduation gown.

VII. No reports from standing or ad hoc committees.

VIII. No unfinished business.

IX. New business:

A. Dr. Evette Meliza, present as the proxy for Vicky Gilliland, was introduced as a new Senator, replacing Gilliland.

B. Faculty Senate Budget:

The following motion was moved and seconded:

FS Motion 2010-8-01:

It is proposed the Faculty Senate adopt the following 2009-2010 Faculty Senate budget:

<i>Income</i>	<i>Budgeted</i>	<i>Actual</i>
Donations	\$0	\$0
Faculty Senate Dues	\$900	\$845
Total Income	\$900	\$845
<i>Expenses</i>		
Awards Years of Service Plaques	\$495	\$495
Officers Plaques and Senator Certificates	\$90	-
New Faculty Reception	\$110	-
Retirement Reception	\$130	-
Copying, Travel, and Misc.	\$20	-
Total Expenses	\$895	

The motion passed by voice vote.

- C. A Senator raised the question of establishing faculty parking spaces on campus. The question was referred to the administration.
- D. A senator raised a question concerning summer teaching: some faculty may be able to earn more money if classes don't make—if they teach for tuition—than they would earn if the classes do make. The following motion was moved and seconded:

FS Motion 2010-8-02:

We hereby recommend that the university administration examine the compensation system to assure that all faculty are motivated to fill summer courses with the maximum number of students allowable.

The motion passed by voice vote with opposition.

Rationale: Under the current system, some junior faculty can earn more money for a summer course if the course does not “make,” if they teach it for tuition only. Some in this position may be motivated to discourage students from taking the course. An adjustment in the summer compensation system that motivates faculty members to make their courses as full as possible would be a positive change for the students and the university as a whole.

X. Adjournment: 2:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Muatasem Ubeidat, FS President

Kevin Collins, Acting FS Secretary

**Next Faculty Senate Meeting:
Friday, September 24 at 2:00 p.m. in EDU 201**