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July 26, 2011 Approved Minutes

SWOSU Faculty Senate

Abstract

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
July 26, 2011
***APPROVED* Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**

I. CALL TO ORDER: The July 26, 2011 meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:00 p.m. in Education 210 with FS President Kevin Collins presiding.

II. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM: The following faculty members were present: Warren Akers, Amy Barnett, Kathy Brooks, Erin Callen, Dayna Coker, Kevin Collins, David Esjornson, Fred Gates, Jason Johnson for Terry Goforth, Marci Grant, Cliff McMahon for E.K. Jeong, Dick Kurtz, Jim Long, Rahmat Talukder for Scott Long, Ralph May, Evette Meliza, Bo Pagliasotti, Edna Patatanian, Eric Paul, Faruk Kahn for Les Ramos, Lisa Schroeder, Muatasem Ubeidat, Tamra Weimer, Dennis Widen, Jonathan Woltz, John Saluke.

III. CERTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTES

Faruk Khan for Les Ramos
Rahmat Talukder for Scott Long
Cliff McMahon for E.K. Jeong
Jason Johnson for Terry Goforth

IV. PRESENTATION OF VISITORS: FS President Kevin Collins presented the following visitors:

A. SWOSU President Randy Beutler

President Beutler brought to the Senate's attention matters pertaining to three main points: the budget, the Event Center, and Strategic Planning. On matters relating to the budget, President Beutler stated SWOSU experienced a 5.8% cut that will be tempered by higher tuition and some new fees. He also stated that higher education may be targeted by the next legislative session for additional cuts and faculty need to be aware of what is going on at the capital and become more active if necessary to prevent further cuts. In addition, there will be no raises for the upcoming budget year, though there may be another stipend in the works. Hopefully there will be a pay plan created for the 2013 budget year.

Regarding the Event Center, President Beutler informed the Senate that the building will be around 90,000 square feet at a cost of about 19-19.5 million dollars. The city of Weatherford has approved about 7 million dollars, students an additional 7 million with the university responsible for the remainder. About 3 million dollars will be used from reserves and the rest is expected to come from private funding. President Beutler envisions the Center to be a central meeting point for all of Western Oklahoma that will host a variety of meetings, trade shows, athletic events, concerts, etc. It will also be an excellent recruiting tool. Vice President Fagan reiterated that even with the use of 3 million dollars of reserve funds, the reserves are in fine shape.

B. SWOSU Provost Blake Sonobe

Provost Blake Sonobe addressed the third point concerning Strategic Planning. The university is committed to implement strategic planning due to the Higher Learning Commission's recent review. Now the university needs to figure out where we want to be in 10-20 years and what we as an institution would like to achieve. The administration wants to bring in an outside consultant who can see the bigger picture. This will cost between 30 and 50 thousand dollars depending upon how much we rely on the consultant. The administration believes this is a good approach because we need to develop a good plan and the consultant—by working with faculty and administration—will greatly aid in the process which should take from 9 months to a year.

C. SWOSU V.P. Tom Fagan

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of June 28, 2011 were approved by voice vote.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. President:

1. June resolution regarding defibrillators will go before September meeting of Executive Council
2. SWOSU will take part in “Mind Games,” a contest of academic knowledge similar to the old GE College Bowl; sponsored by the Chickasaw Nation and televised on KSBI-TV. Students will be competing for scholarships and the team needs to be ready by September 27, 2011. All interested parties need to contact Kevin Collins for further information.
3. Plaques honoring faculty longevity milestones have been ordered through Yukon Trophy and are expected to be here in early August.

B. Secretary/Treasurer: Fred Gates:

1. Roll Sheet – please sign.
2. Treasurer's Report:
 - a. BancFirst Checking Account: June Meeting Balance: \$1945.45
CURRENT BALANCE: \$1945.45
 - b. University Account: May Meeting balance: \$106.00
CURRENT BALANCE: \$106.00

C. President-Elect: David Esjornson

Nothing to Report

D. Past President: Muatasem Ubeidat

Nothing to Report

E. Student Government Representative: John Saluke

Dawg Days are coming up so look for announcements as well as information regarding prizes. In addition the Dean of Students is now in charge of approving all fundraising by student organizations.

VII. REPORTS FROM STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEES

A. 2010-11 Audit Committee

Nothing to report.

B. Personnel Policies Committee

Will report findings regarding Student Mentoring at the August meeting.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Marci Grant reported that the I-Pad policy has been written and sent to the Provost and the Vice President. The policy will cover all “mobile tech devices” and includes an Apple volume purchase program for apps that will be ran out of Distance Education. ITS will inventory the devices but they are not part of the regular computer rotations or technology allotment for departments. These are one time budgetary items. The Regents will also discuss the matter

IX. NEW BUSINESS

FS President Kevin Collins requested all Senate Officers and committee chairs to meet briefly after adjournment to discuss procedures for collecting Senate dues and distributing longevity plaques at the August 15th Faculty Workshop.

The Senate was also informed that there were some misunderstandings in the community regarding the Weatherford YES! Campaign and that faculty and staff need to get more people interested in explaining exactly what is going on with the campaign and the Event Center.

X. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

**Next Faculty Senate Meeting:
Friday August 26, 2011
2:00 p.m. in EDU 201**

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Collins, FS President

Fred Gates, FS Secretary