



5-4-2012

## May 4, 2012 Approved Minutes

SWOSU Faculty Senate

### Abstract

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### Recommended Citation

SWOSU Faculty Senate, "May 4, 2012 Approved Minutes" (2012). *Faculty Senate Minutes*. 158.  
<https://dc.swosu.edu/fsminutes/158>

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**Southwestern Oklahoma State University**  
**FACULTY SENATE MEETING**  
**May 4, 2012**  
***APPROVED* Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Faculty Senate President Kevin Collins called the May meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 2:03 p.m. in Education 201

**II. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM:** The following members were present: Warren Akers, Stephen Burgess (for Amy Barnett), John Bradshaw, Kathy Brooks, Erin Callen, Kevin Collins, David Esjornson, Fred Gates, Terry Goforth, Marci Grant, E.K. Jeong, Keith Talley (for Sophia Lee), Jim Long, Ralph May, Evette Meliza, Ed Klein, Edna Patatanian, Eric Paul, Les Ramos, Ann Russell, Lisa Schroeder, Muatasem Ubeidat, Tamra Weimer, Dennis Widen, Jonathan Woltz, John Saluke (SGA)

**III. CERTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTES:** Keith Talley for Sophia Lee, Stephen Burgess for Amy Barnett.

**IV. PRESENTATION OF VISITORS:** None.

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of April 27, 2011 were approved by voice vote with one change, in section I “call to order” the letter “n” was deleted in front of the time the meeting was called to order.

**VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A. President: Kevin Collins:**

1. The Executive Council has not met since the April Senate meeting.
2. SWOSU’s Mind Games team will play in the state semi-finals next Wednesday night at 8:00 on KSBI-TV. If they win, they play for the spring semester title the following Wednesday.

**B. Secretary/Treasurer: Fred Gates**

**1. Roll Sheet** – please sign.

**2. Treasurer’s Report:**

a. BancFirst Checking Account:                      April Meeting Balance: \$2101.99  
Faculty retirement reception/cards: (\$162.84)  
CURRENT BALANCE: \$1939.15

b. University Account: April Meeting balance: \$106.00  
Adjustment from audit                      (.99)  
CURRENT BALANCE: \$105.01

**C. President-Elect: David Esjornson:** There were several random phone outages across campus due to problems at the central station and several fax numbers were also not working. Please be aware that messages and faxes were missed and not returned due to this problem.

**D. Past President: Muatasem Ubeidat:** Thank you to everyone as he leaves the Senate.

**E. Student Government Representative: John Saluke:** Maria Ortega will be taking over as new SGA President.

**VII. REPORTS FROM STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEES:** None.

**VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** The retention council still needs one Senator. Kevin Collins will volunteer if no one comes forward. Also, the Faculty Recruitment Committee has three volunteers from the College of Arts and Sciences but none from the other colleges.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. New Faculty Senate President David Esjornson received the gavel from outgoing President Kevin Collins.

2. Retiring Senators left the meeting and the following new Faculty Senators took their positions: Jerry Dunn, Jason Dupree, Kristin Montarella, Curt Woolever, Tom McNamara, and Andrea Holgado. The following Senators had their terms renewed: Lisa Schroeder, Jim Long, Evette Meliza, Dennis Widen.

3. The Senate took up a request for Senate support for a proposal by the University Benefits Committee. The Benefits Committee has requested that the Faculty Senate support a proposal the funeral leave for all SWOSU faculty be reinstated and that the faculty have the same funeral leave benefit afforded staff members as stated in the Staff Handbook. According to the Staff handbook, time required for funeral (arrangements/travel) may be charged to available sick leave up to a total of five (5) working days per fiscal year. Faculty will now have the same funeral leave policy and are to indicate on their leave forms when case-by-case basis by the President or his/her designee.

The rationale behind the Benefits Committee's request is that at one time faculty received a funeral leave benefit of five days but the policy was not actually in the Faculty Handbook but was based upon the Staff handbook and was eliminated and faculty were forced to use personal leave which in essence limited faculty to three days of funeral leave. The reinstatement of funeral leave for faculty will place the funeral leave policy in the Faculty Handbook and will return personal leave to its original purpose.

**Faculty Senate Motion 5-4-12:** It is moved that the Faculty Senate support the Benefits Committee's proposal.

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

4. Dates and times for 2012-13 Senate meetings:

**Summer 2012:** Tuesday, June 19, 3:00 pm and Tuesday July, 17, 3:00 pm  
**Fall 2012:** Friday, August 24, 2:00 pm; Friday, September 28, 2:00 pm; Friday, October 26, 2:00 pm; Friday, November 16, 2:00 pm; and Friday, December 7, 2:00 pm

**Spring 2013:** Friday, January 25, 2:00 pm; Friday, February 22, 2:00 pm; Friday, March 29, 2:00 pm; Friday, April 19, 2:00 pm; and Friday, May 3, 2:00

5. Senate committee assignments for 2012-13: President Esjornson passed out sign up sheets for Senate Committee assignments. He requested that Senators indicate their preference for committee memberships. Senators filled out the sheets and returned them to President Esjornson at the conclusion of the meeting.

**X. ADJOURNMENT:** 2:35 p.m.

**Next Faculty Senate meeting:  
Tuesday, June 22, 3:00 pm in EDU 201**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Kevin Collins, FS President

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Fred Gates, FS Secretary

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David Esjornson, FS President

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Eric Paul, FS Secretary