



10-25-2013

October 25, 2013 Approved Minutes

SWOSU Faculty Senate

Abstract

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Recommended Citation

SWOSU Faculty Senate, "October 25, 2013 Approved Minutes" (2013). *Faculty Senate Minutes*. 175.
<https://dc.swosu.edu/fsminutes/175>

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Approved Minutes
Southwestern Oklahoma State University
FACULTY SENATE October 25, 2013—2:00 pm EDU 201

I. CALL TO ORDER: Faculty Senate President Fred Gates called the October meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 2:04 PM in Education 201.

II. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM: The following members were present: Arden Aspedon, David Bessinger, Tammy Blatnik, John Bradshaw, Kathy Brooks, Tommye Davis, Ralph May (for Jerry Dunn), Jon Woltz (for Jason Dupree), Jared Edwards, David Esjornson, Fred Gates, Warren Moseley (for Marci Grant), Lisa Boggs (for Andrea Holgado), Siriporn Peters (for E.K. Jeong), Tiffany Kessler, Ed Klein, Jim Long, Scott Long, Tom McNamara, Evette Meliza, Krista Brooks (for Kristin Montarella), Cynthia Pena, Les Ramos, Ann Russell, Lisa Schroeder, Amber Sturgeon, Jeff Walker (for Trisha Wald), Dennis Widen, Curt Woolever, Jessica Young, and Taylor Kincannon (for Blaine Boyd, SGA).

III. CERTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTES: Ralph May for Jerry Dunn, Jon Woltz for Jason Dupree, Warren Moseley for Marci Grant, Lisa Boggs for Andrea Holgado, Siriporn Peters for E.K. Jeong, Krista Brooks for Kristin Montarella, Jeff Walker for Trisha Wald, and Taylor Kincannon for Blaine Boyd.

IV. PRESENTATION OF VISITORS: none.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The September minutes were approved by a voice vote.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. President Fred Gates

1. From the Executive Council meeting of October 14, 2013.
 - a. Human Resources Director David Misak reported that the Option Period went relatively well but people need to be a bit more patient when waiting to meet with a representative. Next year HR will attempt to have a station specifically for people not making changes to their benefit plan.
 - b. Vice President Tom Fagan reported that budget projections for the end of FY 2013 indicate that the university will have about \$1,000,000 in surplus at the beginning of FY 2014. The top priority for FY 2014 will be addressing compensation. The administration would like to fund some type of cost of living raise each year. The administration also wants to address CUPA inequities as this is causing difficulty in both retention of quality faculty and recruitment of new faculty. The long term worry is

declining enrollment and when the downward trend will end. Most budget assumptions are made on a minimum enrollment of 130,000 credit hours per year. As such, enrollment management is becoming a concern.

- c. The Provost reported that SWOSU is having the same issues as other RUSO schools concerning online courses. Issues such as academic rigor, financial feasibility, marketing, etc. are being discussed by the Provosts of the RUSO institutions. One issue these discussions have revealed is that SWOSU is on the lower end of distance learning fees even with the recent increase.
 - d. President Beutler reported that the Board of Regents will meet on campus November 7th and 8th. Everyone is welcome to attend the open meeting.
2. From the Administrative Council meeting of October 14, 2013.
- a. There was an extensive discussion of the recent lockdown. Chief Bolar reported that everything went quite smoothly and that everyone needs to be aware that there are two types of lockdown: active shooter on campus and potential threat. In the event of an active shooter it is a complete lockdown—no one in or out. Legally we can keep people inside on lockdown but if they are going to cause trouble, let them go but warn them and insist that they stay to cover the university's liability. If you can't get into a building after the lockdown you should leave campus immediately. Faculty also need to be aware that students who miss class and/or labs because of a lockdown should be allowed to make up any missed work. Also, everyone needs to register for the alert system to insure maximum information distribution.
 - b. Flu shots are available for \$15.00 from Health Services located in the Wellness Center from 8-12 and 1-5 Monday through Friday. Contact Laura Smith for more information if necessary.
 - c. Training has begun on CANVAS with more sessions scheduled in the future. Also, the training sessions are being recorded if you cannot make a session.
 - d. SWOSU was relatively unaffected by the partial government shutdown. The main issues were inability to e-verify employment applicants and the inability to access state health records.
 - e. The Dean of Students reported that the allocation of student fees is now complete. There were \$214,000 in requests for the available \$56,000. She also reported that the Council of Presidents has been reinstated for the clubs, and the students seem eager to work together.

- f. Kathy Megli of the Staff Council reported that the Staff Recognition reception will be held Thursday October 31st from 10-11 a.m. in the Student Union Ballroom and encourages everyone to attend.
 - g. Registrar Daniel Archer reported that Cody Dupler has been hired as the new Veterans Administration coordinator.
 - h. Bulk mailing is changing in the next few months. This will primarily affect departments that print and attach their own labels. More information to come.
 - i. SWOSU Saturday is November 2nd. If departments want contacts for potential majors please contact Todd Boyd's office.
 - j. Brian Adler reported that the Panorama Committee is back to square one on who will open the new Event Center. The committee had been in discussions with Reba McEntire but she declined. Any suggestions are welcome
 - k. Homecoming is October 26th. President Beutler announced the two Presidential Merit recipients: Judge Dean Linder and Gary England.
 - l. Lynn Thurman announced that the SWOSU Foundation has updated alumni lists and she will be happy to share those updated lists with any department that wants them.
 - m. Dean Ken Rose announced that the School of Nursing and Allied Health will be offering a new minor program in EMT training designed to train paramedics. He also reported that the Accounting program is applying for accreditation.
3. From the Provost meeting of October 22, 2013:
- a. The provost would like to know if there are any objections to dropping the W/P and W/F options from the drop form and making it a straight W for all withdrawals. The Regents dropped this terminology years ago.
 - b. International Student enrollment is on the rise and will continue to rise. They are required to take the TOEFL and receive a benchmark score set by the Regents prior to their enrollment at SWOSU. Most take the exam in their home countries. However, I brought it to the Provost's attention that several instructors including myself have encountered international students who seemingly don't speak very good English nor do they seem to understand written English. Should this be a topic of discussion and should SWOSU look into the possibility of retesting these students upon arrival on campus?

