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January 30, 2015 Minutes

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University

Faculty Senate Meeting January 30, 2015

Approved Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER: Faculty Senate President Evette Meliza called the January meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 2:02 pm in Education 201.

II. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM: The following senators were in attendance: Jimena Aracena, David Bessinger, Tammy Blatnik, John Bradshaw, Brad Bryant, Tommye Davis (Sayre), Stacey DiPaolo, Ralph May (for Jerry Dunn), Jared Edwards, Fred Gates, Tiffany Kessler, Jon Henrikson (for Doug Linder) Jim Long, Scott Long, Kris Mahlock, Tom McNamara, Evette Meliza, Kristin Montarella (OKC), Bo Pagliasotti, Cynthia Pena. Linda Pye, Les Ramos, Ann Russell, Lisa Schroeder, Holly McKee (for Karen Sweeney), Wayne Trail, and Trisha Wald.

III. CERTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTES: Jon Henrikson substituted for Doug Linder, Ralph May replaced Jerry Dunn, and Holly McKee attended instead of Karen Sweeney.

IV. PRESENTATION OF VISITORS: No visitors were at the meeting.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the December 5, 2014 meeting were approved after a voice vote following a minor amendment. The Administrative Council was incorrectly listed as the Academic Council.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. President Evette Meliza

1. From the Executive Council meeting of January 12, 2015:
 - a. SWOSU is sponsoring Oklahoma Baptist University for admission to the NCAA and the Great American Conference. GAC would then consist of six Oklahoma and six Arkansas schools. Academic requirements will be changing by 2016 in the NCAA.
 - b. President Beutler, Mr. Fagan, and Dr. South plan to visit with all faculty groups again this year to discuss the budget.
 - c. A tax cut, tied to the economic situation, has been passed by the Legislature. If the economy is healthy, the cut will be triggered. This cut will have a \$50 million negative effect for this fiscal year. The ultimate loss will be \$150 million.
 - d. The State Equalization Board bases its estimate of income on oil prices at \$60 a barrel. If revenue is less than anticipated, the Legislature will take money from other funds. They have used all the one-time money available. Mr. Fagan is not confident that the State has correctly estimated its revenue.
 - e. The Foundation has an emergency reserve fund for students who are in a financial crisis. If you know of students who need to access this fund, please have them contact the Foundation.
 - f. David Misak talked about the new ethic rules that took effect this month. Rule 3 concerns financial disclosure, Rule 4 addresses conflict of interest. If you are on a committee that awards contracts to companies, please be aware of these rules.

2. There was no Administrative Council meeting this month.
3. From the Provost:
 - a. In the next two weeks, the Associate Provost and Vice President for Student Affairs positions should be filled.
 - b. Dr. South provided information concerning summer compensation, course overload salary structure, and online course enrollment. Faculty Senate received a letter from Northeastern State University Faculty Council requesting this information.
 - c. Language in the Faculty Handbook continues to be reviewed for errors.

B. Secretary/Treasurer Tom McNamara

1. Roll Sheet: Please make sure all in attendance have signed the roll sheet..

2. Treasurer's Report:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a. BancFirst Checking Account: | December Meeting Balance: \$1865.94 |
| | CURRENT BALANCE: \$1865.94 |
| b. University Account: | December Meeting balance: \$105.01 |
| | CURRENT BALANCE: \$105.01 |

C. President-Elect Jared Edwards: Nothing to report at this time.

D. Past President Fred Gates: The Oklahoma State Legislature is in session. The Chancellor and President Beutler will be mindful of any bills that could affect higher education. The SWOSU Faculty Senate will be kept informed, and senators are urged to share this information with their departments. Faculty are encouraged to contact their state representatives regarding pending legislation. This should be done using private computers and personal e-mail accounts rather than university resources.

E. Student Government Representative: There was no Student Government Representative at the meeting.

VII. REPORTS FROM STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEES: No reports were presented.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was no unfinished business from the December meeting.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

Faculty Senate Motion 2015-01-01: Individual Departments shall be allowed to coordinate the purchase and installation of computer software.

Rationale:

1. Most currently used programs are available for download immediately upon purchase.
2. Many programs may be unique to a discipline, with those faculty being very familiar with their installation, updates, and capabilities.
3. Most software companies provide online or telephone tech support.
4. Departments (or at least Colleges) have faculty who are "tech savvy" and can aid other faculty in their download and updates.
5. This would allow individuals, departments, or colleges to receive updates immediately

- upon their release or in a timely fashion.
6. Decrease the workload of ITS, allowing it to focus on the installation of new faculty and laboratory computers and troubleshooting emergency tech-related problems.
 7. Possible eliminate some of the problems ITS may have to deal with in the Mac vs. PC issues.
 8. Frees ITS from having to deal with individual requests/needs for specific updates or versions of installed software.
 9. Improved efficiency of both faculty, departments, colleges, and ITS by allowing timely purchase, installation, and/or updates of necessary software.
 10. Reflects fiscal responsibility by improving efficiency and productivity of SWOSU faculty and staff.

The motion passed following a voice vote.

X. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 pm.

**Next meeting 2:00 pm
Friday, February 27, 2015**

Respectfully Submitted,
Evette Meliza, Faculty Senate President
Tom McNamara, Faculty Senate Secretary