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Faculty Senate Minutes

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3-25-2016

March 25, 2016 Minutes

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SWOSU Faculty Senate

March 25, 2016 Approved Minutes

- I. **Call to Order:** Faculty Senate President Jared Edwards called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm in HEC 201.
- II. **Establishment of a Quorum:** Tammy Blatnick, John Bradshaw, Krista Brooks, Brad Bryant, Lisa Castle, Dayna Coker (via ITV), Tommye Davis (via ITV), Stacey DiPaolo, Jerry Dunn, Jared Edwards, Kristin Griffeath, Ryan Haggard, Edna Patanian (via ITV) (for Tiffany Kessler), Sunu Kodumthara, Ron Koehn, Doug Linder, Jim Long, Scott Long, Kris Mahlock, Tom McNamara, Evette Meliza, Bo Pagliasotti, Linda Pye, Hardeep Saluja (for Les Ramos), Ann Russell, Lisa Schroeder, Jeremy Evert (for Karen Sweeney), Marcy Tanner, Wayne Trail, Trisha Wald and Austin Cantrell.
- III. **Certification of Substitutes:** Edna Patanian for Tiffany Kessler, Hardeep Saluja for Les Ramos, and Jeremy Evert for Karen Sweeney.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes approved by acclamation.
- V. **Announcements**
 - a. **President Jared Edwards**
 - i. *Executive Council Meeting of 3/7/16*
 1. Extensive discussion was held on the multiple budget cuts experienced both for the initial budget and at following budget cuts due to revenue failures.
 - a) Our increase in enrollment and tuition increase almost covered our cuts.
 - b) Vice President Fagan shared his concern that the real goal was to get through FY 2017 without leaving too little reserves to work with for FY2018.
 - c) Vice President Fagan shared that priorities during financial difficulties are
 - i) Faculty in Classrooms
 - ii) Scholarships
 - iii) Student Employment
 - iv) Technology
 2. Retention initiatives were emphasized
 - a) The Bridge Program
 - b) Supplemental Instruction (merged with the Orientation Leader Program)
 - c) Changes in Advising

ii. Administrative Council Meeting of 3/7/16

1. Housing Contracts are increasing
2. There will be a health fair on April 6th, watch for details.
3. Faculty Survey of Student Engagement will be available 3/29. We are encouraged to complete it.
4. Accessibility training videos are being produced.
5. 1,834 fully admitted incoming students(200 ahead of last year's pace)
6. The 1st NSO is full, and the 2nd is almost full
7. 159 prospective students visited in February
8. 79 schools signed up for SWIM
9. Nate Downs is the new director of the Pioneer Cellular Event Center
10. Retirement takes 3 ½ to 4 months to process (please let HR know if you are planning to retire)
11. Reminder that drives, sidewalks, and parking lots are maintained through a dedicated fee
12. A new "Shopping Sheet" is available to students through Campus Connect. It allows them to calculate cost relative to their own financial aid package.
13. April 15th is the deadline for graduation applications to be included in the commencement program.
14. There will be a new 10 week, self-paced course in the summer to prepare students to retest relative to remediation.
15. Vice President Fagan stated that "Furloughs and Work Force reductions are simply not our style."

iii. Meeting with Provost on 3/21/16

1. The retrenchment policy is still being considered for next year under worst case scenarios which could be across the board faculty cuts and/or targeted cuts based on numbers within departments.
2. Early retirement may be offered to those who are close enough to retirement to offer a financial advantage and who are departments facing loss of faculty lines.
3. Dr. South asked for the Senate to consider current policy or lack of policy related to penalties for academic dishonesty and students' ability to make up work missed for university sponsored travel (see new business).

b. Secretary/Treasurer Trisha Wald

- i. Roll Sheet—please sign
- ii. Treasurer's Report
 1. Banc First
 - a. February Balance: \$1408.74
 - b. Current Balance: \$1408.74
 2. University Account
 - a. February Balance: \$105.01

- b. Current Balance: \$105.01
 - c. **President-Elect Tom McNamara**: Nothing to report.
 - d. **Past President Evette Meliza**: Nothing to report.
 - e. **Student Government President Austin Cantrell**: Nothing to report.
- VI. Reports from Standing and Ad Hoc Committees:**
- a. **Report from the Nominations Committee**—See Appendix A (Scott Long).
 - b. **Report from Personnel Policies Committee** (Wayne Trail): The committee has not yet reached a conclusion and will report back in April.

VII. Unfinished Business

- a. (Tabled at the January Meeting) Due to concerns stemming from the perception that the Faculty Senate discussion regarding international students has resulted in no specific action, it is proposed the Faculty Senate authorize the following actions in given order:
 - i. The President of the Faculty Senate shall seek specific information on the current timetable for addressing the successful transition of international students.
 - ii. If there is no clear plan and/or timetable to form an advisory board to address these and other major concerns, the President of the Faculty Senate shall request that an advisory board be established as soon as possible.
 - iii. If the university administration does not form an advisory board by January 29, 2016, then the Faculty Senate shall organize an advisory board to analyze concerns and provide recommendations to the administration.

Motion was taken off the table with no opposition. After discussion, said motion was called to question and unanimously failed.

VIII. New Business

- a. Discussion of the composition of the International Student Task Force
 - i. **Faculty Senate Motion 2016-03-01**: Faculty Senate requests that the Senate receive at least one seat on the International Student Task Force.
 - i. Motion was unanimously approved.
 - ii. **Faculty Senate Motion 2016-03-02**: Faculty Senate moves that Dr. Muatasem Ubeidat and Dr. Cynthia Pena, pending their approval, serve as representatives of the Faculty Senate on the International Student Task Force.
 - i. Motion was unanimously approved.
- b. Dr. South has asked the Senate to consider:
 - i. Policy regarding coursework and student travel for university events.
 - i. After discussion, no motions were made.
 - ii. The policy regarding academic dishonesty and faculty determination of penalties
 - i. **Faculty Senate Motion 2016-03-03**: Faculty Senate endorses the current policy on academic dishonesty.
 - 1. Motion was unanimously approved.
- c. Resolution Regarding the SWOSU Bridge Program (see Appendix B):

- i. **Faculty Senate Motion 2016-03-04:** Whereas the members of the SWOSU Faculty Senate are most concerned regarding the creation of a new academic division by this administration with no faculty input whatsoever,

Whereas the announcement of SWOSU Bridge was conducted in a manner deliberately embarrassing to the faculty involved in remediation,

Whereas the SWOSU Bridge will involve yet another new administrator,

Whereas the administration of SWOSU has repeatedly added new members to its ranks in difficult financial times and even appointed these administrators to positions in departments that had no input in their hiring,

Whereas the general tone of the administration has been one of contempt for faculty,

Whereas the SWOSU administration has abandoned any semblance of shared governance, therefore,

Be it resolved that the SWOSU Faculty Senate condemns the actions of the administration, condemns the creation of SWOSU Bridge, and calls for immediate removal of the plan to create the SWOSU Bridge division.

- i. Motion was voted on using a ballot count. Results of said ballot count were 6 in favor, 1 abstention and 21 against. Motion failed.

IX. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 3:20 by a voice vote with no opposition.

X. **Next meeting:** Friday, April 29, 2016

Appendix A

Report of the Faculty Senate Nominating Committee 25 March 2016

There are a total of twenty-nine (29) committee openings on University committees with Faculty Senate involvement. These are as follows:

Academic Appeals Committee -- Reviews the procedural fairness of an instructor's grading policy upon the filing of a written student academic appeal. The committee also reviews student requests to change a grade to a withdrawal (W) or grade change requests in the event that the instructor of record is no longer employed by the university.

Five (5) openings

Academic Suspension Appeals Council -- Develops policies governing student advisement within the framework of Regents' retention regulations, and serves as an appellate committee on student academic status. The council meets before classes start each semester (fall, spring, and summer) and other meetings are scheduled as needed.

Three (3) openings – Faculty Senate nominates “at least three” candidates

Appellate Committee on Dismissal of Tenured Faculty and Grievance Committee -- Hears appeals of dismissed tenured faculty members when hearings are requested, and hears grievances when filed.

Five (5) openings – Faculty must be tenured to serve on this committee

Benefits Committee -- Promotes programs that will contribute to the health and wellness of all University employees and their families; studies and reviews all employee benefit programs at Southwestern Oklahoma State University and makes this information available to SWOSU community; gathers faculty and staff input on all University benefit programs; and reviews annually University-sponsored benefits, and the RUSO benefit programs, and make recommendations through proper channels regarding such benefits.\

Three (3) openings – College Specific, the following are needed

Pharmacy – one (1) opening

Arts and Sciences – one (1) opening

Professional and Graduate – one (1) opening

Bernhardt Award Selection Committee -- Selects an outstanding faculty member to recognize.

Three (3) openings, College Specific

Professional and Graduate – one (1) opening

Associate and Applied – one (1) opening

Pharmacy – one (1) opening

Arts and Sciences – Dr. Kevin Collins

Campus Environmental Committee -- Promotes environmental awareness, resource conservation, and recycling of certain materials.

One (1) opening

Excellence in Teaching and Learning Committee - Supports the CETL mission in their commitment to student learning and quality education by engaging faculty in reflective practices promoting innovations in teaching and learning in traditional and online formats. ETLC collaborates with faculty to foster a dialogue about teaching strategies, methods, and policy recommendations which promote student learning and academic quality. ETLC will meet regularly either in person, virtually, or both.

Three (3) openings, College Specific

Pharmacy – one (1) opening

Professional and Graduate – one (1) opening

Arts and Sciences – one (1) opening

Faculty Development Committee -- Encourages excellence in teaching and scholarly activities. This committee will offer programs to enable the faculty to improve personal and professional qualities as educators. Program content will encompass: teaching, research, and new faculty orientation.

Two (2) openings, College Specific

Arts and Sciences – one (1) opening

Associate and Applied – one (1) opening

Financial Assistance Advisory and Appeals Committee -- Acts as an advisory committee to the student financial assistance officer, hears appeals, and recommends disposition of student grievances related to financial assistance awards.

One (1) opening

Intellectual Property Committee -- Disseminates information to the faculty regarding laws and policies regarding copyrights and the use of intellectual property. The Committee monitors general University compliance.

Three (3) openings

FACULTY SENATE OPENINGS

President-Elect

Secretary-Treasurer

Senators – There is a discrepancy regarding current senators and their term expirations.

According to the University Standing Committees List, the following senators terms expire at the end of this academic year:

Arts and Sciences – Dr. Pena, Mr. Bradshaw, Dr. Bessinger (not a senator?) Dr.

Aspedon (retired and not here)

Pharmacy – Drs. Kessler and Ramos

Associate and Applied – Ms. Davis

Professional and Graduate – Ms. Young, Dr. Meliza, Dr. Edwards, Ms. Wald,

Dr. Wald, Mr. Bryant, and Ms. Blatnick

However, according to the Faculty Senate Information, the following senators terms expire at the end of this academic year:

Arts and Sciences – Dr. Castle (Biology), Mr. Bradshaw and Dr. Pena (Language and Literature), Dr. Bessinger (Music – not a senator?)

Pharmacy – Drs. Kessler and Ramos

Associate and Applied – Ms. Coker

Professional and Graduate – Mr. Mahlock (Allied Health), Dr. Meliza (Education), Dr. Edwards (Psychology), Dr. Wald (Computer Science/Entrepreneurship), Mr. Bryant (Industrial/Engineering Technology), and Ms. Blatnick (Nursing)

Respectfully Submitted,
Scott F. Long, R.Ph., Ph.D.
Chair, Nominations Committee

Appendix B

Faculty Senate Resolution

Whereas the members of the SWOSU Faculty Senate are most concerned regarding the creation of a new academic division by this administration with no faculty input whatsoever,

Whereas the announcement of SWOSU Bridge was conducted in a manner deliberately embarrassing to the faculty involved in remediation,

Whereas the SWOSU Bridge will involve yet another new administrator,

Whereas the administration of SWOSU has repeatedly added new members to its ranks in difficult financial times and even appointed these administrators to positions in departments that had no input in their hiring,

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Whereas the SWOSU administration has abandoned any semblance of shared governance, therefore,

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