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Faculty Senate Minutes

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6-21-2016

June 21, 2016 Minutes

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SWOSU Faculty Senate

June 21, 2016 Minutes (Unapproved)

- I. **Call to Order:** Faculty Senate President Tom McNamara called the June meeting of the Faculty Senate to Order at 3:00 p.m. in HEC 201.
- II. **Establishment of a Quorum:** The following members were in attendance: Ric Baugher, Tammy Blatnick, Krista Brooks, Tommye Davis (via ITV), Jerry Dunn, Jared Edwards, Robin Griffeth, Eric Pritchard for Ryan Haggard, Rita Hays, Carie Strauch for LeaAnne Hume, Sunu Kodumthara, Ron Koehn, Doug Linder, Scott Long, Tom McNamara, Evette Meliza, Bo Pagliasotti, Andrea Holgado for Eric Paul and Muatasem Ubeidat, Fred Alsberg for Cynthia Pena, Linda Pye, Hank Ramsey, Ann Russell, Hardeep Saluja, Lisa Schroeder, Amanda Smith, Karen, Sweeney, Cheri Walker (via ITV), and Jessica Young.
- III. **Certification of Substitutes:** Carie Strauch will be attending in place of LeaAnne Hume, Fred Alsberg will serve as a substitute for Cynthia Pena, and Andrea Holgado will be here instead of Eric Paul and Muatasem Ubeidat from the department of Biology.
- IV. **Presentation of Visitors:** No visitors present.
- V. **Approval of Minutes:** April 29 minutes approved via a voice vote with no opposition. May 2 minutes approved by voice vote as amended, Ric Baugher will replace Cindi Albrightson as representative for Industrial and Engineering Technology.
- VI. **Procedural Matters**
 - A. **Robert's Rules:** Continue utilizing the modified version of Robert's Rules via voice vote with no opposition.
 - B. **Archivist:** Linda Pye to continue serving as Archivist via voice vote with no opposition.
 - C. **Parliamentarian:** Ric Baugher will serve as Parliamentarian via voice vote with no opposition.
- VII. **Announcements**
 - A. President Tom McNamara
 1. Executive Council Meeting of 6/6/2016
 - a) In FY2017, higher education was subjected to a 16% cut in funding from the state of Oklahoma. This is in addition to reductions from FY2016. SWOSU will be receiving \$3.6 million less in appropriations.
 - b) There will be a 9.8% increase in tuition from \$194 per credit hour to \$213. Combined with reserve spending and an enrollment increase, this should keep SWOSU's revenue adequate for the needs of the current year.
 - c) 1¢ sales tax proposal could help, but there is no guarantee it will pass.
 - d) Concurrent enrollment was subsidized at ~70% by OSHRE. The fund used for that was "raided" as part of the state budget process. The new figure will be ~40%.
 - e) Three committees will be formed to examine budgeting and revenue concerns.

2. Administrative Council of 10/12/2015
 - a) A new Leadership Weatherford class will be starting. Contact Cindy Dougherty or Doug Misak for more details.
 - b) The Summer 2016 semester has seen a double digit enrollment increase. The Fall 2016 semester should see a 5% increase.
3. Meeting with Provost on 6/16/2016
 - a) Computer replacement will be deferred next year. Macs will be replaced one year less frequently than PCs.
 - b) AEF funds will be used to supplement departmental budgets in CAS and CGPS. Technology funds will be distributed to CoP and CAAP.
 - c) The administration has a reply concerning the April 2016 motion on the SWOSU Bridge Program. See the attached letter in Appendix B.

B. Secretary/Treasurer Karen Sweeney

1. Roll Sheet—please sign
2. Treasurer’s Report
 - a) Banc First
 - (1) May Balance: \$1408.74
 - (2) Current Balance: \$1408.74
 - b) University Account
 - (1) May Balance: \$105.01
 - (2) Current Balance: \$105.01

C. President-Elect Jerry Dunn: Nothing to report at this time.

D. Past President Jared Edwards: Nothing to report at this time.

E. Student Government Representative: The SGA did not have a representative at the meeting.

VIII. **Reports from Standing and Ad Hoc Committees:** No reports.

IX. **Unfinished Business:** From April 26, 2016 meeting: The Faculty Senate Judiciary Committee will examine any changes that need to be made to the Faculty Senate Constitution so that a non-voting senate seat is created for appointment by the Staff Council of SWOSU.

X. **New Business:**

- A. Volunteers for the Academic committee on budget and revenue. The committee should comprise 4 faculty members from CPGS, 3 from A & S, 1 from COP, 1 from CAAP, and 1 from the Library.

Based on feedback from senators, the Faculty Senate has recommended that Randy Barnett, Trisha Wald, and Evette Meliza represent CPGS, John Hayden and Muatasem Ubeidat represent CAS, and Linda Pye serve for the Library.

- B. Please complete the preference sheet for Faculty Senate Committee Assignments listed in Appendix A.

IX. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom McNamara, Faculty Senate President

Karen Sweeney, Faculty Senate Secretary

Next Meeting Tuesday, July 19th at 3:00 pm

Appendix A

Committee Preferences

Please select three of the following committees. Each senator will likely be serving on two.

1. **Audit Committee:** Audits the financial activities of the Faculty Senate
2. **Budget and Program Committee:** Evaluates the distribution of university funds
3. **Curriculum Committee:** Advises and makes recommendations regarding all curricular issues
4. **Judiciary Committee:** Answers questions regarding the intent and meaning of the Faculty Senate Constitution
5. **Nominating Committee:** Organizes elections for selected university standing committees
6. **Personnel Policies Committee:** Makes recommendations regarding policies related to faculty tenure, promotion, class loads, salary and benefits, and dismissal
7. **Student Affairs Committee:** Advises and makes recommendations regarding all matters relating to the student body and student policies.
8. **University Policies Committee:** Advises and makes recommendations concerning university policies relating to the academic calendar, schedules, faculty handbook, and university matters not assigned to other Faculty Senate committees.

Appendix B

The following letter was presented at the Executive Committee meeting on June 16, 2016. It is the administration's response to Faculty Senate Motion 2016-04-04.



Randy L. Beutler, President

June 15, 2016

Dear Members of the SWOSU Faculty Senate:

We understand the concerns expressed in the Faculty Senate resolution passed on April 26, 2016 regarding the SWOSU Academic Bridge Program, and we appreciate that you have brought those concerns forward. In this case, we believe that time is of the essence, and we cannot delay implementation. To the extent that we can make progress in remediation and retention, we will have fewer cuts to make in our budget.

We are in a financial crisis and there are no other options but to get better at retention immediately in order to carry out the goals of the State Regents and our governing board, to help our students succeed, and to strengthen our financial position. The depth of the financial crisis in our state is historic, and the longer we delay, the more difficult the challenges that will come.

Change is difficult, and recognizing the need for change is also difficult. Our past success in remediation and retention has not been what we want and need it to be. However, what we are dealing with in this instance is not college curriculum. This is college preparation that deals with a very vulnerable population which we are only now beginning to understand – a population that we have an obligation to help.

To implement the program, a director will be hired and also teach half-time in the program. We do not anticipate additional hires beyond what we already incur for remedial courses. Indeed, if the program is successful, we will eventually have lower overall costs in developmental courses if we can increase student success and have fewer repeats of these courses. Most importantly, we will move more students into college-level courses and more of the teaching at SWOSU will be in college-level courses, a win-win.

Once a director is hired, implementation of the program will be driven by this person and the teaching faculty. The expertise of the faculty will be essential to make this initiative successful. Criterion for assessment will also be clear, and we will continue to monitor the percentage of students passing remedial classes (and length of time required), and the percentage of students successfully completing college level courses in the same discipline (and length of time required).

It has often been said that leadership in good times is easy. Leadership in hard times is the most difficult. As we all strive to do what is best for our students, the university, and the citizens of Oklahoma, let us always keep in mind our belief that every student has value and our obligation that everyone should have a chance at success. We believe that our Academic Bridge Program is the best response to this problem at this time.

Sincerely,

Randy L. Beutler, President
James South, Provost and VPAA