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Faculty Senate Minutes

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8-26-2016

## August 26, 2016 Minutes

SWOSU Faculty Senate

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### Recommended Citation

SWOSU Faculty Senate, "August 26, 2016 Minutes" (2016). *Faculty Senate Minutes*. 209.  
<https://dc.swosu.edu/fsminutes/209>

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# SWOSU Faculty Senate

August 26, 2016 Approved Minutes

- I. **Call to Order:** Faculty Senate President Tom McNamara called the August meeting of the Faculty Senate to Order at 2:03 p.m. in HEC 201.
- II. **Establishment of a Quorum:** Ric Baugher, Tammy Blatnick, Krista Brooks, Dayna Coker via ITV, Tommye Davis via ITV, Stacey DiPaolo, Jerry Dunn, Jared Edwards, Robin Griffeath, Eric Prichard for Ryan Haggard, Rita Hays, LeaAnne Hume, Becky Bruce for Sunu Kodumthara, Guy Biyogmam for Ron Koehn, Doug Linder, Scott Long, Tom McNamara, Evette Meliza, Bo Pagliasotti, Eric Paul, Cynthia Pena, Linda Pye, Hank Ramsey, Ann Russell, Hardeep Saluja, Lisa Schroeder, Amanda Smith, Karen Sweeney, Wayne Trail, Muatasem Ubeidat, Cheri Walker via ITV, Jessica Young.
- III. **Certification of Substitutes:** Eric Prichard will attend the meeting in place of Ryan Haggard. Becky Bruce will be here instead of Sunu Kodumthara. Guy Biyogmam will take the place of Ron Koehn.
- IV. **Presentation of Visitors:** Veronica McGowan, CETL Coordinator, came to observe and introduce herself.
- V. **Approval of Minutes:** July 19 minutes approved by voice vote as amended by correction of two spelling name errors.
- VI. **Announcements**
  - A. President Tom McNamara
    1. The Executive and Administrative Councils did not meet in August.
    2. The Mathematics Department has asked the Guy Biyogmam serve out the term of Ron Koehn. Dr. Koehn has recently been appointed director of the SWOSU Bridge Program.
    3. From the Provost 8/24/2016
      - a) The 13 member consortium has voted for the Blue Cross Blue Shield administered “self-funded” plan. SWOSU will cover employees cost for the white (mid-level) plan. Faculty and staff will have the option of buying up to the red (high) plan for approximately \$50 per month.
      - b) The Executive Committee voiced concerns on Student Evaluations of Instructors. Among these were the response rate for online evaluations, inclusion of bonus coupons, and the window of time when online evaluations are accessible. This is work in progress and any feedback would be appreciated.
      - c) Changes to the Faculty Handbook:
        - (1) The organization chart will be updated.
        - (2) The creation process for several committees will be clarified.
      - d) Slides from the Faculty Workshop are available for perusal. Contact your department chair.
      - e) Concurrently enrolled students can be identified from the roster on Campus Connect. Look for a column labeled “C” on the left hand side. Note that these people do not go through Freshmen Orientation and may need assistance accessing Canvas and student e-mail.

- B. Secretary/Treasurer Karen Sweeney
  - 1. Roll Sheet—please sign
  - 2. Treasurer’s Report
    - a) Banc First
      - (1) July Balance: \$1,408.74
        - (a) Deposit : \$1,040.00 (dues)
        - (b) Withdrawal: \$120.00 (change for dues collection)
        - (c) Withdrawal: \$650.00 (service plaques)
        - (d) Withdrawal \$8.11 (receipt book)
      - (2) Current Balance: \$1,670.63
    - b) University Account
      - (1) July Balance: \$105.01
      - (2) Current Balance: \$105.01
- C. President-Elect Jerry Dunn: Nothing to report.
- D. Past President Jared Edwards: Nothing to report.
- E. Student Government Representative: The SGA did not have a representative at the meeting.

**VII. Reports from Standing and Ad Hoc Committees:**

**VIII. Unfinished Business:**

- A. A vote on amending the Faculty Senate Constitution so that a non-voting senate seat is created for appointment by the Staff Council of SWOSU is underway.
  - 1. Use the second email to vote; 2/3 majority of the vote not the number of faculty. Please vote!

**IX. New Business:**

- A. **Motion 2016-08-01:** A section entitled “suggestions for improvement,” in addition to strengths and weaknesses, shall be added to the continuance form.
  - 1. **Rational:** Discern suggestions above and beyond the good work faculty is already doing from the constructive criticism and correction implied in the “weaknesses” section.
    - a) Motion passed to replace “weaknesses” to “weaknesses/suggestions for improvement” to the continuance form. The motion passed with a show of hands.
- B. **Point of Information:** It is asked that the Faculty Senate (or other appropriate body) clarify the university’s definition of “abstain.” It seems this term is used to mean different things in different committees ,i.e., an “abstain” vote is a “no” vote in Tenure and Promotion, yet it is simply a non-vote in Academic Appeals.
- C. **Motion 2016-08-02:** Move that the administration consider returning to the previous semester schedule whereby classes begin on Wednesday rather than Monday, creating a weekend break during final exams. The motion failed by voice vote.

**X. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom McNamara, Faculty Senate President  
Karen Sweeney, Faculty Senate Secretary

**Next Meeting Friday, September 30th at 2:00 pm**