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Faculty Senate Minutes

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11-18-2016

## November 18, 2016 Minutes

SWOSU Faculty Senate

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# SWOSU Faculty Senate

November 18, 2016 Approved Minutes

- I. **Call to Order:** Faculty Senate President Tom McNamara called the November meeting of the SWOSU Faculty Senate to Order at 2:02 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, Ryan Haggard, Rita Hays, LeaAnne Hume, Sunu Kodumthara, Guy Biyogmam, Doug Linder, Tom McNamara, Dana Oliver for Evette Meliza, Bo Pagliasotti, Eric Paul, Kevin Collins for Cynthia Pena, Jon Woltz for Linda Pye, Hank Ramsey, Ann Russell, Hardeep Saluja, Lisa Schroeder, Amanda Smith, Karen Sweeney, Wayne Trail, Muatasem Ubeidat, Cheri Walker via ITV, and Jessica Young.
- III. **Certification of Substitutes:** Jon Woltz will attend in place of Linda Pye. Kevin Collins will replace Cynthia Pena. Dana Oliver will be here instead of Evette Meliza.
- IV. **Presentation of Visitors:** None
- V. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes approved by voice vote.
- VI. **Announcements**
  - A. President Tom McNamara
    1. The SWOSU budget is meeting expectations. The State's equalization board will meet in early December and again in February. If revenue collected falls below 95% of the estimate, cuts will be triggered.
    2. President Beutler expects weapons on campus to be revisited in the coming legislative session. Texas has passed legislation allowing this. Private universities were given an opt-out. All of them exercised it. The president suggests that this body draft a letter establishing the SWOSU Faculty's position on the matter.
    3. ITS is moving forward with the computer system upgrade. The current system is not compatible with some useful modules. Tech money has been set aside for this already. This might mean using Jenzabar EX, an upgraded version of our current product. Alternatives include Ellucian Colleague and Ellucian Banner. The administration wants a contract signed by April 2017 in order for the system to go live May 2018.
    4. Course evaluations will be available online from November 21st through December 9th.
    5. SWOSU's Employee Assistance Program provides counselling services for spouses and dependents.
    6. FAFSA can be completed as early as October.
    7. Dean Dougherty will be stepping down as Leadership Weatherford Chair.
    8. Title IX training will begin soon. Watch for the module on Canvas.
    9. Spring enrollment had increased approximately 5% over last year.
    10. Academic coaching has had over 250 mentoring meetings this semester, double the amount from last fall. Contact Ms. Wendy Yoder for more information.

11. The administration's position is that student evaluation of courses be kept online for reasons of logistics and student satisfaction.
12. Summer teaching pay will continue to be computed with 8 credit hours considered full load.
13. The "20% rule" for interim and overload pay is being revisited. Currently, faculty with the lowest pay-rates are the most likely to hit the cap. It is expected that this will be changed to an credit-hour limit.
14. The Faculty Development Committee will have a charge to plan for the next year. The provost has suggested this committee work with CETL on planning faculty development activities.
15. Trevor Ellis will represent the Appellate and Grievance Committee on the FUTPRC Appeals Committee. Mr. Murray will remain on the former.
16. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education had a session with the Faculty Advisory Council on November 5th. Results of the Faculty Opinion Survey were examined.
  - a) Areas with general dissatisfaction:
    - (1) Faculty Salaries/Compensation
    - (2) Academic Preparation of Incoming Students
  - b) Areas with general satisfaction
    - (1) Continued Prohibition of Guns on Campuses

B. Secretary/Treasurer Karen Sweeney

1. Roll Sheet—please sign
2. Treasurer's Report
  - a) Banc First
    - (1) October Balance: \$1,621.18
    - (2) Current Balance: \$1,621.18
  - b) University Account
    - (1) October 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:** No reports.

VIII. **Unfinished Business:**

IX. **New Business:**

**A. Faculty Senate Motion 2016-11-01:** Whereas the use of and continuity of Student Course Evaluations is an important component to Faculty Members with respect to Promotion, Tenure, Continuance and continued course improvement, we move that faculty be allowed to choose either the Paper or the Electronic means of giving Student Course Evaluations until statistical adjustments in means can be evaluated and issues related to the implementation of Student Evaluation can be resolved.

**Rationale:** The Mean of Means and Student Comments from the Student Course Evaluations are vital components in the evaluation of Faculty in the Promotion, Tenure and Continuance process. By

changing the way in which Course Evaluations are given, statistical trends in the normality of the mean of means and changes in comments may occur. Without understanding the comparative effects of an online evaluation system vs. a pencil and paper evaluation system, faculty lose continuity in their evaluations and risk not being evaluated on a level playing field compared to previous years of evaluations.

While we recognize that Assessment is working to find ways to address lower return rates for online evaluations vs. paper and pencil evaluations through mechanisms such as phone apps, further work needs to be done. Student comments and feedback are a vital part of course development and improvement, as well as, a component of documentation for Continuance, Tenure and Promotion. Without vetting the app with respect to comments, faculty could lose this valuable resource as well.

**Suggestion:** In order to address the issues with Online Course Evaluations, it is suggested that both forms be available to faculty while further data and information is collected. Individual faculty could choose to volunteer to use Online Course Evaluations and use their data to provide necessary feedback regarding changes in response rates, Mean of Means, student comments, etc. when compared with their past pencil and paper evaluations. In addition, Assessment could be given time to further evaluate how to best implement the student feedback process from other resources, such as the phone app. The hope is that this will provide continuity in the Course Evaluation Process and any necessary adjustment in how the evaluations are viewed.

**Motioned failed by show of hands.**

**X. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.**

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

**Next Meeting Friday, December 9th at 2:00 p.m.**