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Faculty Senate Minutes

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1-29-2021

January 29th, 2021 Minutes

SWOSU Faculty Senate

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SWOSU Faculty Senate

Friday, January 29, 2021, 2:30 p.m.
Approved Minutes

- I. **Call to Order:** Faculty Senate President Karen Sweeney called the January 2021 meeting of the Faculty Senate to Order at **2:30 pm** via Zoom.
- II. **Establishment of a Quorum: Establishment of a Quorum:** Jimena Aracena, Landry Brewer, Sherri Brogdon, Stephen Burgess, Brett Chase, Melanie Claborn, Jerry Dunn, Trevor Ellis, Amanda Evert, Daniel Farris, Angela Gore, Swarup Ghosh, Meri Hix, Sunu Kodumthara, Denise Landrum-Geyer, Alex Lee, Scott Long, Evette Meliza, Vanesa Nix, Kathy O'Neal, Eric Pritchard, Hank Ramsey, Jessica Salmans, Hardeep Saluja, Tugba Sevin, Tony Stein, Karen Sweeney, Muatasem Ubeidat, Natalie Kinder.
- III. **Certification of Substitutes:** Jon Woltz for Phillip Fitzsimmons
- IV. **Presentation of Visitors:** None
- V. **Approval of Minutes:** December 2020 accepted with no changes
- VI. **Announcements**
 - A. President Karen Sweeney
 - I. Our Secretary/Treasurer has left SWOSU, so we need a volunteer to complete the term through May of 2021. (Please!!) – *Hardeep Saluja volunteered to complete the term.*
 2. *New Faculty Senate Officers:* It is time to start thinking about holding a position in the Faculty Senate for the 2021-2022 academic year! Needed are President Elect and Secretary/Treasurer.
 3. Executive Council and Administrative Council – Monday, January 11, 2021
 - a) *President:*
 - (1) During the break, Congress passed the second stimulus package. Higher Education was included in that. We do not have a lot of the specifics yet as to how much money the institution may receive and more importantly what that can be used for. So, if you see some numbers, keep in mind, as in the last package, some of that money may have strings attached on how it can be used. It's a great thing that we are going to be receiving some money, but we'll just have to see how that can be used. Along with that, I appreciate all of you, everyone has done a great job. We still need to watch our budgets carefully because of the pandemic.
 - (2) President Beutler will be watching and keeping people updated as they start the Oklahoma legislative session.
 - (3) COVID 19 vaccines are being given at the Pioneer Event Center through the Department of Health on Friday's. At this point it is for those that are 65 and over.
 - b) *Provost:*
 - (1) Thank you to faculty/deans/chairs for advising and enrollment help. Our enrollment grew substantially last week from Monday to Friday

- (2) Continue to be vigilant about COVID precautions. The new strain is dangerous because it is more transmissible. All our precautions become even more critical in light of that.
 - (3) We will mail a Commencement Program to those who had applied for graduation and been cleared.
 - (4) We are working on a partnership with Western Technology Center to enroll their advanced students concurrently beginning in Fall 21.
- a) *Associate Provost for Academic Affairs:*
- (1) HLC will provide final action on institutional accreditation by January 29, that is, if they accept the peer review team's recommendation of re-accreditation. Dr. Kendell is currently working on an accreditation guide that will provide direction based on the peer team's suggestions and guidelines to prepare the assurance argument for the four-year review. Two things SWOSU is currently working based on the recommendations:
 - (a) Academic Support Center
 - (b) Adjunct Review Process
 - (2) Carolyn Barron is getting the Fall 2021 schedules ready for departments to review and approve.
- b) *Vice President of Student Affairs:*
- (1) Dr. Boyd thanks the COVID Health and Safety Committee, Dr. Ralph, Dr. Lawrence, and Carmen Nickel. If you need any information on holding an event, please speak with this committee to know what can be done to make the event happen.
- c) *CETL:*
- (1) A project for next summer is to remove some of the cabinets found in the top floor of the Education Building. These were used for ITV equipment and now are empty. The cabinets will be surplus this summer. Feel free to come by and look at the cabinets. If your department wants one, please email Lisa Friesen.
 - (2) Please let Lori Gwyn or Lisa Friesen know if you come across a grant application for technology needs, Zoom rooms, etc. They are currently reapplying for the USDA RUS Grant.
4. Faculty Senate Executive officers meeting with Dr. South and Dr. Kendell, January 27, 2021.
- a) *COVID Vaccinations:* Currently SWOSU is helping to administer COVID shots and will continue to do so until the County Health Department does not need us anymore. You can register for your shot on the Health Department website. SWOSU has gotten thanks from people from Tulsa and Norman.
 - b) *Spring 2021 Semester:* It has not yet been decided if SWOSU will hold a Spring 2021 Graduation Ceremony. March 2021 is the planned discussion to see where we are in the Pandemic to make that decision.
 - c) *Who's Who:* There will be no ceremony for Who's Who students however they will receive a certificate and a video presentation.

- d) *Enrollment*: Down 4.5% in credit hours. Head count down 1.9%. We had the smallest drop in RUSO Schools.
- e) *Stimulus*: SWOSU will receive \$5.4M with \$1.7M going to students. The rest of the monies must be spent in COVID-19 related expenses such as loss of business in Auxiliary Services.
- f) *Budget*: No state short fall yet. They have estimated more budget than last year, official numbers do not come out until February. Medicare costs could possibly be an issue. In Kansas the state regents removed tenure protections for rifting. No discussions of that in Oklahoma when we are in a period of declining numbers that the budget is shrinking. Trying to do that through attrition. Should work because there are fewer students to teach. All institutions are hurting with the Community College hurting worse than anyone due to less tuition and revenue. Their student base is also hurting more than anyone else.
- g) *Concurrent Reimbursement*: If they change the reimbursement rate, as stated in previous meetings they are trying to pay 4-year University's the same rate at 2-year Colleges, it will impact us. This issue is still being addressed but the home rule situation seems complex.
- h) *President Search*: Could hear an announcement the first week of March.
- i) *Provost Search*: Screening of applicants will begin March 15. New Provost will start on July 1, 2021.

B. Secretary/Treasurer

- 1. Will fill out Roll Sheet – Please check the minutes carefully from each meeting to be assured you were not missed. Also, please be sure to add your name in the chat for attendance.
- 2. Treasurer's Report
 - a) BancFirst
 - (1) Balance: \$2,203.88
 - (2) Withdrawal: \$0
 - (3) Deposit: \$0
 - (4) Current Balance: \$\$2,203.88
 - b) University Account
 - (1) Balance: \$105.01
 - (2) Current Balance: \$105.01

C. President - Elect Amanda Evert: Nothing to discuss.

D. Past President - Stephen Burgess: Nothing to discuss.

E. Faculty Athletic Representative - Bo Pagliasotti: Not present

F. Student Government Representative - Natalie Kinder: Nothing to discuss.

II. Reports from Standing and Ad Hoc Committees: Nothing

III. Unfinished Business: Nothing

IV. New Business: Nothing

V. Adjournment: 3:12 p.m.

VI. Next Meeting: Friday, February 26, 2021, 2:30 p.m. via Zoom

Spring 2021 Meetings, 2:30 p.m.

Friday January 29, 2021

Friday February 26, 2021

Friday March 26, 2021

Friday April 30, 2021

Wednesday May 5, 2021