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Faculty Senate Minutes

Faculty Senate

4-30-2021

April 30th, 2021 Minutes

SWOSU Faculty Senate

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SWOSU Faculty Senate

Friday, April 30, 2021
Approved Minutes

- I. **Call to Order:** Faculty Senate President Karen Sweeney called the April 2021 meeting of the Faculty Senate to Order at 2:32 pm via Zoom.
- II. **Establishment of a Quorum:** Jimena Aracena, Landry Brewer, Sherri Brogdon, Stephen Burgess, Brett Chase, Melanie Claborn, Glenna Davis, Jerry Dunn, Trevor Ellis, Amanda Evert, Daniel Farris, Phillip Fitzsimmons, Angela Gore, Swarup Ghosh, Meri Hix, Sunu Kodumthara, Denise Landrum-Geyer, Sharon Lawrence, Alex Lee, Dana Lloyd, 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, Bo Pagliasotti, Natalie Kinder.
- III. **Certification of Substitutes:** None
- IV. **Presentation of Visitors:** None
- V. **Approval of Minutes:** March 2021 – Approved unanimously.
- VI. **Announcements**
 - A. President Karen Sweeney
 1. *New Faculty Reception and Retirement Reception:* Was great but not well attended.
 2. Executive Council and Administrative Council – Monday, April 5, 2021
 - a) *President:* We are currently developing a campaign for faculty, staff, and students to encourage getting vaccinated against COVID. Let’s keep our due diligence on wearing masks, that’s important and thank all of you very much.
 - b) *Provost:* We are moving forward with plans for commencement. An important deadline for the students who plan to participate is this coming Sunday, April 11th when students who are graduating in 2021 commencement have to get their graduation application submitted in order to be on the program and on the database and to get tickets for the ceremony. Those who are attending the 2020 ceremonies on Sunday need to have completed their registration for that ceremony on the same day, April 11th which is Sunday. Otherwise, everything as we have it on the website will be taking place. Follow the link for more information:
<https://bulldog.swosu.edu/commencement/index.php>
 - a) *Associate Provost for Academic Affairs:*
 - (1) ACT Optional Pilot Study
 - (a) SWOSU has been approved to carry out a pilot study for students who enroll at SWOSU without an ACT score. This is trying to get ahead of a growing trend of universities that do not require an ACT score for enrollment/placement/scholarships. We are going to track students who are enrolled through this pilot study to determine what changes we might need to make in the methods in which we place them.
 - (2) Strategic Plan Review Team meeting

- (a) The Strategic Plan Review Team met a week and a half ago. Beneficial meeting involving students, staff, faculty, administration, and alumni.
Retention Alert
- (3) Retention Alert
 - (a) We are working on the implementation of a Retention Alert component to the Colleague system. Retention Alert will help the Academic Support Center coordinate communication and actions to address students' retention needs.
- (4) Fall Enrollment
 - (a) Virtual NSOs have started. We encourage advisors to help reach out to first-time students to enroll them for the Fall 2021 semester.
- b) *CETL:*
 - (1) Working on automating some of our processes – first up is the Significant Change Form.
 - (2) Oklahoma Innovative Leadership Institute – Continuing through April. Still accepting proposals. Application is on Canvas.
 - (3) Worked with Kyle Wright to develop some SWOSU themed Zoom Backgrounds. I have an email out to Susan in Web Services to see the best location so that all can access them on the web. They will also be in Canvas – Faculty Commons for Faculty and Succeeding in an Online Course for students.
- c) *Dean of Students:*
 - (1) Cindy Dougherty's memorial was hosted on 3/2/21 @ 4:30pm. She has a memorial bench placed in front of a newly planted garden in the South entrance to the Stafford Building.
 - (2) We currently have 2 positive COVID-19 cases for students.
 - (3) We've had a total of 29 participants complete the Diversity Program this academic year.
 - (4) President's Breakfast is scheduled for April 25th @ 7:45pm. It will be hosted in the PCEC then transition to the football field for fireworks that will begin at 9pm.
 - (5) Greek Council met on 3/28 for the final council meeting. We have several returning leaders in their positions for the upcoming year.
 - (6) Esports:
 - (a) Has a new sponsor – 66 Ink will be our Jersey Sponsors for the upcoming academic year.
 - (b) Esports and CETL will meet with Von Royal this week to discuss collaborating across institutions with technology.
 - (c) Construction of the new arena will be finished on April 19th. The Fire Marshall will then need to come out and evaluate before an opening can be planned.
 - (7) 2020 Medallions were distributed to departments.
 - (8) Faculty/Staff/Administrator appreciation week I scheduled for April 12th-16th. We've already received nominations for Brandy Awards. Voting will start next week and winners will be awarded by the end of the week.
- d) *Enrollment Management:*
 - (a) As of April 1, 2021:
 - 1,297 Admitted First-time Freshman
 - 332 of those have registered for a Virtual Enrollment Session
 - 150 of those 332 names were handed off to departments last week and are ready to enroll
 - 55 of those 150 have been enrolled as of this morning.

- Please make sure that advisors are reaching out to these students. They are expecting to hear from us to get enrolled.
- (b) We will be offering four dates for our “in-person” New Student Info Session: June 15, June 29, July 20 and August 11
- (c) Please help us welcome our new Administrative Assistant to our office: Ms. Salina Garza.
- e) *Registrar:*
- (1) Graduation: Sunday, April 11th is the deadline to apply for graduation and still be included in the commencement program. Students may continue to apply & participate but will not be included in the program. The deadline to round up remaining transcript and/or course issues is Monday, June 14.
- (2) Enrollment:
- (a) Spring 21:
- Last day to withdraw with a guaranteed W was March 26 for full semester courses.
 - We are now in the instructor permission withdrawal period (through April 21) which requires faculty to login to Self Service and grade students for approved instructor withdrawals. The Registrar’s Office does not process withdrawals beyond the last day for a guaranteed W.
 - The last day withdraw with a guaranteed W for 2nd 8 week courses is Friday, April 16.
- (b) Summer 21 (through the end of 6 weeks of enrollment but compared to 7 weeks for Summer 20):
- Headcount: 1,265 (+8.6%)
 - Total credit hours: 7,301 (+11.2%)
 - FTE: 1,039.23 (+11.3%)
- (c) Fall 21 (through the end of 6 weeks of enrollment but compared to 7 weeks for Fall 20):
- Headcount: 1,900 (-8.7%)
 - Total credit hours: 22,840 (-10.0%)
 - FTE: 1,589.43 (-9.0%)
- (d) Final Grading: reminder that Spring 21 final grades are due Monday, May 3 at 4:00 PM.
- f) *Vice President of Public Relations and Marketing:*
- (1) Extended thanks to Dian Ray and Rene Mason from ITS for their work over Easter weekend on an email problem, which had the potential to be a more severe problem for the university’s email system.
- (2) Reminded everyone that SWOSU Rodeo tickets would not be sold at the gate this year and that stubwire.com is handling all ticket sales for this year’s event (April 8-10).
- g) *Vice President of Student Affairs:*
- (1) The Student Government Association has been very active in campus improvements. Watch for a new study bar to be built on the second floor of the Stafford Building, along with new patio furniture installed on the Stafford balcony.
- (2) SGA is collaborating with the President’s Breakfast to provide a pyrotechnic show on Sunday, April 25 to kick off final’s week. Breakfast burritos will be served in the PCEC and student may enjoy their breakfast “picnic style” in west stadium seating while watching the fireworks show.
4. Faculty Senate Executive officers meeting with Dr. South and Dr. Kendell, April 28, 2021.

- (1) *Summer 2021*: Will follow the same COVID policies as in the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semesters for the classrooms as well as Camps.
- (2) *Fall 2021*: New Administration will decide if the COVID policies will change and what that change will look like. The Remote Work Request form may or may not be available.
- (3) *Enrollment*: Currently the numbers show that we are lower in upper-level enrollments up overall over last year, but last year was a complete anomaly, but we are done from the year before the pandemic. The number of students that have applied to SWOSU in previous years are close to the same however, the number of students that have enrolled is lower at this time than previous years. At this time we are up in headcount by 1% and down in credit hours about 5%. Compared to Fall of 2019 we are down about 13% in headcount and 19% in credit hours.
- (4) We have observed over the last several years, pre COVID, that students are enrolling later and later. Research done by the *Daily Oklahoman* last year showed close to a quarter of Oklahoma students that graduated high school who traditionally would have gone to college did not last fall. Among first generation of lower income students that number was over 1/3rd which does describe our clientele pretty well.

B. Secretary/Treasurer: Hardeep Saluja

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 Report

D. Past President - Stephen Burgess: Nothing to Report

E. Faculty Athletic Representative - Bo Pagliasotti: Nothing to Report

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

II. Reports from Standing and Ad Hoc Committees:

- A. Report from Muatasem Ubeidat for the *University Policies Committee* and the *Personal Committee* concerning the edits for the promotion, tenure, and continuance portion of the Faculty Handbook.
 - 1. **Faculty Senate Motion 2021-04-01:** Ad Hoc Committees brought the motion forward to accept the edits for the promotion, tenure, and continuance portion of the Faculty Handbook.
 - a) **Motion was unanimously approved.**
- B. *Nominating Committee*: from Scott Long, Chair (see *email attachment for slate ballot*)
 - 1. **Faculty Senate Motion 2021-04-02:** Nominating Committee brought the motion forward to accept the Spring 2021 Slate Ballot as presented.
 - a) **Motion was unanimously approved.**

III. Unfinished Business:

- A. *New Senators*: I have not heard from the following senators who currently have expiring terms: Dr. Tony Stein, Dr. Swarup Ghosh, Ms. Kathy O’Neal, Dr. Daniel Farris, Dr. Stephen Burgess, and Mr. Landry Brewer.

IV. New Business:

IV. Adjournment: 3:35 PM

- V. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, May 5, 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