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Faculty Senate Minutes


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9-30-2022

September 30, 2022 Minutes

SWOSU Faculty Senate

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SWOSU Faculty Senate Official Minutes

Friday, September 30, 2022 @ 2:30 PM in STF 110 and
via Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96833359965>

- ❖ **Call to Order:** Faculty Senate meeting was called to order by President Jessica Salmans at 2:30 PM.
- ❖ **Establishment of a Quorum:** Jimena Aracena, Landry Brewer, Nathan Brooks, Jieun Chang, Glenna Davis, Marc DiPaolo, Jared Edwards, Trevor Ellis, Amanda Evert, Phillip Fitzsimmons, Swarup Ghosh, Jon Henrikson, Daniel Kavish, Alex Lee, Nolan Meditz, Vanessa Nix, Andy North, Kathy O'Neal, Dana Oliver, Eric Paul, Bo Pagliasotti, Hardeep Saluja, Horrick Sharma, Debra Stevens, Ubeidat Muatasem
- ❖ **Certification of Substitutes:** David Bessinger for Shelley Martinson, Sherry Westmoreland for Brian Rickel, Zach Jones for Sharon Lawrence, Brandy Chase for Dana Lloyd, Lincoln Brown for Holly Mace, Meri Hix for Jeremy Johnson

❖ **Reports from Representatives**

❖ **Faculty Athletic Representative** Bo Pagliasotti

- An update on athletic events occurring over SWOSU Family Day Weekend were provided.
- Athletics hosting a pancake breakfast on Saturday, October 1

❖ **Student Government Representative** Frankie Acuna

- Nothing to report

❖ **Library Representative** Phillip Fitzsimmons

- The Stafford Archive does have hours open to the public
 - Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
 - Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 AM to Noon

❖ **Staff Council Member:** Diane Fitzsimmons for Kathy Megli

- Provided updates on building back the staff council after COVID, trying to find volunteers.
- Provided upcoming Staff events in the current academic year related to recognition for service years and retirees, as well as Staff scholarships awards.

❖ After reports, representatives were given the option to leave the meeting

❖ **Presentation of Visitors:** Dr. Joel Kendall, Provost

Dr. Kendall addressed the Faculty Senate over topics related to on-campus faculty engagement, current budget work, and potential changes in General Education core for universities and colleges in the State of Oklahoma

➤ **On-Campus Faculty Engagement and Office Hours**

- **Focused on the rewording of the expectations for Office Hours in the Faculty Handbook**
- **Rationale and Reasoning for Change:** Dr. Kendall has had conversations with Faculty and Departmental Chairs who have expressed frustration with expectations for University Engagement, but some faculty have not been fully present since the pandemic. Desire is to create an environment where we are able to have faculty present for the students to meet face-to-face, if desired. The presence of full-time faculty on-campus helps achieve both Departmental and University Goals of student engagement and retention.
 - Currently, many universities are having to develop or create a clear policy related to faculty engagement and office hours.
 - Discussed some findings related to faculty engagement
- Faculty followed Dr. Kendall's introduction with questions.

- Dr. Kendall emphasized that he still wanted to be sure we were able to support flexible work hours, and emphasized that he understood that this was not necessarily an 8 AM – 5 PM job.
- Is looking to find the best possible place to include the language to ensure expectations were provided for incoming faculty as well as current faculty.
- When asked if this relates to potential budget issues and cost-savings through a Faculty Handbook change with respect to adjuncts vs. tenured/tenure track professors, Dr. Kendall emphasized that this proposed change was not being driven by the administration, but by conversations with Faculty and Chairs. Change is not for the replacement of faculty line positions.
- When asked what would happen if Faculty Senate voted to keep the status quo in the Faculty Handbook, Dr. Kendall responded that this was an option, but that if Faculty Senate chooses to keep the status quo, then changes will be made by other possible means at the university level. This was an opportunity for the Faculty and Faculty Senate to participate in shaping the policy.

➤ **Fiscal Year 2024 Budget**

- Dr. Kendall informed Faculty Senate that administration was in the initial discussions about the FY24 budget.
 - Emphasized that everything was in the preliminary phases, but end of CARES Act money will create a loss that will need to be accounted for in the upcoming budget.
 - Cuts in faculty lines were not part of any discussion. Discussions are focused on efficiencies and looking for opportunities to bring in more revenue.

➤ **General Education Core**

- The Chancellor of the Oklahoma State Regents of Higher Education is focused on creating a 30 credit hour GE core to be adopted by all 27 institutions.
- In discussion but would most likely go into effect in a couple of years.

➤ After discussions, Dr. Kendall left meeting and Faculty Senate continued to address additional topics.

❖ **Approval of Minutes:** August 26, 2022 were approved.

❖ **Announcements**

- Executive Council & Administrative Council Meeting
 - ❖ Executive Council & Administrative Council Meeting
 - New Dean of Enrollment: Keith Sayles
 - Discussions about looking at increasing benefits/perks for Faculty and Staff since raises are not on the table at the moment.
 - ⊘ Focus is to try to provide some sort of recognition for Faculty and Staff for morale purposes.
 - ⊘ Email Jessica if you have ideas or have questions.
 - Focus on recruiting and Credit Hours - 2nd 8-week classes.
 - SWOSU is purchasing ACT lists to help with targeted recruiting.
 - ⊘ Faculty Senate wanted to know if we were adding merit-based scholarships if there was a focus on ACT lists. Information conveyed from the Administrative Council Meeting was that this purchase was focused on trying to get on a student's "radar".
 - ⊘ Faculty Senate was curious about the cost of purchasing the list and what the expected return on investment might be or how it would be tracked.
 - SWOSU Family Day is Saturday, October 1st.
 - SWOSU Homecoming is October 15th – many different events, deadline to enter the parade is Monday 10th at noon.
 - SWOSU Saturday is November 5th.

- Faculty Senate Executive officers meeting with Dr. Kendall on September 28.
 - Dr. Kendall addressed the topics from that meeting during his time at the start of the meeting.
- New Faculty Welcome Reception was held on Tuesday, September 27 and went well.
- Rose State Partnership Details
 - This is ongoing: remember, you can meet with Dr. Kinder if your dept wants to work on an agreement with Rose State
- Student Recruiting and Communication Process
 - Taylor Alexander's office is dividing the Student Recruiting and Communication process so each individual in the department is responsible for ongoing communications with individual student recruits.
- Degree requirements outline for each program is having to be resubmitted since there is a change a General Education requirement.
 - World History is being split into two separate courses to match other state universities for the course equivalency matrix.
 - If departments have any additional changes they want to make to their degree programs, now would be a good time since these submissions are being handled by the Provost office.

❖ **Unfinished Business:** None

❖ **Secretary/Treasurer** Jon Henrikson

- Please check the minutes carefully from each meeting to be assured you were not missed.
- Treasurer's Report
 - BancFirst

	Deposit	Withdrawal	Balance
End of September Balance			\$2515.25
New Faculty Welcome Reception		(-179.68)	\$2335.57

- University Account
 - End of August Balance: \$105.01
 - Current Balance: \$105.01
- Followed up with information related to total participation in dues collection process. Number of faculty participating is about equal to the 21/22 academic year.

❖ **President-Elect** Trevor Ellis: None

❖ **Past President** Amanda Evert: None

❖ **Reports from Standing and Ad Hoc Committees:** No reports, but we will need to look over the current Faculty Senate Committees at the next meeting and replace representatives that left Faculty Senate in May 2022.

❖ **New Business:**

- Colleges need to finish caucus for Faculty University Promotion and Tenure Review Committee (FUPTRC).
 - Members of last year's FUPTRC Committee (21/22) were:
 - Dr. Jimena Aracena – CAS/Biology (23)
 - Dr. Kelly Logan – CAS/Language and Literature (22)
 - Dr. Lisa Boggs – CAS/Biology (22)

- Dr. Scott Long – COP (23)
- Dr. Amy Barnett – CPGS/Education (22)
- Dr. Stephen Burgess – CPGS/Psychology (23)
- Dr. Jorie Edwards – CPBS/Psychology (23)
- Mr. Fredrick Murray – CETL/Library (22)
 - ə S. Burgess will need to be replaced due to becoming Chair of Psychology Department.
 - ə K. Logan and L. Boggs need to be replaced in CAS due to end of term.
 - ə A. Barnett needs to be replaced in CPGS due to end of term.
 - ə F. Murray needs to be replaced in CETL/Library due to end of term.
- Senators were reminded of policy change voted on by Faculty Senate in Spring 2022 to limit to having only one member from a department on the FUPTRC committee to create a more inclusive and diverse committee.
- CETL/Library submitted Mapopa Sanga as their new representative for the committee.
- CAS and CPGS separated into colleges to caucus and discuss plan for nomination and submission of representatives for the FUPTRC committee.
- ❖ **Adjournment:** Meeting was semi-adjourned for discussion among separate colleges related to FUPTRC around 3:45 PM
- ❖ **Next Meeting:** Friday, October 28 at 2:30 PM