

Faculty Senate Minutes

Meeting of September 14, 2015

<u>Senators</u> A = Absent		<u>Ex Officio Members and Guests Present</u>
Alhuani, Abdallah	Nursing	Merlino, Mara
Amusan, Ibukun	Math & Sciences	Finn, LeChrista
Andries, Ken	AFE	Freeman, Tierra (Ex-Officio Executive Committee)
Capriles, Nancy	BSS	McFayden, Elgie (Faculty Regent)
Graham, William	Education	Desborde, Rene
Griffin, Robert	Fine Arts	Shaw, Lorna (Dean of College)
Griffis, Bruce	Math & Sciences	Obielodan, James (Director of Graduate Studies)
Grimes, Kristopher	AFE	Brogan, Shannon
Gyawali, Buddhi	at-large	Sedlacek, John
Kumar, Ashok	at-large	Smith, Helen
Landy, Tucker	Whitney Young	Bigdeli-Jahed, Fariba
Liu, Zhanping	Computer Science	McGee, Sharon
Moffett, Joe	LLP	Stuckey, Shelia
McCoy, Rebecca (Resigned)	Nursing	Higgins, Pat
Ray, Andrew E	Aquaculture	Pomper, Kirk
Ross, Scott	Fine Arts	Rajendran, Narayanan
Rye, Reba	at-large	Dunn-Thomas, Tyra
Sharma, Rita	Math & Sciences	Gebremedhin, Maheteme
Sipes, Kim	at-large	Shale, Mark
Smith, Peter	LLP	
Tate, Debbra	Library	
Tope, Avinash	AFE	
Ulrich, Stephen	PUA,SW,CJ	
Wang, Changzen	at-large	
Representative still needed from School of Business, 1 from Behavioral & Social Sciences, 1 from Nursing		

(Note above that Rebecca McCoy will not be Nursing's representation to Faculty Senate due to a class schedule conflict.)

The second meeting of the AY 2015-16 Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:14 pm on Monday, September 14, 2015, Hathaway Hall Room 123. Agenda was approved and the Faculty Senate minutes of 8-24-15 were approved with no modifications.

Academic Policies Committee Report:

Chair Joe Moffett brought to the full Senate a Policy Change Proposal that addresses problems with the KSU Academic Calendar published on the Web-site, which differs from the calendar put forward by APC last year. As currently designed, mid-term exams end on October 23rd and the last day to drop classes or withdraw from the University with a W is October 30st which is also the last day for faculty to enter mid-term grades. The Policy Change Proposal specifies October 28th as last date for faculty to enter mid-term grades and November 6th the drop deadline for students. This change allows students sufficient time to make informed decisions in consultation with an advisor.

The Policy Change Proposal recommends changing the period for evaluation of faculty by students from 10/ 31-11/13 to 11/9-12/11. This way students will drop appropriate courses before evaluations.

After brief discussion of the timeline and clarification of the fall break schedule the Proposal passed with no opposition.

Chair Moffett reported that Dean Shaw visited the APC meeting and asked their assistance in identifying best practices regarding Freshmentaking on-line courses. She requested this input by mid-term. This should include consideration of Hybrid lecture/on-line models. She suggested they talk with people on campus and especially Jennifer Miles to determine how this has been addressed in the past and how best to move forward. There was discussion about such factors as 1.) degree programs that are advertised as completely on-line, 2.) scheduling challenges with more lecture classes, 3.) distinction between entering or returning Freshmen and 4.) BCTC agreements. After a motion and approval to extend time for 4 minutes a Senator pointed out that with Dual Credit options High School students can take on-line classes and thus college freshmen should be allowed to as well. It was pointed out that the Dual Credit classes are actually taught and supervised by High School teachers and students have considerable guidance. Another issue for clarification is distinction between students who live on campus and those who do not, especially those who travel a considerable distance to campus. A Senator suggested that given all of the variables there will have to be established exceptions, as well as a process to apply for exception.

Curriculum Committee Report:

Committee Chair Ken Andries reported and submitted proposed changes to curriculum/program tracking documents, forms, and instructions to reflect the deletion of School Deans and Provost designation, and to streamline the process. These changes affect 1.) *171 CC New Course or Course Change Tracking Document*, 2.) *Program Change Proposal Form*, 3.) *CC Tracking Document* and 4.) *Curriculum Committee Instructions revised 8-9-15*. The only places where the designation of "Provost" is not deleted is where reference is to the Faculty Handbook and the Faculty Senate Constitution because the title is still included in these documents.

Dr. James Obielodan, Director of Graduate Studies, said that graduate studies should address similar revisions to their forms and submit to the Curriculum Committee.

Professional Concerns Committee Report:

Vice-Chair Stephen Ulrich reported the committee worked to prioritize both past unapproved Action Items and new agendas. Those identified were 1.) Faculty Adjunct pay, 2.) Midterm grades vs. warnings, 3.) Status of Tenure/Promotion and Post-Tenure Review, 4.) Established guidelines for summer course loads, 5.) Split appointments in teaching/research/extension for Land Grant and related faculty review processes, 6.) Current travel and per diem policy, and 7.) Faculty hiring policy and process. The procedure possibly needs to be revised for more efficiency, i.e. is "complicated and convoluted".

A Senator raised the question of how policy is set for Graduate students to receive paychecks and another Senator said it was state policy. Dr. Obielodan will get that information from the Graduate Council and send a copy to Senator Ulrich.

There was discussion of other items that have stalled and where they are at this time. President Smith said that several had been stalled on Dr. Downing's desk while she served as interim VPAA.

A Senator asked if the Faculty Handbook has been suspended or not and that there is confusion and ambiguity around this issue. Regent McFayden pointed out that it is a legal document and President Smith said that only the Board of Regents has the authority to suspend the *Faculty Handbook* and they have not done so to date.

Dean Shaw said that the *Faculty Handbook* is currently in the process of revision in Academic Affairs and that Chairs will be informed when it is completed.

Budget and Academic Support Committee Report:

Chair Ross reported that the BASC is in a “holding pattern” until such time as a detailed budget is available for review. The committee was originally sent a two-page summation budget that was not useful. Budget Director Greg Rush will send a more detailed budget and would have already done so except for the payroll issues the previous week. The Committee wants to determine what percentage of the budget goes to Instruction.

Other issues discussed in committee was the status/existence of the university-wide equipment and attrition budget that units submitted all of their equipment needs categorized as \$500 and above or \$2,000 and above. The inadequate budget for the library was discussed. The Catalogue has not yet been printed and there is no available current operational chart for the University available. There have been new administrative hires/positions and the question was raised if those were added after the Board approved the new organizational chart and the budget. The BASC is concerned about the ratio of administrators to students.

There was brief discussion about the desirability of policy in place that specifies faculty participation in the budget process. Late last spring semester President Burse invited two faculty members selected by BASC to sit in on the last round of budget hearings. This was just prior to the hearings. Seats and participation needs to be established earlier and BASC is researching the process of Faculty participation at other institutions. While the Faculty Handbook specifies Faculty input it does not designate exactly how. A Senator asked if President Burse has been asked if he would support a set policy and past BASC Chair Rye said that the committee had asked that question last year and he said that he would not be inclined to recommend to the Board any policy statement that specifies faculty participation in the budget process.

Faculty Regent Report:

After applause for Regent McFayden’s proactive stance on the Insurance crisis there was lengthy discussion. Regent McFayden said that the state open enrollment is in October and we can possibly make that deadline, but only if the University applies to enroll in their pool and are accepted. As is, individuals do not have a “qualifying event”. He said that President Burse indicated he is willing to increase the university contribution gradually. Regent McFayden’s position is that family plans need more sooner.

President Smith shared the KTRS plan posted on the Web. While the price of a family policy is close to KSU’s projected increase, @ \$1,500, there is not a \$4000 deductible.

A Senator said that his preference is the private market, with portable KSU contribution. Several others agreed. It was pointed out that while lower prices are available benefits are generally not as desirable.

There was discussion of the problems related to University planning, in both the budgetary and the insurance dilemma. The budget was built on a projected student enrollment of 1,895 and we have no firm enrollment figure available from the Registrar’s office to date. The significant impact of the enforced admissions standards was possibly not taken into account as pointed out by one Senator. If the Insurance issue had been addressed earlier then faculty could have made decisions during the summer open enrollment period. Regent McFayden pointed out that, yes, there were problems but now is a time to focus on doing something about it.

After discussion of how the Senate should proceed at this point, Senator Landy made a motion for a Sense of the Senate Resolution that the Senate supports the option to go with the State Pool. After friendly amendment suggestions the motion read:

The Faculty Senate recommends that KSU move to the State insurance pool, if the options will provide employees more affordable coverage and/or better benefits.

The resolution passed with one dissenting vote.

A Senator raised the question of what revisions are being made to the Faculty Handbook in Academic Affairs. Are these the revisions sent up from Committee last year or is the Administration making revisions without faculty input and Senate initiation? The Chair of PCC will inquire about this.

The Chair of the University-wide Tenure and Promotion Committee pointed out that deadlines are not being met, as policy specifies, and this renders the process not legal if it is indeed opened for this academic year.

The meeting adjourned at 4:31 pm.

Minutes Submitted by: Reba Rye, Faculty Senate Secretary