

A-State Faculty Senate  
Friday, March 2, 2018  
Minutes

Present:

**Steering Committee**

- Mike McDaniel - Chair/President Present
- Loretta McGregor – President Elect Present
- Vice Chair – Claire Abernathy Present
- Secretary – April Sheppard Present
- Joanna Grymes - Secretary/Treasurer Faculty Association Absent

**Agriculture and Engineering (2)**

- Greg Phillips Present
- Shivan Haran Absent

**Business (3)**

- Sharon James Present
- Richard Segall Present
- Philip Tew Absent

**Education & Behavioral Science (6)**

- Jeonghee Choi Present
- Amanda Wheeler Present
- David Holman Absent
- Sharon Davis Present
- Gwen Neal Present
- Amy Pearce Present

**Fine Arts (3), Humanities & Social Sciences (6), and Media & Communications (2)**

**Fine Arts (3)**

- Claire Abernathy Present
- Matthew Carey Proxy
- Bill Rowe Proxy

**Humanities & Social Sciences (5)**

- Win Bridges Present
- Richard Burns Present

- Mary Donaghy Present
- William Maynard Present
- Rollin Tusalem Present

**Media & Communications (2)**

- Manu Bhandari Present
- Pradeep Mishra Present

**Library & Information Resources (1)**

- April Sheppard Present

**Military Science (1)**

- Lieutenant Colonel Brian Mason Present

**Nursing & Health Professions (6)**

- Annette Bednar Present
- Jody Long Present
- Stacy Walz Present
- Donna Caldwell Present
- Jessie Camp Absent
- Mollie Manning Absent

**Science & Mathematics (5)**

- Travis Marsico Present
- Ross Carroll Absent
- William Paulsen Present
- Suzanne Melescue Present
- Jeff Jenness Present

**University College (1)**

- Nikesha Nesbit Present

**Chairs Council (1)**

- Marika Kyriakos Absent

Proxies:

Matthew Carey – Proxy Kyle Chandler

Bill Rowe – Proxy William Maynard

Chair McDaniel called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. He noted that “old business” and “new business” in the agenda needed to be switched. With this change, he asked for consent of the agenda which was approved. He then accepted a motion to approve the February 16<sup>th</sup> minutes. Senator Burns motioned to approve the minutes and Senator Phillips seconded; motion passed.

Chair McDaniel then gave an update on the Faculty Handbook. He stated that the Board did not approve the handbook due to 2-3 things that were thought to be substantial changes (post tenure, overloads, and faculty grievances). There was not enough time to make changes to address issues before Board met.

Chair McDaniel reminded the Senators that Fall textbook adoptions were going to be active soon and he asked that Senators remind their constituents.

Next, Chair McDaniel gave a statement that he had seen the Huron report and noted that the report was full of acronyms. He then introduced Chancellor Kelly Damphousse to give an update of the Huron report, including:

- Everyone had been sent summary report.
- Full report is 380 pages.
- Will ask the System Office to create report just on Jonesboro.
- Report recommendations do not include eliminating positions, focuses on processes and increasing income.
  - Example recommendation: discount rate for out-of-state students. 44% of out-of-state students pay in-state tuition. Changing awards to say “\$5,000 scholarship” versus stating “in-state tuition.”
  - Second example: tiered payment plan for health insurance.
  - Realize that recommendations are made by outside agency and noted that we are not obligated to implement all suggestions.
  - Chair McDaniel added that he was encouraged that some things in the report are related to shared governance and that people will have say in recommendations.
- Town hall meeting will be held March 13 and will be led by Chancellor Damphousse and System President Chuck Welch.
  - This meeting will lay ground work for future conversations and strategic planning.

Chancellor Damphousse then noted that there were budget cuts in the Fall 2017 and another in the Spring 2018. He also stated that plans in process to make permanent cuts for FY19.

Chair McDaniel then gave an update on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor faculty space. He noted that after the HLC visit, there were some issues with leaks on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor. Leaks will be addressed and the space will be a place to sit down and decompress. He added that there was the possibility of a work study student to help maintain the space and that faculty will have access to a small kitchenette.

Chief Information Officer Henry Torres then addressed the Senate regarding upcoming changes to verification, including:

- Several students and faculty have fallen victim to realistic looking phishing emails.
- To help protect people, multi-faceted verification will be put in front of MyCampus.
  - Three ways to get code to verify account: text, free Duo mobile app, or automated phone call to landline phone.

- Eventually, will also be in place before direct links (e.g. Blackboard)
- Voluntary opt-in email will be sent next week to allow people to opt-in early and help get kinks out early. In April, everyone will be required to use multi-faceted verification.
- How verification will work:
  - The first time you log into a device, will need to authenticate. You will have about 10 hours on that device before you will be asked to authenticate again.
  - Code are unique to you and will expire in 30 days.

Questions posed to Torres included:

- If accessing Blackboard in class, will we need to use a phone; can get codes beforehand in your office.
- Will we need a different code for each class; yes.
- Will this be rolling out for email also; if you log-in to email through MyCampus, then yes. If you log-in through your phone, you will be grandfathered in as long as you don't get a new number. Will eventually ask through direct links.
- Can secured devices be set up; several people share offices and devices, why we're going with 10 hours.
- Will codes be displayed on screen in Blackboard (if we're projecting in front of class); no.
- How will faculty know; Daily Digest, email, press release.

Sr. Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Karen Wheeler then addressed the Senate and encouraged people to attend the upcoming HLC forums.

Chair McDaniel then recognized Ken Heard, the new representative from the Jonesboro Sun.

Discussion then moved to old business and the resolution to move the System Office to Jonesboro. Senator Maynard made a motion for the Senate to adopt the resolution; Senator Burns seconded. The vote was taken by ballot and President Elect McGregor and Vice Chair Abernathy agreed to tally the votes: 15 yea, 9 nah, 5 abstained. Motion passed.

Chair McDaniel then moved discussion to a resolution regarding admissions of high school students penalized by their school districts for exercising freedom of expression regarding gun control and the #NeverAgain movement. Resolution written that those exercising their civil liberties will not have their admission to A-State be impacted. Senator Pierce added that some high schools and colleges have already made resolutions that those who engage in protest would not have damage or punitive actions taken against them. Women & Gender Studies have requested a similar resolution on our campus. Senator Maynard made a motion to approve the resolution, stating that students have deadlines and that waiting to vote on the resolution would push the resolution pass their deadlines. Senator Bridges noted that the Senate could vote on the resolution after the first reading, but he did not recommend doing so. Chair McDaniel added that the Senate does not normally meet the Friday before Spring Break, so if the Senate did not vote today, the vote would be pushed to April. Senator Burns seconded the motion to vote today. Chair McDaniel asked what action he should take if the resolution was approved; Senator Maynard replied that he should ask the Chancellor to make a statement. Senator Maynard suggested that the resolution be amended before voting. A vote was taken whether to vote on the resolution today; the vote passed with three abstain. The resolution was read and then edited live with feedback from the Senators to ensure that the resolution included both protests for gun control and

overall free speech. Senator Maynard made a motion to approve the amended resolution as written. Senator Burns seconded; motion passed with four abstaining.

Chair McDaniel then stated that the Faculty Association will need to elect a new Secretary/Treasurer.

He then asked the Senate if they wanted to meet in two weeks. Senator Burns made a motion not to meet. Senator Burns seconded, motion passed.

Senator Burns then made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chair Abernathy seconded; motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned approximately 3:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

April Sheppard  
Faculty Senate Secretary