

September 7, 2018 Minutes

Consent Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the minutes from May, 04 2018

Reports:

McGregor

Present: Manu Bhandari, Donna Caldwell, Jessica Camp, Matthew Carey, Ross Carroll, Sharon Davis, Joanna Grymes, Annette Hux, Sharon James, Cheryl Knight, Brian Mason, Loretta McGregor, Jeff McLaughlin, Suzanne Melescue, Pradeep Mistra, Nikesha Nesbitt, Greg Phillips, Robert Robinette, Bill Rowe, Richard Segall, Marcus Tribbett, Stacy Walz, Steve Weimer, Amanda Wheeler, William Maynard, Kim Davis.

Absent: Shivan Haran, Irina Khromtsoura, Marika Kyriakos, Andrea Brown, Christine Wright.

Chair McGregor introduced herself, offered thanks to the senators to agreeing to serve.

Minutes from the May 4 meeting were distributed by email. She asked for corrections and changes to the minutes.

Greg moved to access seconded by?

Motion approved unanimously.

New Senators – thank you again. There will be work to be done and to become more proactive.

Faculty space Update

8th Floor of the Library, reviewed the space over the summer, however two weeks before school started it looked the same. Nothing had been implemented to initiate the work. Faculty Senators will need to talk to constituents about using the Faculty Association funds to help furnish the space. Only the space was provided. Chairs, tables, and whatever things we want must be provided via our own funding. Faculty Association has over \$11,000 in the current checking account.

McGregor will work on developing an estimate for costs and send that out.

Faculty Association will need to vote in order to use the funds.

New Medical Insurance Provider as of Jan. 1

Email was sent out that there will be a new medical insurance. Pharmacy does not change, but back to Blue Cross Blue Shield as the administrator. This is a 3-year contract. There is the possibility that the new provider may also increase rates in January. It is not supposed to be exorbitant. Please inform your constituents.

President Welch has determined to develop a New System Leadership Council as response to the Huron Report. From this campus he has reached out the Faculty and Staff Senate chairs as representatives for the entire system.

New Bike Sharing Program is now on campus. There are not as many bikes as the previous provider. Student Senate was excited that we could customize red/black. These are designed specifically to be used on campus. Capability that once the bike is outside a radius of campus they will not work. The focus is not so much as a per ride, but a weekly/monthly pass option. E-bikes may be a possibility in the future.

Sharing some future calendar events:

Sept. 21: Welch and Phelps to speak to Senate by request

She is also working on scheduling other requested presenters on the Senate calendar.

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The next meeting may be Athletics.

Sept. 24-28 will be the implementation of a Parking Services Amnesty Program. A parking ticket of up to \$25 will be forgiven with the donation of canned food items. The food will be used in the A-State Food Pantry.

Oct. 18: System Night at Football Game: Free tickets to faculty

Old Business:

McGregor had not specific old business.

Maynard wanted to discuss the development of a University Ombudsman. The proposal is built on examples from other institutions.

Senate protocol, initial presentation is this week. Next meeting should be ready to vote if we wish to submit it to Shared Governance. Approvals would flow from SGOC, to Provost, to Chancellor, to System and to Board of Trustees.

Dr. Cooksey addressed the Senate about admissions. Following the data is determining is that the 2.3 GPA admission standard is too low. This would be 2020 as early as it could be implemented. Seeing ACT is not a good a measure as GPA in predicting. Perhaps recruit a pilot group of ACT 18 but 3.0 GPA for the coming year. The big concern we have is with retention. This pilot group may be a group that we can be successful with retention efforts.

Two dean searches in place: Business Engineering and Computer Sciences

Active search for a vice chancellor of Enrollment Management (changed from VC of Student Affairs). Candidates have been and continue to come to campus as part of the search. Dean of Students search was this summer and this individual is in place.

Questions about the distribution of media releases. When A-State distributes a media notice, it initially goes to a list. Question – how come not all press releases are sent to all uses? Work has been done to decrease the number of emails sent and move things to the Digest. There has never been a tradition of sending media releases to all. If you are interested to be opt-ed into the list that receives releases originally. One thought might be to add all senators to IBL? That would allow senators to share that information with others as appropriate if. But it will be an all or non – you get all releases or none. This is probably 5 – 8 per day.

Development SGOC committee will also be added to the list.

McGregor's perspective is that this may be a way to improve communication. There was a discussion that senators increasing the number of emails that are sent may decrease faculty attention to emails sent. If Billsmith@astate.edu – to be on internal distribution list IDL they will be added.

There are still some committees with vacancies. Not all information was getting to all information because they had opted out of the list serve. McGregor has developed a way to send information out to all faculty for important issues.

There are still several committees lacking representation. Some are college specific. McGregor will send out the list and will ask senators to help fill. This is especially true for positions representing specific colleges.

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New Business:

Election of Vice Chair

Nominations for Vice Chair:

Manu Bhandhari was nominated but declined the nomination.

Donna Caldwell –

Grymes moved Phillips seconded nominations closed and voted by acclamation.

Election of Recording Secretary

Jessica Camp nominated, nominations closed and voted by acclamation.

Reapportionment

At some point need to discuss reapportionment. We have not considered this since the realignment of the colleges. She will ask for a committee to plan the reapportionment. She wants this committee set by next Senate meeting.

Creation of Task Forces that Dr. Damphousse wishes to implement and the Senate needs to take the lead.

Academic Integrity - examine the current policy and recommendations to improve Dr. Cooksey
Faculty Equity – will work with Academic Budget Committee, also consider the Faculty Budget Committee

Misc. Benefits – we may need to have representation from Faculty Senate to talk about benefit changes; this is not an issue yet but may be on the horizon Lori Wynn

Faculty Handbook – updating in the Faculty Handbook working with or in addition to Faculty Handbook Committee -- representation from the Senate to add to the Handbook. Or maybe pushing proposals forward more proactively

Reconsideration and recommendation related to the existence of a Graduate School

McGregor stated her biggest goal is to be able to improve communication up and down the land.

Information – Sharing the Most Likely to Success/K-20 Partnership Event September 25, 6 pm.

Committee Reports:

Open Forum Discussion:

Adjourn: