Faculty Senate Minutes for March 20, 2015

Chair Julie Isaacson called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. The meeting was held at the Delta Center for Economic Development, Room 201.

Approval of Minutes for February 6, 2015

Senator Brenda Anderson moved to approve the minutes of February 6, 2015. Senator Pradeep Mishra seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Guests

Maurice Gipson, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Diversity
Dr. Gibson spoke briefly on his goals to assist our search committees in equitable search processes in order to attract the best and the brightest to ASU, and to provide cultural competency training to all constituency groups on campus.

Old Business

14FA03 – Selection of Department Chairs and College Deans for final up/down vote
Chair Isaacson reported the recent electronic vote on this proposal failed to achieve a quorum with only 16 votes in favor by the stated deadline. An additional supporting vote was received late. A motion to accept the electronic vote was offered by Senator John Hall, seconded by Senator Judy Pfriemer, and was carried unanimously.

Jennifer Smith, ASU System Associate Vice President for Benefits
Chair Isaacson reported Ms. Smith will speak to the Faculty Senate in April. Following a brief discussion, consensus was reached that April 17 is the best date to plan for this presentation. Chair Isaacson asked the Employee Benefits Committee chair Senator Judy Pfriemer to provide a list of questions for Ms. Smith.

New Business

Special election of Faculty Association President-elect and Faculty Senate Chair-elect
Chair Isaacson reported two candidates on the ballot: Senator Bruce Johnson, nominated by the nominating committee, and Senator Andy Mooneyhan, nominated by petition. The Chair advised that nominations are open and additional petitions would be accepted. The Chair asked Senate members if there is a preference for voting at the Faculty Association meeting that is scheduled for April 14 or a preference for electronic voting. Senator John Hall suggested that statements of interest could be provided by email followed by electronic voting. Following a brief discussion, Chair Isaacson advised she would provide documents by email and arrange for electronic voting for the special election.
Course Notes Marketplaces (e.g., Flashnotes, GradeBuddy, etc.)
Senator John Hall reported on a course notes sales scheme (GradeBuddy.com) that pays students for taking notes that are subsequently sold, and asked the Faculty Senate to consider an intellectual property policy that will protect faculty rights on course notes and original materials created by faculty. Chair Isaacson reported that Disability Services has shown interest in partnering with Flashnotes for note-taking services for students registered with DS, and that she has agreed to meet with Dr. Hogue on this topic. Chair Isaacson asked faculty to identify key issues regarding commercial note-taking services, to consider if the issues are related to intellectual property, paying students for taking notes, or other concerns. Senator Hall suggested forming a task force to review the issues. Senator Holifield reported this topic is on the list of items to be evaluated by the existing class-size task force and suggested the topic of paid note takers could be addressed by a different committee. Chair Isaacson concluded the discussion by advising she will ask Brian Rogers (Office of Research and Technology Transfer) if he may be interested in working with faculty on this issue relating to the protection of intellectual property and that she will seek input across various constituency groups on campus.

Committee Reports

Class-Size Task Force
Senator Holifield reported this task force continues to work on its agenda, collecting data, and planning to report its findings in the Fall.

Bookstore Committee
Senator Sinclaire reported the bookstore committee met on February 26, 2015, with four specific outcomes: (1) The Spring textbook adoptions are proceeding well using the online “textreq” system. (2) Neebo awarded $5000 in scholarships for textbook rentals for Spring 2015 and will award another $5000 in book rentals in the Fall. Awards are made by random selection of students who enter the drawing. (3) Bookstore space renovations are planned for the first few weeks following Spring commencement. These renovations will complete the store redesign that was planned last year when the new bookstore contract was awarded to Neebo. (4) The bookstore will hold a special “Anniversary Sale” event March 27-28-29.

Starfish Student Outreach System
Senator Sinclaire reported on a new software tool (Starfish) that will replace the existing Student Outreach System (SOS) accessed through the MyCampus portal. The project team plans to pilot test the system in the Summer term.

Faculty Senate Academic Restructuring Committee
Chair Isaacson reported the Faculty Senate Academic Restructuring Committee and the Provost’s Academic Restructuring Committee generated similar recommendations for reorganizing the campus into six colleges, and that an open-space meeting is planned for April 2, 2015. Suggestions from that meeting will be incorporated in a proposal for restructuring that will be submitted to SGOC. A timeline for the initial implementation is
expected to be Fall 2016. Senator John Hall voiced concerns regarding accreditation efforts during this period of changing leadership, and Senator Beineke requested that Chair Isaacson ask for a response on a previously submitted white paper at her next meeting with the Provost.

Chair’s Report

Reception for the Board of Trustees
Chancellor Hudson inquired if Faculty Senate wants to continue its tradition of co-hosting a Spring reception for the Board of Trustees. The Senate agreed to co-host and Chair Isaacson will advise the date.

Faculty Senate Meetings in April
Senate is not likely to meet on April 3, but will plan to meet on April 17.

Faculty Retirement Reception on April 14
Chair Isaacson will use email to advise the location and time of this event.

Faculty Marshals for Commencement on May 9
Chair Isaacson will seek volunteers by email.

Faculty Association Funds
After multiple meetings and extensive conversations with Phillip Jackson, Chair Isaacson reports she is working on an investment plan for the Faculty Association funds that will likely provide a higher yield. She expects to present her report on this soon.

Faculty Senate Committee Appointments
Chair Isaacson will seek nominations for committees by email.

Request for Contribution from Faculty Association Funds for LinkedIn Consultant
Chair Isaacson reported receiving an inquiry from Andy Sustich, Vice Provost for Research & Graduate Studies, asking if the Faculty Association may be interested in helping cover a portion of the cost of a LinkedIn consultant. After a brief discussion, the Faculty Senate declined to provide Faculty Association funds for this event.

Budget Concerns
Chair Isaacson reported a $1.2 million shortfall coupled with increasing healthcare premiums and maintenance requirements has resulted in a $2.9 million budget challenge for our campus. She reported no recommendations have been made to date on budget increases, flat enrollment, or tuition.

Motion to Adjourn
Senator Lars Roberts moved to adjourn at 4:08 pm; Senator Donna Caldwell seconded the motion.
March 20, 2015

Senators in Attendance:

Absentees:

Proxies:

Association Officers:
Chair Julie Isaacson

Agriculture (1)
Greg Phillips

Business (3)
Sam Pae
Richard Segall
Jollean K. Sinclaire

Education & Behavioral Science(6)
John Beineke
Julie Grady
John Hall
Mitch Holifield
Ryan Kelly

Engineering (1)
Shivan Haran

Fine Arts (3)
Claire Abernathy
Kyle Chandler
Bill Rowe

Humanities & Social Sciences (5)
Win Bridges
Hans Hacker
Gretchen Hill

Warren Johnson
Cherisse Jones-Branch

Library & Information Resources (1)
Wendy Crist

Media & Communications (2)
Pradeep Mishra
Larz Roberts

Military Science (1)
Cecil Clark

Nursing & Health Professions (6)
Brenda Anderson
Rejoice Addae
Donna Caldwell

Judy Pfriemer
Debbie Shelton

Science & Mathematics (4)
Jeff Jenness
Bruce Johnson
Fabricio Medina-Bolivar
Suzanne Melescue

University College (1)
Nikesha Nesbitt

Visitors
Marika Kyriakos