

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

2-3-2017

COLLEGE/DEPARTMENT SENATOR

AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY

COLLEGE Greg Phillips

BUSINESS

COMPUTER & INFORMATION TECH Richard Segall

ECONOMICS & FINANCE Phillip Tew

MANAGEMENT & MARKETING Sharon James

EDUCATION & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE David Holman-absent

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP Gwen Neal-absent

HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, & SS Claudia Benavides-absent

PSYCHOLOGY & COUNSELING Loretta McGregor

TEACHER EDUCATION Jeonghee Choi

AT LARGE Amy R. Pearce

ENGINEERING

COLLEGE

Shivan Haran---absent

FINE ARTS

ART & DESIGN Joe Ford

MUSIC Kyle Chandler

THEATRE Claire Abernathy

HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

CRIMINOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY & GEOG Mary Donaghy

ENGLISH, PHIL & WORLD, LANGUAGES Richard Burns

Win Bridges

HISTORY Aiqun Hu

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Hans Hacker---absent

LIBRARY

April Sheppard

MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

COMMUNICATIONS Manu Bhandari

MEDIA Pradeep Mishra-absent

MILITARY SCIENCE

NURSING & HEALTH PROFESSIONS

NURSING Brinda McKinney
HEALTH PROFESSIONS Annette Bednar
SOCIAL WORK Jody Long
AT LARGE Debbie Shelton
AT LARGE Larry Morton-absent
AT LARGE Amber Wooten

SCIENCES & MATHEMATICS

BIOLOGIC SCIENCE Bob Bennett---absent
CHEMISTRY & PHYSICS Ross Carroll
COMPUTER SCIENCE Jeff Jenness-absent
MATHEMATICS & STATISTICS Suzanne Melescue
AT LARGE

UNIVERSITY

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES Nikesha Nesbitt

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President, Faculty Association Mike McDaniel
Past President, Faculty Association Greg Phillips
Vice President Loretta McGregor
Secretary/Treasurer, Faculty Association Joanna Grymes

Visitors- Doug Whitlock

Call to order-

Quorum established. Meeting called to order at 3:02 p.m.

First Order of Business-

Approval of agenda and minutes. It was noted that the Mexico campus will be opening fall 2017, not fall 2018. That change was noted and the minutes were updated. Hearing no other changes, Richard Burns moved to approve the minutes. Approval of agenda and minutes were made by acclamation.

Opening statements-

Mike McDaniel began by introducing guest speaker Shane Broadway. Broadway is an A-State alumnus, Wilson award winner, former member of the SGA, and the former director of the ADHE. He is now the

Vice President of University Relations. The state legislature is busy and Broadway was present to give an update on new developments.

Guest Speaker-

Broadway opened by stating his appreciation to speak with the senate and reminded everyone to contact him for assistance at any time. He can assist programs, faculty, or agencies of the state with research ideas, data for research projects, at the state and federal level. His office tracks a number of bills, they read and send them to the appropriate deans/faculty.

Updates on legislation:

The Budget bill is one step away from being sent through the senate and the house. It is proceeding well. There were concerns about last month's revenue which may result in budget cuts, but this will continue to be monitored throughout the fiscal year.

Higher Education Funding Bill is on the senate floor and then going to the governor. This will not be a blanket policy and the entire formula will not be signed into law. There needs to be room for individual institution student population and full time vs. part time student bodies.

Campus Carry Bill 1249 has passed the full house and is now onto the senate. It is seemingly favorable due to the new committee make-up. Other states were tracked on similar legislation to see what language was used. This information can be used to see if our university wants to implement similar verbiage. Universities operate differently than other state agencies so the language must reflect those differences. (One example is students living on campus) Broadway pointed out that Representative Collins fully believes in the campus carry legislation and feels it is the best policy for each institution.

McDaniel asked Broadway if there would be a benefit in calling our representative or would it be beneficial for the faculty senate to make an official statement.

Broadway advised each person calling their representative rather than the faculty senate making a statement. In his experience organizational statements do not "carry as much weight" as each person making the effort to call. He reminded all faculty senators to never use state funds or property to voice opinions for legislative issues. Always use personal cell phones, home phones, personal e-mail addresses, and/or personal letterhead.

Doug Whitlock asked when calls are made to legislators do they get individual pink slips or a compiled list of tabulated votes. Broadway stated they get individual pink slips from every person who calls.

Sanctuary Campus Bill- This began as a bill regarding sanctuary cities. The bill has been amended so the wording does not jeopardize an institution losing all state funding but rather only state sponsored scholarships. More information on this bill will come at a later time.

Debbie Shelton mentioned two apps for contacting legislators. "Lobby Up" and "Electric Cooperative of Arkansas"

Richard Burns asked if we should encourage students to contact their representatives.

Broadway said we can give them information and advise them on how to contact, but cannot request them to contact anyone. Whitlock concurred and said no faculty should be in a position of telling students they must contact a representative or what to say.

Broadway closed by reiterating to contact him anytime with questions or concerns and gave his contact information. sbroadway@asusystem.edu or 501-944-2382

Old Business-

Action Item 17SP-01 Proposal to remove shared governance from Faculty Handbook. Motion to approve made by Richard Burns. Second by April Sheppard. Vote unanimous-approved

COIA (Action item)- There are two decisions that need to be made. One is the approval of the proposed bylaws changes. The second is the consideration to drop out of the COIA. McDaniel stated he would suggest a vote of “no” for the bylaws and the discussion to drop out could continue after more can research and form an opinion. Kyle Chandler stated he is not in support of dropping out of the COIA because faculty senate presidents try to ensure that football is not the primary focus of a student’s education, nor does it take football to a professional level where students paid to play. In his opinion they seem to be opening representation to many more schools. McDaniel’s opinion is his concern that there are only a few decision makers representing the whole.

The discussion regarding A-State’s membership was put on hold and a motion was made by Loretta McGregor to abstain from the vote on bylaws changes at the next COIA meeting. Greg Phillips seconded. Vote: 16 FOR, 0 against
Motion carries and A-State will abstain from the bylaws changes vote.

New Business-

Academic Affairs has made a call to establish two committees- Faculty Load and Finance. The faculty load committee needs six faculty members, one from each college. The finance committee needs 4-5 people with budget and business experience to give an independent read on where the university is spending its money. There is a call for nominations which can be given to Mike McDaniel. Please make sure the person you nominate is willing to serve.

There will be a new place on campus considered a “Free Speech Zone”. These zones can be used to pass out pamphlets, collect petition signatures, or give speeches. There are currently zones near the library, the arch, and the Reng center. The newest one will be the Farmer’s Market pavilion. Free speech zones must be provided, but can be restricted to not interrupt classes.

Final Comments-

McDaniel made comments regarding Doug Whitlock’s “First Friday” video. In the video Whitlock states how pleased he was at the shared governance process in regards to the policy on Chancellor and higher administration evaluations. It returned from the SGOC improved and with greater specificity, proving that shared governance can have great value when many minds can participate and give attention to matters at hand.

McDaniel closed by stating he is looking at the committee structure around campus to see if there are committees that need to “sunset” for lack of meeting, posting minutes, or accomplishments. There will be more on this discussion in the following meetings.

Hearing no other issues for discussion Richard Burns made a motion to adjourn and Loretta McGregor seconded. Approval to adjourn was made by acclamation. Next meeting will be Friday February 17 at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Wooten