

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

2/17/17

COLLEGE/DEPARTMENT	SENATOR
AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE	Greg Phillips
BUSINESS	
COMPUTER & INFORMATION TECH	Richard Segall
ECONOMICS & FINANCE	Phillip Tew
MANAGEMENT & MARKETING	Sharon James - proxy Erick Chang
EDUCATION & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE	
CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE	David Holman - absent
EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP	Gwen Neal - absent
HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, & SS	Claudia Benavides
PSYCHOLOGY & COUNSELING	Loretta McGregor
TEACHER EDUCATION	Jeonghee Choi
AT LARGE	Amy R. Pearce - absent
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

MILITARY SCIENCE

NURSING & HEALTH PROFESSIONS

NURSING

Brinda McKinney

HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Annette Bednar

SOCIAL WORK

Jody Long - absent

AT LARGE

Debbie Shelton - absent

AT LARGE

Larry Morton

AT LARGE

Amber Wooten - absent

SCIENCES & MATHEMATICS

BIOLOGIC SCIENCE

Bob Bennett

CHEMISTRY & PHYSICS

Ross Carroll

COMPUTER SCIENCE

eff Jenness

MATHEMATICS & STATISTICS

Suzanne Melescue

AT LARGE

UNIVERSITY

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Nikeshia Nesbitt - proxy Kerry Tew

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President, Faculty Association

Mike McDaniel

Past President, Faculty Association

Greg Phillips

Vice President

Loretta McGregor

Secretary/Treasurer, Faculty Association

Joanna Grymes - absent

Visitors- Marika Kyriakos, Sarah M?, John Moore, Lynita Cooksey, Brad Rawlins

Call to order-

Quorum established. Meeting called to order at 3:01 p.m. by Loretta McGregor. Movement to accept the agenda by Rick Burns, Pradeep Mishra seconded.

First Order of Business-

Approval of minutes from February 3, 2017, December 2, 2016, and January 20, 2017.

Richard Burns moved to approve the minutes from February 3rd. April Sheppard seconded the motion. Approval of minutes was made by acclamation. Greg Phillips moved to accept the other two sets of minutes, Richard Burns seconded. Approval of minutes was unanimous.

Opening statements-

Dr. McGregor asked Dr. Mike McDaniels to speak regarding the memo about the SGOC. McDaniels said Dr. Whitlock is interested in how the SGOC can become more nimble. Dr. Whitlock would like to see faculty representation in the SGOC be one senior faculty member from each college that is also a member of the Faculty Senate. He suggested there would probably be a parallel to this with the staff. At this time these are just suggestions for people to look at and think about.

Dr. McDaniels went on to say he had recently received a copy of the minutes of the academic budget committee and there is a 1.2 million dollar short fall in salary equity. He will forward these on to the faculty.

Dr. McGregor asked Dr. Cooksey if she had comments regarding these minutes. She said there will be a committee to study the formula for how we look at faculty equity. This committee will consider how other campuses approach equity as well because we cannot seem to close the gap. She expressed gratitude for the task committee that will be looking at load equity.

Rick Burns asked if we were looking at campus like ours throughout the country or state wide. Dr. Cooksey responded that it was a little of everything; campuses that are very similar to us. Not much has changed since she arrived and it is a little out of date. This is a long term study.

Dr. Pratt, who is on that committee, shared that the equity formal is problematic; this formula will never bring you to a place where you have equity. He said that in terms of workload equity the committee has put out feelers nationwide. One of the things they are looking at are ways people take into account what people do.

Dr. McGregor suggested that now that we have established these committees and once they meet we should have them come back and give an update and let us know what is going on. She expressed the importance of keeping us in the loop so we can report back to our constituents.

Guest Speakers

Dr. Brad Rawlins, Assistant to the Provost for matters pertaining to the Quaretaro campus.

Dr. Rawlins' role in Quaretaro is primarily over the academic quality of what we are offering in Mexico. He expressed his intent to provide an update on what is happening at the campus and what the needs are.

Quaretaro will be the first American style residential campus in Mexico; a living learning community which is unique in Mexico. It is a public-private partnership. All of the costs for operating the campus reside with a licensed non profit organization in Mexico. All employees, faculty and staff will be employees of ASUCQ. A-State is providing it's knowledge of higher education to the campus, but is not investing any money in the campus. Degrees earned there will be valid in the US and in Mexico.

The campus is about 10 minutes from the airport and 25 minutes from downtown. Industrial growth is also happening in this area, so it is a great location. There are 370 acres dedicated to

the campus, which is part of a larger planned community “Elisia”. Phase I: Residential areas (4 dorms - 1000 students), academic areas, service areas, sports areas. He shared photos and architectural renderings of the campus and its buildings.

Win Bridges asked upon its completion what was the total number of students it would accommodate.

All undergraduate students in their first year will live on campus. The maximum capacity is 976 students.

Recruiting: The goal is to have 976 students (full capacity) in the first year. The recruiting system has only been in place since about December, while we start our recruiting in May with senior preview days etc. building the campus while recruiting students and hiring faculty. Dr. Rawlins Shared data about the number of “leads” they have (4228) on students.

3633 undergraduates

391 graduates

915 undergraduates have applied.

100 of those have actually paid application fee

35 of these have been admitted and submitted all of their materials.

The number one hurdle has been the language requirement. They are the same requirements as those of international students coming here to Arkansas State University. Many have a proficiency that meets the need in Mexico, but doesn’t meet ours. Two new language facilities are open to test students so they can be admitted to the university.

The challenge now is to get everyone through the application process and get them enrolled. Nearly 10% of the applications are from the United States. This illustrates that there is a lot of interest in this University. Queretaro, State of Mexico, and Mexico City are the primary areas students are coming from.

Academic positions that will exist include: Vice Rector (Brad Rawlins), 36-40 faculty, and 2 associate deans. The University is being treated as a large college here. All faculty will be ASUCQ employees not A-State Employees. Dr. Rawlins assured us they were working to maintain the same standard of learning and faculty at ASU-Q.

He felt they are very close to hiring the two associate deans. First candidate will be here on campus Monday (Feb. 20) giving presentations in the STEM areas. There are still two candidates who are finalists for the associate dean of Business, Communication and Liberal Arts.

Dr. Rawlins shared the necessary makeup of faculty needed for 1000 students. Composition is the greatest requirements (12 FTE). Otherwise, generally 1-2 faculty members in each area to get us through the first year.

There are currently more than 600 applications for faculty positions, though a number of these are not qualified. He Shared number of eligible applicants in each area. Many are qualified with PhDs. Composition is an area he particularly wants to have faculty from the United States. He went on to say that students graduating with strong English writing skills are going to be very

competitive both in the United States and in Mexico.

Mike McDaniel asked if someone from current A-State faculty went to teach in Quaretaro would they not be an employee of Arkansas State anymore. Dr. Rawlins explained that they would still be A-State faculty and would be treated as a visiting professor. It would have to be an arrangement with the faculty and the dean and would be similar to a sabbatical.

Senator McDaniel asked how much the political climate has thrown a wet blanket on the efforts.

It is an unknown. It's not the same political climate, for sure, that existed back in May when Dr. Rawlins started working on this project. He said we have become a great option for students who want a United States education but do not want to come to the United States. He believes there are great academic advantages to this project for our students to go an study in a safe environment and for students form Mexico to come to Arkansas and study.

Senator Claudia Benavides asked about the cost for international students. Dr. Rawlins said the price point is just below Monterrey Tech, in Mexio.

Dr. Bennett said he noticed a course he had developed and a course Dr. Pratt had developed on the list of courses being offered in Quaretaro. He asked how that would work since no one has ever taught it but himself, so no one knows what is in that class and at the time no one had asked him about it.

Dr. Pratt said someone in Quaretaro would be teaching it and Dr. Rawlins add that he imagined someone would speak with him about those courses at some point. He assured the faculty there would be communication across campuses.

Dr. Pratt suggested it is really no different than teaching at ASU Newport or something like that and that all of that discussion would take place beforehand. He also pointed out that those courses probably wouldn't be taught until the demand is high enough.

Dr. Rawlins said they are following the lead of the branch campuses; they won't start creating program we don't have in Jonesboro, but we can develop things that are collaborative across campuses. This opens the door to some unique opportunities.

Senator Tew said the college of business has a lot of concerns: they are having difficulty filling accounting positions because we are so much under the market in what we are offering. He wanted to know how they intend to get quality when you cannot pay them as much?

That concern has been brought up a lot. We don't need accounting to teach in the first year. The MBA becomes the big challenge. Dr. Hunt and Dr. Rawlins are talking about offering the MBA in ways that would benefit the college and meet the needs in Mexico but wouldn't require hiring 6 faculty. He went on to say that he and Dr. Hunt are trying to think outside the box. He asked that we try to keep our minds open because he thinks we will all benefit a lot from making this thing work. He assured the faculty that his job is to ensure academic quality and that he is dedicated to that as much as the faculty are.

Old Business-

Action Item: 17SP-02 A proposal on annual evaluation of administrators with faculty rank.

Proposal brought forward by Dr. Whitlock that allows faculty an opportunity to evaluate administrators. Dr. McDaniel moved to support the proposal and Senator Richard Burns seconded the motion. Dr. McDaniel asked whether this would change the way as faculty we currently evaluate our chairs and deans. Dr. Pratt responded no. The proposal passed without opposition.

Committee Appointments:

Senate Finance Committee : Dr. Richard Segall, Dr. Jollean Sinclair, Dr. Bill Hu

Faculty Load Committee (note, this is an academic affairs committee): Dr. Jeannean Rollins (CNHP), Dr. Russ Jones (COB), Dr. Shelly Gibson (COAH), Dr. Allyn Onto (COMS), Dr. Shivan (COAET), Dr. Beverly Gilbert (COEBS)

The Faculty Load Committee will look at load across the University.

Dr. Burns was curious about the criteria for the committee; he said his college has 10 or more department. Dr. Cooksey responded that the committee can be broken up in to other groups in the future. The intent is there will be feedback from subgroups, etc. If not on the list, when subgroups are formed they would still have the opportunity to serve. They did not want the initial size of the committee to become too large.

The makeup of the Campus Climate Committee has continued being looked at, based on feedback and there have been some changes to the recommendation. They are still looking for feedback and the time to address concerns is now because this committee is going to become a reality.

Dr. McDaniel asked about the difference between the Campus Climate Committee the current Diversity Committee that is part of the SGOC; they seem to have parallel purposes. He indicated the new committee would operate outside of shared governance. Dr. Whitlock would still like to have feedback form the faculty.

McGregor reminded us that Maurice Gipson did actually come to the body and we had several concerns about the format of the committee. She mentioned this to let us know our concerns were heard and addressed but that does not absolve us of looking at it again. She felt we should see it as a good gesture they heard our concerns and tried to make the appropriate accommodations.

Senator Benavides expressed her appreciation for the responsibility and honor of being able to provide feedback because this is something that impacts everyone.

Senator Burns asked why the committee would not be part of shared governance and why the two parallel committees could not be unified. Dr. McGregor reminded the senate this is not about diversity, it is about campus climate. Dr. Cooksey said the two committees actually have very different purposes. If a possible grievance occrued, the shared governance committee would address that concern. The Campus Climate Committee is not meant to do that.

Senator Benavides commended the committee for the desire to be proactive. She said we want to be sure the climate is such that we can anticipate problems and hopefully avoid them before they blow up.

Dr. McDaniel indicated he would include this on the agenda for our next meeting and we can treat it as shared governance.

New Business -

Dr. Cooksey shared that income from the ESL program has been decreasing at about 30% over the last 3 years. Dynamics have changed; students are no longer receiving support from home countries, student are looking at university rankings, ESL programs are opening in their home countries... She said they are trying to be entrepreneurial and want to provide an ESL program in China. This program would not be credit bearing; it is like getting a certificate for completing something. We will not have a campus in China, just an ESL program.

ESL tuition covers international offices, ESL courses, study abroad student stipends, and the ESL program is self-supporting through ESL revenue.

She went on to say they hope that at some point there will be an ESL program in Quaretaro. Right now many of the students will probably come from private institutions where students will have been learning language since Kindergarten. but as they seen a need this could become an opportunity.

Dr. McDaniels moved to adjourn the meeting. Senator Rick Burns seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 4:11 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday February 3rd.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Abernathy