

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
February 2nd, 2023
HSS 1028

Attendees: Sudeepa Bhattacharyya, Andrea Brown, Donna Caldwell, Gary Edwards, Addie Fleming, Karen Graham, Bert Greenwalt, Matt Harmon, John Hershberger, Zahid Hossain, Cheryl Knight, Veena Kulkarni, Scott Mangan, William Maynard, Suzanne Melescue, Carlitta Moore, Tim Oliver, Arianne Pait, David Pearlman, Claude Rector, Robert Robinette, DayDay Robinson, Ed Salo, Richard Segall, Sarah Scott, Rollin Tusalem, Kim Vickrey, Robert Williams

Proxy Attendees: Robert Williams for Ibrahim Duyar

Absentees: Kris Biondollilo, Hrishikesh Desai, Gabriel Horowitz, Pradeep Mishra, Nikesha Nesbitt, Jake Qualls, Eric Scudamore, J. Morgan Weatherly

Meeting Called to Order: Ed Salo established a quorum. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Ed Salo.

Order of the Day: Motion made to approve the order of the day with changes (Dr. Shields to speak instead of Dr. Fry) by Andrea Brown, seconded by John Hershberger, all in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made to approve the January 20, 2022 minutes by Matt Harmon, seconded by Sarah Scott, all in favor, motion carried.

Q&A with Chancellor, Dr. Todd Shields:

- Dr. Shields
 - Dr. Fry at AR Vet meeting in Little Rock
 - Provost Search-
 - Carlitta is Co-Chair of Provost search, 33 applicants; very diverse; committee ranked and got top 5; drop off after 6 people; Zoom top 6 for sure; others still on the list. Julie was able to schedule them all for Zoom next week on Monday and Tuesday. Nine questions to ask every candidate regarding: leadership style, communication, being R2, DEIB, recruiting and retaining staff and faculty, opportunities here at A-State, what scares you about being here, fundraising, enrollment strategies. Will plan to hopefully bring top 2-4 to campus. Will have meetings with faculty, staff, students, dean's council, chairs council, provost, alumni, public presentation, and with committee. Applicants had a lot of experience; amazed with diversity; people from all over the US and different types of universities. Do not think we will have a failed search.
 - Are any candidates provosts at other institutions?- Think there is 1.
 - Are any of the candidates in the top 6 within the ASU system? No, and there were no internal candidates.

- Sponsored Programs- delay in getting money?
 - Issues on front end. Some of the issues are because more people are submitting grants. The Office of Sponsored Programs has lost several staff members. Large gap in communication between finance and awarding team. Conversation with Tom Risch and Russ Hannah has been had. Trying to build up the infrastructure.
- Faculty reallocation
 - Andrea asked for an update on this. 13:1 student faculty ratio. We do need to re-allocate and move faculty around. Some departments have seen growth, but no additional faculty. Other areas have stayed the same or decreased, and faculty have not been moved.
 - Ratio does not include adjuncts; only includes full-time and online
 - Process or formula being developed?
 - Replacement forms are coming in. Putting together docusign so everyone is filling out the same information and then populating information; Chairs and Deans can track where the form is in the process. Isn't a good process currently for tracking where lines are. Yes, there is a form to request a line. Workload is not equitable.
 - Depends on college for workload assignments—vary greatly. Grants might buy yourself out of class and/or contact hours. Not a workload policy that is consistent across campus. Faculty handbook does not match those within colleges.
 - Chair workload policy varies between colleges. Pay stipend is lower than teaching in summer. Dr. Fry and Dr. Shields met with the Chairs Council and discussed a workload policy. Needs to be levels of Directors across different programs—depending on size of programs, grants, etc.
- No coordinated scheduling
 - Yes, some universities have this. That's the norm!
 - No centralized scheduling for room assignments either
 - Need to work on this; breaking down silos
- Promotion/tenure
 - Junior faculty- change the terminology to just “pre-tenure”
 - Seniors faculty- I don't have to do anything
- Equity handbook for online faculty
 - Need another faculty handbook—current one is not based on R2 status or online teaching
- Hiring faculty where they fit best
 - Teaching vs faculty
 - Have faculty doing what “feeds their soul”
- Training for department chairs/administration
 - No formal training process
 - Meeting with EAB to look into this

- No leadership development programs or mentor programs on this campus
- Degree Works, Chris Boothman
 - Degree evaluation system
 - Allows students to follow the progression of their degree plan and take courses that are degree applicable
 - Enhance experience for students and faculty advisors
 - Access through self service banner
 - What-if analysis feature– what if I change my major
 - Template management for degree plans
 - 2023-
 - Update to mobile responsive dashboard
 - Build out 8 semester degree plan and assign to student
 - Helps ensure for financial aid that it's a degree applicable course
 - Integrate with banner when students register
 - Working on tab to make a substitution request within degree works
 - Students will be able to view all available sections for any courses they need.
 - Working toward building templates for transfer students.
- Canvas Rollout, Dr. Will McClean- will discuss at next meeting

Old Business:

Committee Reports: discuss at next meeting

- Team Teaching
- Faculty Retention
- Handbook Committee

New Business:

Shared Governance Proposals: discuss at next meeting

- Proposal 202310-01: Reduction in Upper Level Credit Hours for Baccalaureate

Other Business:

No discussion.

Open Forum:

No discussion.

Ed Salo adjourned the meeting at 5:01 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 17th at 3:00 pm in HSS 1028.