

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2023

Present: Richard Segall (Business), Arianne Pait, Alexander Sokolov, Jessica Curtis, Paul Finnicum, Zahid Hossain, David Pearlman, John Hershberger, Suzanne Melescue, Pradeep Mishra, Audrey Folsom, Khem Aeyal, Kim Vickrey, Karen Graham, Andrea Brown, Sarah Scott, Toccara Carter, Matt Carey, Kristen Sumler, Katie Camden, Scott Manger, Ibrahim Suyar, Jake Qualls, Dwayne Powell, Rob Williams, Cheryl Knight, Bert Greenwalt, Gary Edwards, Robert Robinette, Rollin Tusalem, Veena Kulkarni, Ed Salo, Amanda Muhler, Tom Moore (Visitor), Will McLean (Visitor), Calvin White (Visitor)

Meeting Called to Order by Edward Salo at 3:00 pm

Order of the Day

Moved to approve it by Andrea Brown. Second by Paul Finnicum. Vote to approve passed.

Approval of Minutes from April 21, 2023

Moved to approve it by Andrea Brown. Second by Paul Finnicum. Vote to approve passed.

Provost Update:

Notes from the Provost update: The Provost feels it is critical to address the Faculty and Staff Senates. Dr. White will be meeting with the executive committee of both groups.

He wants robust debate with decorum on changes to the university. He will be frank with us.

A-State is not in trouble. Enrollment is up and is great to see students here at 3 p.m. on Friday.

We will be focusing on undergraduate enrollment growth, and working with a consultant to develop a strategy.

The HLC visit is coming next April. We are preparing for the visits, and the report will be live in January for comments.

Policy changes will be brought before the Faculty Senate for feedback. One of those policies will be the faculty workload policy.

Cahiers. Will be responsible for faculty evaluations each year. Deans will evaluate chairs, Provost will evaluate the Deans.

We must lean into research. Research appropriate for an R2 university.

Low Enrollment classes. We can't defend those financially. But we will work to make sure if the class is needed, it will happen.

Scheduling changes (mandate from Chancellor). Move to centralized scheduling. All colleges will have classes M-F in 3 years. The provost will not dictate how that happens. Classes will be spread out to have classes all day, every day.

The provost stated he sees himself first as a faculty member. "I work for you."

He explained the canceling of classes on the Friday before Labor Day. It was a choice of the Chancellor, and they could not decide before that day because of legal requirements.

Provost asked if we would think about moving Faculty Senate meetings to another time for parents.

Discussed the need to do away with unnecessary overloads.

Students want a variety of classes and options.

Regarding research: we will not force people to be research active.

Next year, faculty travel money will be centralized in the Provost's office, not in the departments.

Election Senate Secretary:

Addie Fleming nominated Katie Camden

Sarah Scott seconded the nomination. Senate elected her secretary.

Election Vice-President

John Hershberger self-nominated.

Zahid Hossain seconded the nomination. Senate elected him vice president.

Reappointment of Parliamentarian:

Edward Salo appointed Kevin Henning as the Parliamentarian.

Guest Speaker: No guest speaker. Lori Winn was out sick. To be rescheduled.

New Business:

Discussion of the Canvas observer email of September 1. Chris Boothman and the Provost's office will be invited to speak on that matter at the next meeting.

Old Business:

Ed Salo stated he is checking on the status of the Team Teaching proposal from the Shared Governance Committee

Adjourned 3:52 pm