

**ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
November 18th, 2022
HSS 1028**

Attendees: Kris Biondollilo, Andrea Brown, Addie Fleming, Karen Graham, Bert Greenwalt, Matt Harmon, John Hershberger, Gabriel Horowitz, Zahid Hossain, Veena Kulkarni, Scott Mangan, William Maynard, Suzanne Melescue, Carlitta Moore, Nikesha Nesbitt, Arianne Pait, Jake Qualls, Claude Rector, Robert Robinette, Dayday Robinson, Ed Salo, Richard Segall, Kim Vickrey, Robert Williams

Proxy Attendees: Amany Saleh for Ibrahim Duyar

Absentees: Sudeepa Bhattacharyya, Donna Caldwell, Hrishikesh Desai, Gary Edwards, Katie Hill, Cheryl Knight, Pradeep Mishra, Tim Oliver, Sarah Scott, Eric Scudamore, Rollin Tusalem, J. Morgan Weatherly

Meeting Called to Order: Ed Salo established a quorum. The meeting was called to order at 3:01 pm by Ed Salo.

Order of the Day: Motion made to approve the order of the day by Andrea Brown, seconded by Matt Harmon, all in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made to approve the November 4, 2022 minutes with corrections from Robert Robinette by Andrea Brown, seconded by Robert Robinette, all in favor, motion carried.

Minutes were updated by secretary, Addie Fleming, to reflect that the “Library developed a plan to consolidate services” on page 1 of meeting minutes. The updated and approved meeting minutes will be posted on the Faculty Senate website.

Q&A with Chancellor, Dr. Todd Shields:

- Dr. Shields is out of town and unable to be here. He will be here on 12/2/22 for the next Faculty Senate meeting.

Guest Speaker: Amber Martin, Counseling Center

- Counseling Center
 - What do we do? We counsel!
 - Counseling Center offers a number of different counseling opportunities. Offer 1-on-1 individual sessions, usually biweekly- don’t want them to develop dependency. They do have some students in need of weekly sessions and then move to biweekly sessions. This is determined on a case-by-case basis. They also offer group counseling. Their office is currently in the Student Union but moving to the former Wilson Advising building. They can then offer more group sessions, which offer peer-to-peer support. Structured groups and workshops are offered.

Workshops on self care, imposter syndrome, how to develop healthy relationships. Therapy Assistance Online (TAO) online access- “TAO Self Help” left side tab on counseling center website

(<https://www.astate.edu/a/counseling-services/>); click on program; different modules that allow students to learn more (anxiety) about specific topics; educates and puts terms to experiences, and walks students through exercises to work through issues. Direct link to TAO: <https://www.astate.edu/a/counseling-services/tao-self-help/>

- Two modes for counseling session: in-person & virtual (have to be in state of AR)
- To get started: fill out in-take paperwork; always screen it; paperwork provides data on the student and allows counselors to screen how quickly they need to get in for a session; Handle staffing and staff out to the appropriate counselor who will be best fit for the student. Usually can get in within 2-3 weeks if they are able to wait. Amber reiterated that “we don’t turn people away”.
- All full time staff members are licensed in AR to be counselors. Are bound by confidentiality. Break confidentiality if a student is at risk to self or others. Are mandated reporters for abuse.
- Can assist students with anxiety, depression, adjusting to campus community, finances, health of family members, issues while in college, psychotic breaks- can refer to community resources when needed.
- Questions:
 - How many students come through?
 - ~25% seek services; didn’t have an exact number.
 - What resources does university have for individuals with autism spectrum disorders?
 - Not sure, but do see these students in counseling. Need to look at it from a University standpoint. Access and Accommodation Services can assist.
 - How big are groups?
 - Relatively small; 2-7 students
 - What data is collected and kept on how many students use TAO?
 - Don’t see a self-help session- it is anonymous in TAO; if we (Counseling Center) connect a student to TAO, we are able to see how many times they’ve logged in and what modules they have completed. UC is using TAO for FYE.
 - How should a student report another student who is at risk for harming themselves? Should this be done in Pack Support? What if a student is reporting suicidal ideation to us as faculty?
 - Pack Support is great and use it if concerned. Best way to get students connected to counseling is to use Pack Support, but also send counseling@astate.edu an email or email Amber (Long) Martin at along@astate.edu and copy the student in the email. If a student is threatening harm-

encourage an open conversation with them; take immediate steps (see below).

- Team who gets Pack Support and they try to connect with student–Care Team; UPD can do welfare check
- Call or walk them to Counseling Center office; may have to get UPD involved
- What is the wait time for a student to be seen?
 - Depends on semester and timing within the semester; can sometimes get in within a week; as semester goes on, spots get full and may be a 2-3 week wait.
- Are you taking new students for intake appointments?
 - We aren't turning any students away; case-by-case basis.
- With the rise in mental health issues on college campuses, is there a plan to increase resources or staff?
 - Have been operating a counselor down this year; will have full staff again in January. Wide variety of groups offered-educate your students on these group sessions. We are capping sessions for the number of sessions for each semester or year for each student. Students get x amount of individual sessions and unlimited group sessions. Try to reserve individual sessions when students are struggling the most. The work students can do within 6-8 individual sessions is great. Staff of 6; hope to have more but no current plans to add more. Counselors are the ones who lead group sessions. Battling mental health stigma and group stigma.
- How long are the sessions? 45-50 mins; same for group sessions
- 14,000 students- who all is this?
 - We primarily serve students in Jonesboro; but do provide for online- must be in the state of AR; in example, we serve Mountain Home students who take class through the Jonesboro campus. Have to make sure online students are a good fit for virtual sessions and must have a way to verify that they are in state, which can be tricky. Can refer them out if needed. Also serve NYIT too. ~8,000 on campus; 6,000 online
- Is the Counseling Center for faculty too?
 - EAP system through HR- for faculty; counseling service is for students only and is free (part of student fees they pay for, but no additional cost to them)
- What about a student who goes home out of state and can't continue sessions, but needs them (i.e. family member passes away)
 - When they leave, they typically come back and can work with them then. We can do some consultation, but can't do counseling. Can also do consultation with faculty as well;

can call and formulate a plan of action. Also do classroom presentations. Can do a stress management program in your classroom. We (Counseling Center) try to save time within the day for classroom visits and emergency sessions.

- If UPD does a welfare check, does someone from Counseling Center staff also go?
 - Yes, we can; we are a 24 hour on-call facility; RAs or RACs (Housing) or UPD can alert us; UPD is trained to be student oriented for student services.
- What percentage of the student population is engaged in services?
 - Don't have an exact percent, but probably ~15-25%
- Is there a report that the counseling center releases regarding services?
 - Do put date in quarterly board reports; EMR with records separate from A-State; can run reports. Don't do a public record. Possible over 7,000 sessions over the course of 2021-2022; but would have to look at numbers.
- Andrea Brown mentioned that her department has the Counseling Center come to orientations for their students. This is a great idea and helps segway into services if students need them at a later time.
- The Counseling Center hopes to have an open house in January at their new location. Moving to the old Wilson Advising Center building, which is directly across from the Smith building by the parking garage.

Old Business:

Committee Reports:

- Teach Teaching: John Hershberge gave a report from the ad hoc committee on Team Teaching. They met with the Provost this week and he is on board with the draft of their proposal. They plan to send out the proposal before the next meeting. It states that for 2 times, we can team-teach a course and each instructor will get credit (full-credit). Currently no policy in place on this and faculty only get half the credit load. Up to 4 faculty members, which is discussed in the policy. Minimum enrollment for courses that are team-taught to make as a course is discussed in the proposal. Chairs and Deans still have control to reject. Will send out and speak with Chairs Counsel, Deans Counsel, SGA, UCC. Goal is to improve student experience and encourage collaboration. Faculty get out of "silos", departments. Can help enrollment and retention. Could be an elective, special problems course, new themed gen ed course. Trying to be flexible to encourage collaboration and let each college/department determine how it works best for them. Helps set up a framework/skeleton for this to be done.

New Business:

Shared governance proposals:

- Admissions proposal:
 - See email from Ed on 11/16/22:
 - Ed was informed that the administration was pulling the SGOC admissions proposal. Here was the message he received and sent on to Faculty Senate:
 - “Due to the extended review timeline (with a decision potentially sent to the Chancellor in early February, which means it will be too late to impact the fall 2023 class) coupled with the wrong SGOC proposal being sent out for review causing a great deal of confusion among the various constituents, we have decided to pull the proposal. We will continue endeavoring to find pathways for access to a college education for students from the Delta and Arkansas. Thank you, Thilla”
 - Ed will still offer the comments that were gathered in case this proposal is reintroduced in the future.
 - No new SGOC proposals to discuss.

Other Business:

No other business.

Open Forum:

No discussion.

Ed Salo adjourned the meeting at 4:08 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 2nd at 3:00 pm in HSS 1028. Ed will be out of town; Carlitta will be presiding.