

A-State Faculty Senate  
Friday, November 3, 2017  
Minutes

Present:

**Steering Committee**

- Mike McDaniel - Chair/President Absent
- Loretta McGregor – President Elect Present
- Vice Chair – Claire Abernathy Present
- Secretary – April Sheppard Present
- Joanna Grymes - Secretary/Treasurer Faculty Association Present

**Agriculture and Engineering (2)**

- Greg Phillips Present
- Shivan Haran Absent

**Business (3)**

- Sharon James Proxy
- Richard Segall Present
- Philip Tew Absent

**Education & Behavioral Science (6)**

- Jeonghee Choi Present
- Amanda Wheeler Absent
- David Holman Present
- Sharon Davis Absent
- Gwen Neal Present
- Amy Pearce Present

**Fine Arts (3), Humanities & Social Sciences (6), and Media & Communications (2)**

**Fine Arts (3),**

- Claire Abernathy Present
- Matthew Carey Proxy
- Bill Rowe Present

**Humanities & Social Sciences (5)**

- Win Bridges Present
- Richard Burns Present

- Mary Donaghy Present
- William Maynard Present
- Rollin Tusalem Present

### **Media & Communications (2)**

- Manu Bhandari Present
- Pradeep Mishra Present

### **Library & Information Resources (1)**

- April Sheppard Present

### **Military Science (1)**

- Major Brian Mason Absent

### **Nursing & Health Professions (6)**

- Annette Bednar Present
- Jody Long Present
- Stacy Walz Present
- Donna Caldwell Proxy
- Jessie Camp Present
- Mollie Manning Present

### **Science & Mathematics (5)**

- Travis Marsico Present
- Ross Carroll Proxy
- William Paulsen Present
- Suzanne Melescue Present
- Jeff Jenness Absent

### **University College (1)**

- Nikesha Nesbit Present

#### Proxies:

Sharon James – Proxy Erick Chang  
 Matthew Carey – Proxy Marika Kyriakos  
 Donna Caldwell – Proxy Judy Pfriemer  
 Ross Carroll – Proxy Koushik Biswas

Guests:

Cathy Hall, Nursing

Tom Risch, Biology

Mary Jane Bradley, Dean's Rep

President Elect McGregor called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm. She stated that Chair McDaniel was ill and introduced herself to the Senate for those who may not know her well. She asked the Senate if there were any corrections to minutes for October 20<sup>th</sup>. Senator Burns made a motion to approve the minutes. Senator Phillips seconded; motion passed.

President Elect McGregor gave the floor to Chancellor Damphousse to introduce Mike Cogan from Huron Consulting Group to discuss the Accelerate ASU Efficiency and Transformation Review. Cogan gave the Senate a brief overview of his background in education and consulting. He then explained Huron's role in reviewing the ASU System, including:

- Huron is looking at the ASU System as a whole, including the System Office. Since ASU-J is the biggest campus, most time will be spent on us.
- The review process will involve multiple groups across the five campuses.
- Most of the work so far has been sorting through information and visiting the Systems Office in Little Rock.
  - The week of November 6-10 will probably be spent traveling to smaller campuses.
  - The week of November 13-17 will probably be spent in Jonesboro, following by MidSouth the following week.
- Review of entire system is divided into two parts:
  - First part: administration review.
    - Look at support areas (e.g. IT, HR, Facilities, etc).
    - Look at both qualitative and quantitative data.
      - Make sure to stay true to the mission.
      - Talk to people, get feedback.
      - Employees will receive survey to choose from 5 functions to tell the steering committee what makes it great or why it needs improvement.
      - Survey data will be aggregated to help identify areas to be looked at.
  - Second part: decision support for academic programs. Looking at:
    - Program economics (e.g. class size)
    - Policies (e.g. faculty load, double majors, etc)
    - Quality (e.g. adjuncts vs professors)
    - Flexibility (e.g. number of general eds vs electives)
    - Will not be making recommendations about programs, looking at how to better make decisions and gather data. Understand that one size does not fit all.
- The review will go through the end of January for first leg. Will come up with 30-40 potential items or areas of focus to be looked at to the steering committee before Winter Break.

Questions posed Cogan included:

- Are athletics on the radar? There has been no mention of football and the auxiliary funds that go to football instead of academics; Athletics are one of the areas to be looked at and will be treated the same as everyone else.

- Based on data and results, will Huron make budget recommendations; may make allocation recommendations, but not budget ones.
- Who asked you to do this and how much is being paid for your services; Systems Office asked Huron to conduct the review. Price is not yet finalized. Provost Cooksey verified that the review came from the Systems Office and that the Systems Office is paying for the consultation services. Request also came from the Board of Trustees.
- Are you looking at the mission of the system and have you been told our mission; Looking at both system and campus's missions. Knows about our E<sup>3</sup> mission, but believes it is outdated. They want to talk to people to learn the real mission of our campus, not just what is posted on the website.

Tom Risch addressed the Senate. He provided information about Red Wolves for Red Wolves and red wolf conservation efforts, including:

- Many students do not realize that "red wolf" is a real species and not just a mascot.
- All Making Connection students read *Secret World of Red Wolves* and many participate in Common Reader events.
- Red wolves are endangered species that once roamed all of Arkansas.
  - Currently 236 wolves in captivity in 43 facilities.
  - Red wolves are the only canine species native solely to the United States.
- Arkansas Center for Biodiversity Collections (ACBC) was designated by the US Wildlife Services as a new center for red wolf conservation.
  - Receive blood and physical specimens from all 43 facilities.
  - Specimens are available to researchers in limited quantities.
- Efforts have been made with mixed results to reintroduce red wolves to the wild.
  - Arkansas and Missouri Ozarks are ideal locations to reintroduce.
  - Hope to have breeding facility in Jonesboro in future.
  - Great need to educate people on benefits of red wolves and limit fear in order for reintroduction to be successful.
    - Red Wolves for Red Wolves student organization concerned with red wolf conservation through advocacy and education.
    - Studies give reason to believe that red wolves would help keep rodent and other animal populations in control; could help limit Chronic Wasting Disease in deer populations.
  - ASU is the only institution engaged in saving an American endangered species.

Questions posed to Risch included:

- Is there a concern CWD tainted meat, are wolves susceptible to CWD; more studies need to be done to learn if CWD affects wolves or if it can survive the digestive track.
- Any conservation or education efforts in high schools; yes, Brookland and Lake City High Schools have incorporated red wolves in their curriculum.

Provost Cooksey spoke to the Senate more about the efficiency and transformation review, stating that this review is so important because efficiencies will be part of the funding formula. Senator Rowe noted that Mike McDaniel appeared to be the only faculty member on the steering committee; this is because the committee is such a small group for 5 campuses and we have the strongest Faculty Senate, but faculty will be involved once consultants are on the campuses.

President Elect McGregor gave an overview of the agricultural burning discussions thus fall. She stated that she hopes that the discussions are not being viewed or promoted as us being against farmers. The discussion started with a local physician approaching Chair McDaniel to potentially address the Senate. This has evolved to being a more balanced panel discussion or open forum with people from the College of Agriculture and other areas. Chair McDaniel still hopes to host the forum before the end of the semester.

President Elect McGregor stated that since our last meeting discussing Proctor U and possible alternatives, some people have come forward stating that they want to keep Proctor U. Provost Cooksey added that no decision on Proctor U has been made and that there were currently no plans to sever contracts with Proctor U and that departments may have a choice to change or not. She stated that the biggest problem is that Proctor U is expensive, that fees are being collected for it in online classes, but few are making full use of all its features and some are not using it at all even when students pay fees for it. In addition, she stated that HLC requires authentication, but does not require live proctoring. Authentication is important because many students share ID numbers and PINs. Senator Pearce stated that students can upgrade their Ucard to avoid authentication.

Questions to Provost Cooksey regarding Proctor U included:

- Is this issue was mostly relevant for online courses; yes, but authentication is helpful everywhere.
- Are we trying something temporary in the spring; was trying to find something quick, but didn't find anything that fit our needs.

Proxy Cathy Hall spoke to the Senate about Nursing's experiences with online testing. They first tried Respondus Lockdown Browser but discovered that students had photos of the tests on their phones. Tried Remote Proctor but discovered that students were taking tests after the semester. Came up with new program that includes lectures in Tegrity and testing in live proctor. Problem is that Elsevier only allows two proctoring programs, one of which is Proctor U.

President Elect then reminded the Senate to make sure that we get correct information to our constituents. After last Proctor U discussion, there was a lot of misinformation – need to make sure that we are not contributing.

President Elect McGregor had no updates on the faculty space on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of the library.

President Elect McGregor then gave an overview of previous discussions of faculty representation on the Chancellor's Completion Committee and asked Provost Cooksey to share the Senate's concern about the lack for faculty representation with Chancellor Damphousse. She added that with the size of the committee, there should be more full-time faculty. Senator Maynard added that committee is the same people as always and that we needed new faces. He also asked if such a committee was actually workable. President Elect McGregor stated that faculty members on the committee should come from Faculty Senate or nominations from other faculty members. Proxy Chang stated that Dr. Shane Hunt has done a lot for the university and there should not be criticism that he is the faculty representative on the committee. President Elect McGregor stated that the concern with not with Dr. Hunt but that it is only one person and that this was an appointment and not a nomination.

Senator Hall asked if there were any plans to revisit Blackboard. Proxy Pfriemer and Senator Pearce stated that they were asked to pilot Canvas in the spring. Senator Pearce said she was unexpectedly

contacted and felt like she needed to say yes if she was to have a voice. She asked ITS for the opportunity for those piloting Canvas to get together and share their concerns. Group should be meeting after the Canvas contract goes through legal. President Elect McGregor stated that it appears that Blackboard is under review that noted that no information has gone through shared governance. She suggested having someone from the Education and Technology Committee to come and address the Senate to provide an official word and help limit rumors. Senator Hall agreed, stating that faculty spend a lot of time on Blackboard and when they hear rumors that they have to learn something new, it generates anxiety. President Elect McGregor agreed that she did not like change but stated that change can be good if it makes life easier in the long run. Faculty Association Secretary Grymes added that she had also been asked to pilot Canvas.

Provost Cooksey stated that the Senate needs updates from shared governance. She noted that when people don't have up-to-date information, things get blown up. Senator Pearce stated that Jollean Sinclair was chair of the Education and Technology Committee and suggested that she come and talk to the Senate.

Senator Burns nominated Senator Phillips to draft a resolution in regards to the state's new funding formula to be discussed at the next meeting. President Elect McGregor said that she would discuss this with Chair McDaniel.

Senator Bridges shared his concerns with speeding and dangerous driving on campus. Stated that UPD is not enforcing speed limits and that there are not enough speed limit signs on campus. President Elect McGregor stated that she would share these concerns with Chair McDaniel and to the faculty representative on the traffic committee.

Senator Burns made a motion to adjourn and Senator Maynard seconded. Motion approved by acclamation.

The meeting was adjourned approximately 4:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

April Sheppard  
Faculty Senate Secretary