

Faculty Senate
Minutes of October 1, 2004

FACULTY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Proxy

Bill Rowe – President (Fine Arts)	P	
Margaret McClain – Secretary / Treasurer	P	
Debra Walden- Vice-Chair of the Senate	P	
Bill Humphrey –President Elect	P	
Dennis White- Parliamentarian	P	

AGRICULTURE (1)

Bert Greenwald	P	
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BUSINESS (3)

Gauri Guha	Absent	
Dan Marburger	P	
Jim Washam	Absent	

COMMUNICATIONS (2)

Jack Zibluk	P	
Osa Amienyi	P	Lily Zeng

EDUCATION (5)

Cindy Albright	absent	
Kris Biondolillo	P	
Dan Cline	P	
Charlotte Skinner	P	
Amany Saleh	P	

ENGINEERING (1)

Shivan Haran	P	
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FINE ARTS (3)

Tim Crist	P	
Allyson Gill	P	
Kelly Schaefer	P	

HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES (6)

Win Bridges	P	
Mary Donaghy	P	
Ernesto Lombeida	Absent	
William Maynard	P	
Joe Sartorelli	P	V Spaniol
Richard Wang	P	

LIBRARY (1)

Myron Flugstad absent

MILITARY SCIENCE (1)

NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS (3)

Dick Freer P L Brewer

Troy Thomas Absent

Debra Walden P

SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS (4)

William Burns P

David Gilmore P

Jie Miao P

Jeff Jenness Absent

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE (1)

Margaret McClain P

Minutes: The minutes of the September 10 and 17, 2004, meetings were approved as distributed without corrections.

Old Business

A. Senate President Rowe opened with his comments on the “crisis that is not a crisis,” expressing the opinion that the faculty is unfairly being held responsible for remedying ASU’s dire financial situation, created by ill-advised administrative decisions.

B. By unanimous approval, Margaret McClain was drafted into replacing Bill Humphrey as Secretary of the Senate.

C. There was some discussion about the fact that due to recent cost-saving measures in the university’s housekeeping department, classroom and office areas have been plagued by excessive noise and disruption by cleaning crews. In the attempt to find a solution to this problem, it was suggested that faculty members report disruptions to their respective deans’ secretaries. In addition, the Executive Committee of the Senate will send Mr. Fielder a letter apprising him of the situation. Faculty members are urged to email President Rowe of their particular complaints, which he will turn over to the Grounds Committee for further action.

D. Some discussion ensued about the Status of the Profession survey to be performed by Dan Cline. It was established that no Status of the Profession Committee is standing at this time.

E. A Crisis Committee was established at the pleasure of the President, with the following members serving: Bill Rowe, Deb Walden, Marlin Shipman, Osa Amienyi, Lynn Howerton, and Richard Freer.

F. The Equity Committee, consisting of Eric Gilbert, Patrick Stewart, and Amany Saleh will continue its study of how equity pay is determined, the arbitrariness of the process from one department to another, as well as possible irregularities in the process.

G. Bill Rowe will send "Merit Process Letters" to deans and chairs, asking the recipients what procedures they were using to determine merit pay increases among their faculties.

New Business

A. Nonie Wiggins, the Faculty Athletic representative, presented the Athletic Committee report. She explained the role of the Committee, as mandated by the NCAA. Among the Committee's responsibilities are checking violations, investigating them, and reporting to the Sunbelt Conference. Wiggins reported on recent changes and more stringent requirements placed on student athletes, that have resulted in increased retention and graduation rates. For example, student athletes are required to pass a minimum of 6 hours per semester; enter ASU with 14 core high school courses at present; enter ASU with 16 core courses by 2008; declare a major by the end of their sophomore year; and complete 40 per cent of their degree requirements by the end of their junior year, among other stipulations.

In September, said Wiggins, her Committee presented the 2003 Academic Reform Report, a report on student athletes receiving aid, and not including walk-ons. ASU was able to receive a 93 per cent academic progress rate. Other progress was noted; for instance, unlike some universities, ASU athletics was not subject to any sanctions.

In her capacity as the Chair of the Intercollegiate Athletic Committee, Nonie Wiggins reported on the makeup of the committee—four faculty members appointed by the Senate; Dean Strickland; as well as representatives of the SGA, Indian Club, Lettermen's Club, other interested ASU parties, and the public at large.

Dan Marburger noted that ideally, the Athletic Committee should interface with the Faculty Senate.

B. Dan Marburger and Bill Maynard reported that the Coalition for Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) is trying to recruit faculty senates from all over the country to become involved in enacting changes in academic integrity policy for student athletes. Bill Maynard will post the draft of the academic integrity policy change document on the faculty listserv.

C. Other brief reports/concerns were presented as follows:

- i. President's Council—Bill Humphrey reported that he has been attending President's Council meetings and that the main topic of concern has been the drop in enrollment at ASU and possible solutions to this trend.
- ii. Margaret McClain expressed concerns about deficiencies in ASU's health care plan—i.e., that some clinics refuse to give referrals when they do not have a particular specialist on staff; that patients who have life-threatening allergies to certain medications are prevented from seeking chiropractic or other safe alternatives due to prohibitive costs; and that the University places unnecessary obstacles in the way of faculty who are temporarily disabled and require hang tags.

Some discussion ensued, in which Dan Cline mentioned that no survey on faculty health care satisfaction has ever been done. He suggested that faculty members with complaints or comments should email them to him or Bill Rowe, to be addressed by the Fringe Benefits Committee.

Win Bridges mentioned that ASU's health care plan proved very cost-effective for his wife when she retired from the public school system.

- iii. President Rowe read a letter to the Senate, in which Dan Cline raised concerns about the legality of and reasons for the University's placing no-parking signs on city streets directly behind and up the hill behind the Nursing Building. There was some discussion of the trend to make streets adjacent to campus off limits to parking, and the consensus seemed to be that this was another effort by the university to force employees and students to use the parking garage. There was discussion that even people who lived in the houses along the streets in question were being ticketed.

D. Bill Maynard reported that a move is afoot to place the functions of the General Education Committee under the Shared Governance process, converting the Committee into a subcommittee of the Strategic Planning process.

Dr. Maynard expressed the opinion that an academic function, such as making decisions about general education requirements, should remain the exclusive purview of the faculty.

E. John Hall reminded the Senate that his term as Secretary/Treasurer of the Faculty Association was about to elapse. After consultation with Dennis White, it was determined that an election should take place as soon as possible.

Bill Maynard was nominated for the office of Secretary/Treasurer of the Faculty Association by Dan Cline, seconder Richard Wang.

As in past years, ballot boxes will be placed in the Library lobby. Faculty will be notified on the faculty listserv before the election takes place. The ballot will have a place for a write-in vote.

In the absence of any further business, President Rowe adjourned the meeting at 4:40 pm.

