

Faculty Senate Minutes for October 18, 2013

Chair Julie Isaacson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Delta Center for Economic Development, Room 201.

Approval of the minutes of October 4, 2013 (attached)

Senator Win Bridges moved to approve the minutes of 4 October 2013. The motion was seconded by Senator Andy Mooneyhan. All were in favor.

Old Business:

Discrimination Policy Proposal – update (new proposal attached)

Chair Julie Isaacson reviewed the background on this policy, which is quite dated. A formal task force was formed and proposed a new statement two years ago; the proposal was approved through to the Chancellor level, but was not passed by the council; therefore, we are now starting the process anew. Senator Bill Rowe mentioned that if we propose this and it fails to pass again, we do have precedence with other institutions that have approved it. Thus, we have a right to question why. The new proposal is modeled after the University of Arkansas. Senator Andy Mooneyhan moved to send the new proposal to the Shared Governance Oversight Committee. Senator John Hall seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

New Business:

FA13-001 Advising Statement (attached) - ready for SGOC vote

Senator John Hall moved to approve the statement with a grammatical correction provided by Chair Isaacson. Senator Andy Mooneyhan seconded the motion. The motion passed with one abstention.

Correction: **III.b.6. *Faculty Academic Advisement Responsibilities:*** (first sentence)

Existing wording:

Advising is a shared responsibility between the student, adviser and college community designed to help students grow individually, succeed academically and to develop an appropriate educational plan leading to graduation with a focus on their lives beyond the university.

Modification (italicized):

Advising is a *responsibility shared among the student*, adviser and college community designed to help *students to grow individually, succeed academically and develop* an appropriate educational plan leading to graduation with a focus on their lives beyond the university.

FA 13-004 Selection of Department Chairs, Academic Deans, and the Vice Chancellor and Provost (attached) – ready for SGOC vote

Senator Bill Humphrey moved to approve. Senator Andy Mooneyhan seconded the motion. Senator Wendy Crist mentioned a few editorial changes needed regarding titles, and therefore moved for an amendment. Senator Bill Humphrey seconded the motion. The modifications are as follows.

Titles should be “Library Director” instead of “Dean of the Library” and the “Dean of the Graduate School” is now entitled “Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Studies”.

Senator John Hall mentioned during the discussion that the Handbook Committee should be made aware of changes in titles. Senator Warren Johnson questioned the title of Associate Dean. The Senate had previously agreed not to modify portions of the document regarding Associate Deans. Would the case be the same for Associate Vice Chancellors and Vice Provosts? All concurred that because these are appointments, no modifications would be needed at this time. The vote was unanimously in support of FA13-004 with the above editorial changes.

Faculty Senate Committee/Task Force Reports

Gen Ed Dream Team – Amany Saleh

In response to Vice Chancellor and Provost, Dr. Lynita Cooksey’s request last year, a task force was formed last fall to come up with ideas that ‘look outside the box’ for our general education core curriculum. Senator Amany Saleh reported that the committee met last week. One big concern was regarding the state limitations of credit hours. It was difficult to make progress ‘outside the box’ due to these restrictions. The committee plans to meet again with Dr. Cooksey. They will look at exemplary general education curriculum models.

Faculty Recognition – Joanna Grymes

Senator Joanna Grymes reported that the committee was looking at acknowledgements starting at 10 years service for all faculty.

Finance Committee – Bill Rowe

Senator Bill Rowe reported that the committee liked the idea of increasing adjunct salaries; however, they would prefer to find an alternative process to increasing salaries other than keeping full-time faculty salaries as a standstill. The committee questioned the pay scheme of chairs and those who teach overloads. This seems to vary from college to college. Also, there used to be an annual report completed near the spring. Perhaps two reports could be given. Some reports should be done in the fall so there would be time to work on salary, equities, etc. The next meeting is scheduled for 28 October 2013.

Shared Governance Committee Reports:

John Hall announced that the Faculty Senate Task Force on Student Evaluations of Faculty Teaching and Courses would meet Friday, 25 October 2013.

Fringe Benefits

Chair Julie Isaacson announced that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee would schedule a meeting with Fringe Benefits. Senator Judy Pfriemer reminded senators that open enrollment begins 24 October 2013, which would be done online this year. She requested that senators encourage their colleagues to check it out whether changes are needed or not.

Senator Pfriemer continued with a report on benefit changes. Unlike what was understood from the last Senate meeting, apparently there was no time for input for 2014. The increase in health insurance was minimal. Generic drugs went from \$10 to \$12. Mail orders are encouraged. Some deductibles were raised. Lori Winn (Human Resources) is trying to communicate with the system; it appears that all campuses within the system are treated equally rather than proportionally when input is requested.

Surveys

Chair Julie Isaacson reviewed that a series of surveys came out earlier in the semester. The Shared Governance Oversight Committee is charged with evaluating the process on campus. A preliminary report showed that most Shared Governance Committees do meet. The majority of committee members volunteered for their committee. The report was positive and gave the SGOC some areas in which to assist the sub-committees with charge, membership, etc. The second survey dealt with campus culture and shared governance. This survey was conducted campus-wide. The most prominent answer was “tend to agree”. Overall, “agree” and “strongly agree” when combined comprised the majority selections. A formal report is up and coming.

Chair’s Report/Announcements:

Chair Julie Isaacson reported that the Executive Committee met with Director of University Communications, Tom Moore to discuss Inside AState. We have support on campus to reinstitute this venue for newsworthy items highlighting (but not limited to) faculty, staff and alumni activities.

Chair Isaacson also reminded senators about the tax fraud issue. All employees are encouraged to inquire if a return has not been received. Most returns are coming in at this point.

HLC

It is very important that as many faculty as possible attend the Higher Learning Commission meeting at 2:30 on Monday, 28 October 2013. This gathering is for faculty only! Vice Chancellor Lynita Cooksey explained that though suggestions were made for an appropriate time, all meetings were set by HLC. Dr. Cooksey stressed the importance of faculty attendance highly. The entire visit is two days out of the life of our institution that happens every 10 years.

Every attempt should be made to attend! The Executive Committee will also meet with the team at noon; there was not an opportunity for the entire Senate to meet with HLC. Other meetings are scheduled for administrators, faculty, staff, and students at various times.

Other:

Benefits

Senator Tom Ratliff reported feedback from his colleagues in Humanities and Social Sciences regarding benefits. In general, his department is pleased with the benefits (e.g. learning for learning sake; low tuition for family; experience for faculty who take courses accentuating their abilities). Though the pay is less than other institutions, ASU benefits are better all the way around. There would be a recruitment issue if the money stays the same and the benefits go away. For those who have been here for a while, tuition benefits have helped to expand knowledge. Dr. Ratliff's constituents were also curious as to how much money it actually costs ASU to give these discounts for faculty. A direct answer was not offered.

Bookstore Vendors

Senator Jollean Sinclair announced that she has volunteered to work on the committee for the vendor selection process for the ASU Bookstore. Her interest stems from a desire to understand the process and what is required of faculty with various vendors in ordering textbooks. Dr. Sinclair is currently collecting comments from faculty regarding vendor selection. The first meeting for the opening of proposals is 7 November 2013. At this time, they will open all bids for the bookstore contract. Anyone may attend. Please bring all comments about the bookstore, textbooks, etc. Later there will be open meetings where all potential vendors will make presentations (approximately November 11 to 22). As of yet, no one knows who is bidding. The final proposal review and contract selection is scheduled for mid February of 2014. More specifics on meeting times and locations will be given at a later date.

Several Senators had questions and comments:

- Why do we have to fill out forms when no textbooks are required?
- If you teach on other campuses, you have to fill out the forms for each. Some are not updated.
- There are still problems with textbooks coming in improperly.
- When ASU owned the bookstore, there seemed to be more consistent staffing and fewer problems.
- The most common issue with Follett is that the information disappears. Some email inquiries to Follett come back as "undeliverable". Also, it is very difficult to get a manager on the phone.

iPad Initiative

Senator John Hall inquired as to whether we would like someone to come to a future senate meeting to discuss the iPad initiative. Chief Information Officer, Henry Torres is willing to speak with the Senate, but his schedule on Fridays has been difficult as of late. We will continue to seek assistance and advice. Students complain that some faculty do not use the iPads; faculty need to provide this learning experience for the students. Some of the problem stems from faculty not having a training process in their department, but there is training available in Information and Technology Services. The situation is evolving. Let IT know your needs. Some wireless networks are a problem; this is being addressed. If possible, faculty may consider moving classes to places where greater Wi-Fi is available. Senator Jollean Sinclair mentioned that the College of Business has a charge to use the iPads with their sophomore class. There is resistance to change, but there is a great need to move forward.

Fees

Senator John Hall expressed his concern regarding the new student fee, which is related to the intramural facility; this new indoor facility is intended for marching band and intramural sports. Do we have a concern that student fees continue to be added? This fee is \$3 per credit hour. Senator Judy Pfriemer commented that the reason Fringe Benefits wants to cut back is to take pressure off the students. How is this helping? Dean of Sciences and Mathematics, Dr. John Pratte mentioned that there are ways to increase fees and lower the overall cost (e.g. due to the iPad, many textbook purchases were not needed).

Senator Bill Humphrey moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:23 p.m. The motion was seconded by Senator Tom Ratliff. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Marika Kyriakos, Secretary

Senators in Attendance:

Absentees:

Proxies:

Executive Committee:

Chair Julie Isaacson

Agriculture & Technology:

Bill Humphrey

Business:

Hyung Kim

Richard Segall

Jollean Sinclair

Media & Communications:

Pradeep Mishra

Larz Roberts

Education:

Joanna Grymes

John Hall

Andy Mooneyhan

Amany Saleh

Engineering:

Shivan Haran

Fine Arts:

Claire (Garrard) Abernathy

Marika Kyriakos

Bill Rowe

Humanities & Social Sciences:

Win Bridges

Warren Johnson

Cherisse Jones-Branch

Thomas Ratliff

Alex Sydorenko

Nursing & Health Professions:

Brenda Anderson

Kat Carrick

Larry Morton

Bill Payne

Judy Pfriemer

Sciences & Mathematics:

Hai Jiang

Bruce Johnson

Fabricio Medina-Bolivar

Suzanne Melescue

University:

Military Science:

Library & Information Resources:

Wendy Crist

Minghui Gao

Joe Nichols

Hans Hacker

Margaret McClain

Cecil Clark