

ASU FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
November 16, 2001

FACULTY ASSOCIATION

Bob Bennett, President (AS)
Jeff Bailey, Past President (LIB)
Bill Rowe, Sec/Treasurer (FA)

FACULTY SENATE

Bob Bennett, Chair
Bill Humphrey, Vice-chair
Debra Walden, Secretary
Michael Morrell, Parliamentarian

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Bill Humphrey

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Roger Abernathy proxy – Edward Hammerand
Jim Bednarz
Joe Sartorelli
Dick Freer
David Jimerson absent
Ernesto Lombeida
Bill Maynard
Victoria Spaniol
Richard Wang

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Dan Marburger absent
Clint Relyea
Jim Washam proxy – David Kern
Chris Brown absent

COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Jo Anna Grant
Lillie M. Fears

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Cindy Albright
Kris Biondolillo
Joe Justen
John Ponder absent
Carl Vaupel absent

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Charles Coleman

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

Bill Rowe

John O'Connell absent

Ken Hatch

COLLEGE OF Nursing & Health Professions

Terry Baggs

Steve Guffey absent

Debra Walden proxy – Julie Isaacson

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Polly Green

LIBRARY

Myron Flugstad

MILITARY SCIENCE

Daniel Tiscareno absent

COUNCIL OF ACADEMIC DEANS

Jan Duggar absent

VISITORS

Jerry Linnstaedter

John Hall – psychology and counseling

Cathy Hall - nursing

CALL TO ORDER

Senate Chair Bennett called the meeting to order at 3:00.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes from the Nov. 2, 2001 Faculty Senate meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes was made by Humphrey; seconded by Albright. Motion carried.

REMARKS

Status of the Faculty Handbook:

Chair Bennett informed the senate regarding President Wyatt's and Rick McDaniel's discussions with him about the status of the faculty handbook. They are requesting additional time for all parties to review the extensive proposed changes in the handbook. Therefore, the handbook will not be presented at the December Board meeting. After all changes are made, a draft will be submitted to all constituencies with a goal of handbook adoption in Spring.

Budget:

There was no representative from Academic Affairs present. Report deferred.

OLD BUSINESS

Faculty Handbook

A motion was made by Wang and seconded by Humphrey to bring Revisions VI, VII, and VIII back before the senate for consideration.

Discussion was reopened for Revision VI that deals with schedules for non-reappointment. Senator Wang pointed out that this revision adopts the language of the AAUP in an attempt to provide some degree of protection to pre-tenure and non-tenure track faculty. Faculty engaged in a lengthy discussion of the language and intent of the revision.

A call for the question was made concerning Revision VI in its present form. The revision passed with vote by show of hands of 12 for and 6 opposed.

Senator Justen made a motion that Revision VII be reconsidered for adoption. Motion was seconded by Senator Wang.

Following extensive discussion regarding the protective nature of the revision, the senate voted to approve the revision with only one vote opposing.

Humphrey made a motion to reconsider proposed Revision VIII for adoption. The motion was seconded by Senator Wang. Wang reminded the senate that this revision evolved based on some concern for the composition of the University Hearing Committee. Senator Biondolillo asked for clarification of the current committee structure. A discussion was held regarding the pros and cons of the current and proposed committee structures.

After a call for the question the senate voted in favor of the new proposed committee structure unanimously.

Chair Bennett offered to entertain a motion to accept the faculty handbook. Senator Maynard asked whether other important changes i.e. intellectual property rights had been approved. He reported that a document had been received from AAUP in Washington offering suggestions related to these issues. Senator Humphrey stated that at some point we must approve the handbook that we currently have which does not preclude future changes or additions.

Chair Bennett recognized visitor John Hall. Dr. Hall verbalized a concern about an apparent lack of "process" in dealing with proposed revisions to the Faculty Handbook. Bennett stated that we were engaged in making recommendations and reminded the body that the process was not over...that there was much more work to do before the handbook is a finished document. Senator Humphrey reminded the group that many of the policies in the handbook have been approved and in place for some time. Bennett reminded the senate that we are at the "beginning" of a process of handbook consideration.

Senator Hall asked to senate to clarify what a faculty member should do if he/she noted that a policy was not being followed. He asked if the only action available was grievance and asked what the role of the handbook committee might be in determining breaches of policy. Bennett noted that administrators were making a concerted effort to abide by policies and processes outlined in the handbook. He suggested that administration was giving the handbook more attention. Hall suggested that a process for dealing with breach in policies should be articulated in the handbook.

Senator Maynard made a request that a group of volunteers be gathered to consider the rewording of the passage in Revision VI dealing with pre-tenure/non-tenure terminology. This committee should report back to the senate at its next meeting. Bennett noted that this was a motion to form an ad hoc committee to revisit the terminology of non-tenured and pre-tenured as indicated in Revision VI. The motion was seconded by Senator Spaniol. The motion carried unanimously. Bennett asked for volunteers to serve on the committee: Sartorelli, Spaniol and Maynard agreed to sit on this committee. Bennett asked for these groups' recommendations in December.

Bennett stated that the handbook would be made available to all interested parties for review before it was taken further. Bennett stated that in the interim the executive committee would work on concerns identified by Maynard related to intellectual property and other issues, if that met with the approval of Senator Maynard and the senate. Bennett also offered to bring Dr. Hall's concerns related to faculty response to a breach of handbook policy before the executive committee. Bennett invited Dr. Hall to offer a proposal to Senator Humphrey.

NEW BUSINESS

Distance Learning

Chair Bennett recognized John Hall who has asked the Senate to revisit the issue of distance learning. Dr. Hall offered a history of the faculty senate's previous work on the issue of distance education. He reminded the senate that the "Hyberson" document was a compilation of recommendations previously submitted by an ad hoc committee of faculty. The recommendations dealt primarily with compressed video and were approved by the senate. The document was sent to Dr. Fisher who wrote reactions after which the document became dormant.

There are still a number of concerns that exist related to distance education:

1. Workload – heavy, prohibits scholarly activity and that can impact promotion
2. PRT
3. Site facilitation – test security at the other end, behavior management in other classrooms

The Chair then recognized Cathy Hall. She stated that this media requires substantially more work and understands that some faculty are not interested in these issues. However, important issues remain. She noted the following most important recommendations of the 16 proposed in the Hyberson document:

1. Workload – multiple sections, but awarded credit for one course since all are taught simultaneously. This does not take into consideration the time required to prepare for each site.
2. PRT – evaluations are impacted by hostile students at distant sites. Students do not separate the technology from the instructor.
3. Site facilitators – persons at the distant sites who copy tests and provide for site security.

Dr. Hall asked the senate if there was anything that could be done to help with these concerns.

Chair Bennett stated there were a couple of avenues. One would be to leave the recommendations with the executive committee who would work with administration to implement the proposed remedies. Another avenue would be to form a committee to examine a document to make additional recommendations. Senator Biondolillo asked if

there was a need for additional recommendations or should we seek a response to the recommendations as previously offered. Dr. Hall stated that the document was somewhat dated and therefore it might be wise to have a small group appointed to decide what we really want. Chair Bennett asked for two senators to volunteer to work with John and Cathy Hall. Senator Humphrey and Senator Coleman agreed to serve. Bennett charged the group with the review of the previous document, to make recommendations and then bringing the document back to the senate at the first of the year.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Isaacson, Recorder
Debra Walden, Secretary