

Faculty Senate Minutes for February 15, 2013

Chair Julie Isaacson called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. The meeting was held at the Delta Center for Economic Development, Room 201.

Senator Fabricio Medina-Bolivar made a slight correction to the minutes for 1 February, 2013 (ORTT offered the seminar this morning, Friday, 15 February, 2013 instead of the Patent Task Force Committee). Senator Bill Humphrey moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Senator Andy Mooneyhan seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Update on IRS Concerns—Dr. Len Frey

Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, Dr. Len Frey reported that there are currently approximately 30 ASUJB employees impacted by the security breach and a few from other campuses as well. We may never know if the breach is external or internal, but it is unrelated to that of a few years back. Faculty members are strongly encouraged to follow instructions on the recent email to determine whether they have been affected. If instructions are followed and the proper forms are filled out, each faculty member impacted will immediately have a 90-day free service to monitor activity.

ASU Mexico—Dr. Yvonne Unnold (handout)

Dr. Yvonne Unnold (Department Chair, World Languages and Cultures) has been in charge of this project since the beginning of this year. She informed the Senate that the building of our sister campus, ASU - Queretaro has been approved by the board and we are going ahead with the endeavor. Queretaro City is north of Mexico City. For the first year (scheduled for the fall of 2015), an enrollment of 1,000 students is anticipated. Like ASUJ, the campus will eventually be autonomous; however, we will still have connections there. Emphasis will be given to engineering, biosciences and business, as well as smaller areas. General Education courses will be identical to ASUJ, so this is a great opportunity for students to enroll at the sister campus for a fine cultural experience. Faculty participation will be geared by faculty taking the initiative. The campus will be 2,000-2,500 acres with nearby residential development, shopping, schools, recreational areas, golf course, airport, etc. Students are expected to enroll from the region, from Mexico, as well as a large group from America and internationally. This is the very first American campus throughout Central America. The programs offered are in the hands of ASUJ deans. Senator John Hall inquired as to whether department chairs were also involved. Dr. Unnold responded that the deans have been given a charge. It would be up to them to involve their departments.

Senator Alex Sydorenko stated that the College of Humanities and Social Sciences had some concerns. Is the State Legislature in support of the project? We will build and pay for two years? What after that? Where is the money coming from to support this branch? Where is the faculty coming from?

Vice Chancellor and Provost, Dr. Lynita Cooksey responded that faculty lines would not be coming from ASUJ departments, but there is the possibility of teaching on exchange if so desired. We will help to shape the ASUQ campus. It will be tuition-driven and supported. Visitors from Mexico last week on the Senate floor in the state were given a standing ovation. The building process of two years is still being worked out.

Senator Bill Rowe mentioned that they have faculty from Mexico. They have commented that Queretaro is a great historic town. Dr. Unnold confirmed that it is her favorite town in Mexico. She has no fear for children being there. It is a safe environment and the security is quite sufficient. The site was not a random choice. In response to a few questions from various senators, Dr. Unnold stated that the government in Mexico, as well as the federal government is in support of this project. We do not anticipate any problems recruiting fine faculty whatsoever.

Please contact Dr. Unnold with questions or ideas. Keep her informed about your dreams for this campus.

ASU Website—Todd Clark (Director of Web Communications)

Director of Web Communications, Todd Clark explained that the goal of the new website launched on 7 January, 2013 was to enhance what we do on-line. Many strategies were put in single-source data. Users get the full experience of the website regardless of the device they are using.

Top 3 Priorities:

1. Degree and certificate information in one database (revisions being made to hold the information—all will be corrected—interconnected).
2. Photo gallery.
3. Keep faculty and staff information in one database (profile sheets can be tied into a “details” page created on the fly). Data will begin to be imported on 25 February, 2013. Faculty and Staff will be requested to fill out forms for the data and possibly keep it updated. A research section will also be launched, but that will be down the road.

The ASUJ new home page has a “news” section in the center of the page, which is a good recruiting angle with postings in that area. They would like to have a “faculty expert” area on the home page. For example, someone from nursing could explain about the flu epidemic this year.

Faculty members may sign up for a class if they want to contribute to the website. Senator John Hall expressed that he was very impressed and grateful that Clark fixed missing documents in a timely manner. Senator Bruce Johnson inquired about an official photo for students that may be possible for teachers to view. This may help faculty to remember faces. Clark said he would look into the possibility.

Contact webcomm@astate.edu for mistakes; ITTC will be helping as well

Old Business:

Status of the Profession – Amany Saleh

Senator Amany Saleh reported that the survey had been completed by 140 faculty (60% of whom are tenured). Chair Julie Isaacson asked that senators send a reminder to colleagues to do the survey. Senator Warren Johnson suggested that Chair Isaacson clarify the purpose of the survey. Chair Isaacson agreed to send a reminder with a simple explanation.

Faculty Senate Patent Task Force – Fabricio Medina-Bolivar

Senator Fabricio Medina-Bolivar reported that a new patent policy has been approved by the Board of Trustees. Faculty who missed the presentation with ORTT this morning regarding changes are welcome to review the recorded session on the website. The procedure of how-to-file was included. Timing is important.

Highlights of major changes (see policy for details):

- **Public Disclosure:** In the U. S., a patent application must be filed within a year of the public disclosure. In foreign countries, patents generally must be filed prior to the public disclosure.
- **Patent:** Refines the definition of patent (“...a property right granted by the Government of the United States of America to an inventor...”).
- **Development:** ASU will need to furnish notice of intent to retain ownership rights of the patents within 30 days instead of 90.

Feedback will be much appreciated to assist with the final draft of the new patent policy.

Faculty Overload/Compensation – Andy Mooneyhan

Senator Andy Mooneyhan reported that the committee is continuing to collect data and wanting to find a resolution. A teaching load discrepancy needs to be resolved in the handbook before they are able to proceed in finding a solution to the issue. One says that a full load is 12, and the other, 15. Which is it?

University Sanctioned Events – Andy Mooneyhan

Senator Andy Mooneyhan proposed a statement for addition to the Student Handbook: “...or approved activities (added to athletic events)These events or activities should include any activity deemed educationally worthy by appropriate faculty and/or administration. These activities must be approved by the instructor prior to the absence and all coursework must be completed.” Dr. Lynita Cooksey suggested a revision of the last portion; students need to know what is expected BEFORE they leave, when course work is due, etc. Dr. Mooneyhan stated that revisions would be sent out on Monday, 18 February, 2013.

Senator Bill Humphrey inquired about a limit to medical excuses. Dr. Cooksey mentioned that there is no policy on medical excuses. If the student has been absent excessively, they should withdraw. If they ignore advice to withdraw, their grade will have to reflect that. This is not a case for incompletes. Class attendance should be addressed in the student handbook.

New Business:

Shared Governance Committee Reports

Senator Bill Rowe announced that the Senate Finance Committee would meet on 19 February, 2013.

Chair's Report/Announcements:

House Bill 1243 – House Education Committee

Chair Julie Isaacson announced that this will be a Shared Governance issue.

HLC

A Higher Learning Commission site team will be on campus on 28, 29 and 30 October, 2013.

Class Waiting List

A class waiting list will be implemented on Banner. The request has been made. We will hear about updates in the near future.

Other:

Senator John Hall brought up Faculty Handbook issues:

1. Associate Deans or Associate Chairs are not mentioned.
2. Chairs and Deans: why not conduct external searches for these positions?
3. Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor: why not have a selection that uses external searches?
4. Are there concerns with the nepotism policy and adherence to it?

If you think these points are valid, let the Executive Committee know.

In response, Dr. Lynita Cooksey mentioned that most associate positions are stipends for extra deeds. Chair Isaacson suggested a later discussion of these issues.

Chair Isaacson also shared that Chancellor Hudson would be at the next Senate meeting for a report on ASUQ in Mexico. In addition, the Executive Committee discussed inviting the Board of Trustees to a reception in September, when our meetings will coincide.

Senator Andy Mooneyhan moved to adjourn at 4:56 p.m. Senator Bruce Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Senators in Attendance:

Absentees:

Proxies:

Association Officers:

Chair Julie Isaacson

Agriculture & Technology:

Bill Humphrey

Business:

Richard Segall

Faye Cocchiara

Erick Chang

Jollean Sinclair

Communications:

Pradeep Mishra

Larz Roberts

Education:

John Hall

Minghui Gao

Andy Mooneyhan

Joe Nichols

Ann Ross

Lina Leatherwood Owens

Amany Saleh

Engineering:

Shivan Haran

Fine Arts:

Claire (Garrard) Abernathy

Marika Kyriakos

Bill Rowe

Humanities & Social Sciences:

Jerry Ball

Warren Johnson

Cherisse Jones-Branch

Win Bridges

Monika Myers

Alex Sydorenko

Nursing & Health Professions:

Brenda Anderson

Deanna Barymon

Gauri Bhattacharya

Bill Payne

Pat Walls

Sciences & Mathematics:

Hai Jiang

Bruce Johnson

Fabricio Medina-Bolivar

Suzanne Melescue

University:

Margaret McClain

Military Science:

Cecil Clark

Library & Information Resources:

Tracy Farmer

