

Faculty Senate Minutes for January 20, 2012

President Jack Zibluk called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

Senators Bill Humphrey and Andy Mooneyhan (M/S) the approval of the minutes from November 4, 2011 and December 2, 2011. Without objection the minutes were approved.

Presentations

Robyn Whitehead, Wellness Programs for Spring

Mrs. Whitehead showed the new Wellness Calendar that was created by the Wellness Council. The calendar consists of the months from January to June. The calendar outlays the programs being offered as well as the new hours for the HPESS building. In addition, each month has an associated theme. If a department needs more calendars they can contact Mrs. Whitehead (rwhitehead@astate.edu) by email to request additional calendars.

The new group exercise schedule is available at <http://www.astate.edu/a/finance-admin/wellness/activities/class-schedule.dot>.

HPESS is now open from 6:00am to 8:00pm Monday – Thursday and 6:00am to 6:00pm on Fridays.

The new incentive program for the Spring semester is the Amazing ASU Wellness Race. This program is based on the television series *The Amazing Race*. As a person competes in the race they will be faced with challenges each week that must be completed before they can move on to the next challenge. Persons can compete in teams of two, or if they choice, individually. Each participant in the race will receive a new pedometer.

There are two new activity clubs this semester: the Desk to 5k and the ASU Walk Warriors. The Desk-to-5K club is a spin-off of the Couch-to-5K. This group will meet Monday and Wednesdays at 4:00pm at HPESS. The first meeting is Monday, January 23, 2012. The program will be a walk-run slow learning pace to get the participant more active.

The ASU Walk Warriors will walk twice daily on Monday and Wednesdays for 15 minutes from 10:30am to 10:45am and 2:30pm to 2:45pm. In addition, the ASU Walk Warriors will walk every Wednesday from 12:00pm to 12:30pm.

There will be an Earth Day Walk/Run in April. The two clubs will work toward the goal of finishing the 5K portion of the Earth Day Walk/Run.

The personal trainer program will continue this semester.

Spouses are welcome to participate in any of the wellness programming.

Lynita Cooksey, Strategic Plan

Dr. Lynita Cooksey, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Services, stated in the Fall 2011 the university finished developing the institutional goals for the campus. The next step was the establishment of the action steps across the university for supporting each of the institutional goals. Creating the goals took longer than expected, but by the close of the Fall semester all strategic plan action steps had been received.

Input for the action steps was received from the department and college level. Those action steps were put in as a unit in the respective university unit of the department and/or college (i.e. Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, etc.).

All the goals and action steps will be made available on the Strategic Plan website.

One thing Dr. Cooksey wanted to make clear is the action steps are in a constant state of flux. The strategic plan document is not a static document; it is in a constant state of change – a living document.

In early May a progress report of the status of each action step will be presented to the Executive Committee. On average, an update will be provided every five to six months.

One item that has already flowed out of the action steps is the return of the Faculty Center. President Jack Zibluk and Senator John Hall are both involved with the project. The quality of instruction for all modes on campus will be examined and additional resources, in addition to technology support, will be provided.

President Jack Zibluk inquired if there were any institutional items, besides learning and assessment, which will be emphasized in the future? Dr. Cooksey stated research is obvious; however, it will have to remain in perspective with the balance of teaching and learning. She further indicated the campus is examining ways to make improvements in student success. This will be very important for state funding. The State is less concerned with how many students enter the doors of the university and more concerned with many students actually receive degrees.

Dr. Cooksey detailed ASU had the highest return rate on lottery scholarship students in the State who continued to retain their scholarship.

Dr. Cooksey also suggested there needs to be continued work on shared governance. Dr. Cooksey reminded the Senate that HLC will be on campus in February 2013. Diversity will also continue to be an issue.

Dr. Cooksey does not think we will receive new money from the State this year.

At the current time, the strategic plan is implemented.

Senator John Hall asked Dr. Cooksey whether there were discussions about faculty salaries and bringing the salaries up to the SREB average. He indicated this seems like it would be important for faculty recruitment. Dr. Cooksey held her job is primarily curriculum and she has not been involved in

discussions about salaries. She did say that it is still at the forefront and they are concerned with the issue.

Old Business

Traffic Update

President Jack Zibluk forwarded the resolution from December 2011 concerning traffic and the closing of Caraway Road to Shared Governance.

Zibluk stated on Tuesday, January 31, 2012 there will be a meeting of the Campus Facilities Master Plan Committee, who Interim Chancellor Dan Howard asked us to forward our concerns about the current traffic situation. Zibluk inquired as to what format the Senate wants to send their commits to the Committee.

Senator Bill Humphrey suggested that since Senator John Hall had already wrote a new resolution he could read the resolution to the Senate to get the discussion stated. President Zibluk suggested we could suspend the rules and examine Senator Hall's resolution out of agenda order.

Senator Bill Rowe stated there seems to be isolation between the ASUJ campus and the city of Jonesboro. Things that occur on campus have a direct effect on the city, whether they are positive or negative. Rowe stated that city officials are not on the committees that make decisions for the campus that could affect the city. Rower further indicated there seems to be a feeling with the city that the city is being excluded from decisions that could adversely affect the city. President Zibluk stated the city does have representation on campus committees. In fact, the City Planner and the city transportation department are all on the Campus Facilities Master Plan Committee.

Senator Hall stated it is good that city officials are on the committee. He went on to say the new traffic situation is adding additional stress to some of the other city streets, such as Stadium and Stallings Lane.

Senator Bill Rowe suggested we should approach this situation through shared governance. We need to distribute the appropriate information to the right committees and use the process the way it is designed.

Senator Alex Sydorenko stated we have a large number of international students who do not own cars and have no way of leaving campus to shop. He stated this, combined with the fact that international students can no longer smoke on campus, is not going to make us friendly to international recruits, something the campus aims to increase. Sydorenko indicated that the university should provide some sort of regular transportation for our international students so they have a means to leave campus and get to the other areas of Jonesboro such as Wal-Mart and other areas appropriate for shopping.

Senator Andy Mooneyhan and Senator Tracy Farmer noted the campus already provides this service to our international population. However, Mooneyhan suggest that this service may not be enough. Mooneyhan recommended that the Senate may need a number of different resolutions to move

forward and they should be sent through shared governance and to the taskforce. Mooneyhan went to suggest that Senator Hall's most recent resolution would be a good starting point.

Senator Alex Sydorenko asked is there a problem building a walkway over the tracks? Zibluk stated we have agreed in contract not to build any structures over the tracks.

Senator Larry Salinger stated the time to protest this was 15 years ago when the plans were first being developed. Salinger went on to indicate the city was involved in the planning.

Senator Jim Bednarz said that five or six years ago objections were raised about there not being a walkway and they were ignored. Senator Andy Mooneyhan stated there was a walkway in the original plans and it was removed at a later time. Mooneyhan indicated it is hard to protest something 15 years ago when the original plans including a walkway, but since then the plans had been changed and the walkway was removed without notice. Bednarz corroborated Mooneyhan's statement that no notification was given of the walkway removal. Bednarz went on to state he has observed that most of the intermural athletics walk to the intermural fields between the two sets of tracks, and when combined with the international students who walk from place to place, this is a major inconvenience and possible promote inactivity.

Senator Margaret McClain asked who would be liable if a pedestrian is struck by a train while walking across the tracks. President Zibluk indicated it would depend on the circumstances of the incident. Senator Andy Mooneyhan followed by stating the pedestrian could receive a ticket for crossing the tracks. Senator Jim Bednarz and McClain both held that pedestrians are still crossing the tracks in mass. Mooneyhan asked if the bridges are going to be removed. It was indicated the one of the bridges has been removed. Bednarz stated he was informed that campus is going to try to recreate the ditch to make it more difficult for pedestrians to cross the tracks.

President Jack Zibluk reiterated the question of whether the Senate wants to designate a person or committee to collect ideas and information. Senator Andy Mooneyhan inquired if there is adequate time to data collect. Senator John Hall suggested the data collection has already been accomplished. Hall went on to state the Senate has already passed one resolution, to which Senator Jim Bednarz made a friendly amendment, and it has already been sent to Shared Governance. The key point of the resolution was to build a connector road from the parkway to Aggie Road or Faculty Circle.

Senator John Hall moved to suspend rules so the Senate could review his most current resolution. Senator Alex Sydorenko seconded the motion and it passed without objection. Hall summarized the resolution (see Appendix A). After much discussion and several friendly amendments the resolution passed with two objections and two abstentions. See Appendix B for the final draft of the resolution.

Senator Brenda Anderson asked who would be representing the Senate at the Campus Facilities Master Plan Committee meeting on January 31, 2012. President Jack Zibluk indicated Dr. Rich Grippo was appointed as the Senates representative last year and is willing to serve this year as well. Zibluk stated he would be attending the meeting as well.

Senator Joanne Grymes queried about the additional recommendations from the other faculty members received through the listserv on this issue. Will these recommendations come from the Senate? How will they be represented? President Jack Zibluk asked for recommendations. It was decided to send all the recommendations to the committee.

New Business

Resolution on Instructor Credentials, John Hall and Bill Rowe

Senator Bill Rowe and Senator John Hall resubmitted the resolution on instructor credentials (see Appendix C). Rowe explained the resolution could be included in the handbook as-is, it could be included to state the State required a minimal set of qualifications for instructors and then an appendix could be included in the back of the handbook outlaying those qualifications. Rowe did indicate this decision should be up to the Handbook Committee.

Dr. Lynita Cooksey supports the updated resolution.

Senator John Hall stated the Dr. Cooksey's office supplied the language for credential section of the resolution.

Senator Andy Mooneyhan inquired as to whether the resolution places restrictions on Deans and Chairs for last minute hires. Senator John Hall indicated that it did not.

Senator Bill Humphrey pointed out there are two ways the resolution could move forward: 1) the Senate could send it forward to Shared Governance directly; or 2) the Senate could forward it to the Handbook Committee and the Handbook Committee would then send it to Shared Governance. Senator John Hall indicated his notion was for the Senate to consider the resolution and if approved then send it to the Handbook Committee. Senator Andy Mooneyhan stated if the Senate consider and passed the resolution it would need to move forward to the appropriate committee, which is the Shared Governance Oversight Committee. From there, the SGOC would channel it to the Handbook Committee. It was decided the appropriate path for the Senate to take would be to send the resolution to the SGOC if the Senate approved the resolution.

Senator Warren Johnson asked Dr. Lynita Cooksey to supply some background information on the rules presented in the resolution. Specifically he inquired where the rules emanated from. Dr. Cooksey responded the rules are state law and they are not new and have been on the books for several decades. It turns out that ASUJ has not always followed them. The language comes directly from the language used by the state legislature when the laws were passed and is on record with ADHE. Johnson stated currently the Faculty Handbook provides provisions for people who have obtained through life experiences or work experiences different qualification the ability to teach. He asked if those individuals would no longer be allowed to teach without the paper qualifications outlined in the resolution. Cooksey indicated no, but the individual would need some academic experience in the field. There are specific disciplines where this is more common than others. Those areas are primarily areas where the baccalaureate degree may be the terminal degree. HLC also provides for these exceptions. However,

just because a person has X number of years experience in a profession does not necessarily give that person the required credentials. Johnson asked whether native speaking ability give the person the necessarily life experience to be able to teach. Dr. Cooksey stated not necessarily. They must have some sort of academic experience as well.

Senator John Hall and Andy Mooneyhan (M/S) the resolution. Without objection the resolution passed.

New Faculty List Servs, Mark Hoeting

See Appendix D.

This item was postponed until the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourn at 4:26pm.

Attendance

Jack Zibluk – President of Faculty Association

Beverly Gilbert – Past-president of Faculty Association

Farhad Moeeni – Secretary/Treasurer of Faculty Association

Business

Richard Segall

Jollean K. Sinclair

Communications

Pradeep Mishra

Education

John D. Hall

Joanna Grymes

Andy Mooneyhan

Patty Murphy

Joe Nichols

Ann Ross

Fine Arts

Claire D. Garrard

Marika Kyriakos

Bill Rowe

Humanities and Social Sciences

Warren Johnson

Lawrence Salinger

Alex Sydorenko

Library

Tracy Farmer

Nursing and Health Professions

Brenda Anderson

Deanna Barymon

Bill Payne

Todd Whitehead

Science and Mathematics

James Bednarz

Hai Jiang

Bruce Johnson

Suzanne Melescue

University College

Margaret McClain

Deans' Council Representative

Andrew J. Novobilski

Visitors

Lynita Cooksey, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Services

Karin Hill, The Sun

Kayla Paine, The Herald

John Pratt, Physics

Appendix A

**Faculty Senate Resolution FS2-2012 Recommendations for the ASU Administration and the
Appropriate University Shared Governance Committees for Alleviating the Problems Associated with
the Closure of South Caraway Road**

Whereas, south Caraway Road which was a major access for vehicles to the ASU-J campus was closed to traffic during the December 2011 semester break.

Whereas, the south portion of the ASU-J campus is one of the most frequented areas for vehicles and faculty, staff, students, and visitors.

Whereas, with the start of the spring 2012 semester numerous concerns and problems associated with this closure have occurred resulting in much open discussion and concerns among faculty and others.

Whereas, there is a great need for University Loop on the south side of the ASU campus to extend in a paved fashion to the Marion Berry Parkway or to Faculty Circle or to Aggie Road to allow for vehicle access to the north side of campus not only for convenience and better traffic flow but to also for emergency vehicles to reach the south side of the campus in a timely manner.

Whereas, there are now a number of new traffic problems and concerns that have emerged with the closure of south Caraway Road and the initiation of the spring 2012 semester including significantly increased traffic in the residential area of Stallings Lane, Stadium Blvd., and east Aggie Road.

Whereas, vehicles in the left lane headed west on Aggie Road turning left onto the road connecting to ASU Facilities Management are presenting a significant potential for rear-end collisions.

Whereas, there appears to be a strong need for a traffic light with turn signals at the intersection of east Aggie Road and University Loop near the Greek houses and the dorm rather than the existing 4-way stop.

Whereas, there is no longer a need for stop signs at the intersection of south Caraway Road and University Loop near Bookout Circle due to the closure of south Caraway Road.

Whereas, individuals continue to travel by foot and bicycle across the railroad tracks on south Caraway Road even though barriers have been erected to prevent vehicle traffic resulting in continued personal safety concerns.

Whereas, there is a continued need for individuals to be able to safely travel south Caraway Road from campus to business establishments on Caraway Road and Matthews.

Whereas, the barriers are unsightly and not aesthetically appealing for a major public university.

Whereas, the signage on University Loop and east Aggie Road warrants improvement to direct visitors to key buildings and facilities.

The ASU Faculty Senate calls for the following seven recommendations to be strongly considered by the ASU Administration and the appropriate university shared governance committees with the hope that they will be accepted and implemented in an expedited manner in an attempt to resolve the aforementioned problems and concerns:

- 1) Build a temporary 2-lane 2-way paved road to from the parking lot of the southwest HPEES building to connect to either Marion Berry Parkway, Faculty Circle, or west Aggie Road.
- 2) Erect a No Left Turn Sign on east Aggie Road at the entrance of the road to Facilities Management.
- 3) Replace the 4-way stop signs at Aggie Road and University Loop with a traffic light consisting of turn signals.
- 4) Remove the stop signs at the intersection of south Caraway Road and University Loop near Bookout Circle.
- 5) Close south Caraway Road to foot and bicycle traffic to prevent personal injury while strongly considering the feasibility of obtaining funding for and constructing an elevated disability accessible walkway and bicycle path over the railroad tracks on south Caraway Road to allow for access to business establishments on Caraway Road and Matthews and additional access to the intramural fields and the rugby facility.
- 6) Erect barriers near south Caraway Road that are compatible with the current landscape and not unsightly.
- 7) Improve signage along University Loop and Aggie Road that clearly directs visitors to key buildings and facilities.

Appendix B

Faculty Senate Resolution FS2-2012

Recommendations for the ASU Administration and the Appropriate University Shared Governance Committees for Alleviating the Problems Associated with the Closure of South Caraway Road

Whereas, south Caraway Road which was a major access for vehicles to the ASU-J campus was closed to traffic during the December 2011 semester break.

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Whereas, there is a great need for University Loop on the south side of the ASU campus to extend in a paved fashion to the Marion Berry Parkway or to Faculty Circle or to Aggie Road to allow for vehicle access to the north side of campus not only for convenience and better traffic flow but to also for emergency vehicles to reach the south side of the campus in a timely manner.

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Whereas, there appears to be a strong need for a traffic light with turn signals at the intersection of east Aggie Road and University Loop near the Greek houses and the dorm rather than the existing 4-way stop.

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Whereas, there is a continued need for individuals to be able to safely travel south Caraway Road from campus to business establishments on Caraway Road and Matthews.

Whereas, the barriers are unsightly and not aesthetically appealing for a major public university.

Whereas, the signage on University Loop and east Aggie Road warrants improvement to direct visitors to key buildings and facilities.

The ASU Faculty Senate calls for the following nine recommendations to be strongly considered by the ASU Administration and the appropriate university shared governance committees with the hope that

they will be accepted and implemented in an expedited manner in an attempt to resolve the aforementioned problems and concerns:

- 1) Build a temporary 2-lane 2-way paved road to from the parking lot of the southwest HPEES building to connect to either Marion Berry Parkway, Faculty Circle, or west Aggie Road.
- 2) Investigate the possibility and impact of erecting a No Left Turn Sign or middle of the road barrier on east Aggie Road at the entrance of the road to Facilities Management.
- 3) Replace the 4-way stop signs at Aggie Road and University Loop with a traffic light consisting of turn signals.
- 4) Remove the stop signs at the intersection of south Caraway Road and University Loop near Bookout Circle.
- 5) Close south Caraway Road to foot and bicycle traffic to prevent personal injury while strongly considering the feasibility of obtaining funding for and constructing an elevated disability accessible walkway and bicycle path over the railroad tracks on south Caraway Road to allow for access to business establishments on Caraway Road and Matthews and additional access to the intramural fields and the rugby facility.
- 6) Erect barriers near south Caraway Road that are compatible with the current landscape and not unsightly.
- 7) Improve signage along University Loop and Aggie Road that clearly directs visitors to key buildings and facilities.
- 8) Examine the need for additional signage at the intersection of the Marion Berry Parkway and the road that leads to the intramural fields and track.
- 9) Consider the possibility of an id gate card for all interested faculty and staff that will allow them to enter and exit the reserved parking lots near the Administration Building and the College of Business and the College of Education and Communications or remove the gates to all for open traffic flow between the north and south sides of campus.

Appendix C

ASU Faculty Senate Resolution FS01-2012 Proposed Addition to the ASU Faculty Handbook of Policies and Procedures

Whereas, the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) requires that ASU support any state law requirements.

Whereas, the *State of Arkansas Faculty Credentials for Higher Education* listed below are the requirements set forth by the State of Arkansas for instructors of higher education.

Whereas, ASU students must be instructed by ASU faculty who are properly credentialed.

Whereas, the current ASU Faculty Handbook of Policies and Procedures does not contain these credentials.

The ASU Faculty Senate calls for ASU Faculty Senate Handbook Committee, the ASU Administration, and the ASU Board of Trustees to approve the addition of these credentials listed below to the current ASU Faculty Handbook of Policies and Procedures:

State of Arkansas Faculty Credentials for Higher Education

A. Faculty must hold degrees from an institution accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, CHEA, or from institutions with comparable status, certification, or recognition in other countries.

B. To teach in the following areas, faculty must have:

1. General Education: Faculty must hold at least a master's degree with 18 graduate hours in the teaching field.

2. Remedial Education: Faculty members must hold at least a baccalaureate degree in the teaching field.

3. Associate Level: At least one full-time faculty must have at least an associate degree in the teaching field.

4. Baccalaureate Level: Faculty must hold at least a master's degree with 18 graduate hours in the teaching field. Typically, at least 50 percent of the faculty members in each bachelor's degree program must hold the appropriate terminal degree.

For career and technical education areas, faculty may hold the master's degree in vocational education with the bachelor's degree in the field of study or the master's degree in vocational education with the appropriate industry-related certification and licensure. A limited number of faculty may hold the bachelor's degree in the teaching field.

5. Graduate Level: A majority of the faculty members teaching graduate degree programs must hold the appropriate terminal degree and have demonstrated competency in teaching or research at the appropriate graduate level.

Appendix D

Dear Colleagues,

Several members of the faculty have requested that ASU implement separate forums for faculty discussion versus a list of faculty email addresses to which official communication from the university would be sent. In coordination with a small group of faculty, IT has developed a plan by which we can accommodate this request. Prior to submitting the plan to Executive Council for consideration, we would like to receive your feedback on this proposed change.

Here is the current proposal as it stands:

The "Faculty-L" listserv will become opt-out. All faculty will continue to be automatically added to faculty-l upon hiring, but will have the option to be removed from the list at any time through email or web subscription. There will not be any "official" communication from the university sent only to faculty-l.

A new listserv, called "AllFaculty", will be created and will only be used for official university announcements/communication to all faculty. All faculty members will be automatically added to AllFaculty and will not have the option to unsubscribe. The approval and posting queue for the AllFaculty listserv will mirror the Daily Digest approval and posting queue.

We are asking for your comments and feedback on this plan prior to submission to Executive Council for approval. We would welcome your comments and feedback via email to faculty-l prior to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 25, 2012. Should the Faculty and Executive Council choose to adopt this model, we anticipate that this change would be implemented on February 1, 2012.

Thank you.

Mark A. Hoeting