

Faculty Senate Minutes for November 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.

Approval of the minutes of October 18, 2013

Senator John Hall moved to approve the minutes of 18 October 2013. The motion was seconded by Senator Andy Mooneyhan. All were in favor.

Diversity – Dr. Faye Cocchiara (Handout: Outline of Search Committee Training)

Dr. Faye Cocchiara (Business) gave a report on the process of establishing a framework regarding priorities for diversity and inclusion. Why are we doing this?

1. Students tend to gravitate to those who look like them and the faculty needs to be able to accommodate. There are currently 24 students for each Caucasian faculty member. For minorities there are 61 students per faculty member. The recruiting pool needs to be diversified.
2. Guidance will assist in diversifying the faculty with training provided for the selection/hiring process of search committees. This will be implemented for the spring. Current searches for vacancies will not be affected. After the spring, this training will be mandatory for all search committee members.

IT Update – Henry Torres

Henry Torres (Chief Information Officer, Information and Technology Services) gave a detailed update regarding the latest activity with Information and Technology. First, the IT Store has been totally restructured for 'Help, Support and Repair'. It is now a 3rd party vendor, which makes it easier for everyone, especially with the opportunity to buy things at lower cost. The IT Help Desk is now in the store. Assistance is categorized into 3 levels. The IT Store is able to help at Levels 1 & 2. Level 3 assistance needs will be sent to Information and Technology Services (ITS). The IT Store can take care of some repair for personal products. ASU products will go to ITS.

Due to much positive feedback from faculty and students regarding the iPad initiative, we will go forward with this project. The iPad makes us think differently, teach differently and learn differently. IT has hired Kyle Butler, who is an expert in dealing with iPad repair, integration, etc. Much of his work current centers around solving problems with Wi-Fi for iPads, which requires a radio antenna. Progress is being made. In February 50 antennas were repositioned and many replaced. By October, 436 antennas had been properly positioned. ASU ultimately needs about 725 access points. Each installation costs about \$1250. Antennas will continue to be relocated and adjusted to accommodate our needs. In addition, 25 First Year Experience rooms have been remodeled and 36 classrooms fully renovated; this involved consultation to ensure proper setup, which was comfortable for faculty members. There are 15-20 other projects

underway; some are audio-visually related (cameras on campus). ITS is continually adapting to serve students and employees with the essentials in technology.

An ITS Security Panel of 5 members continues to meet weekly. A second audit is currently being conducted with professionals checking the network system. Consultation with professionals is constant. A recent violation was discovered in an email from an “Unknown Caller”, which was a ZIP file. Our message system uses WAVE files. The result of a few ASU employees responding to this email was the total destruction of their hard drives. That was a ransom situation. Now we no longer allow ZIP files. If you need to send a ZIP file, rename it. Do NOT click on something if you don’t know who it is from, or what it is. Pay attention to notices from Scott Wheat and Teresa Patterson. Also, do not let anyone check your computer, pull cables, etc., unless they have an IT badge. Call IT immediately regarding questionable assistance.

Upcoming big items involve the Travel Expense Module (TEM) and an electronic form used for hiring new employees. ITS is striving for stability, capacity and accessibility. As a result, we will start seeing tools that are easier and safer. Mr. Torres would like to offer “Lunch with the CIO” (his treat) inviting the Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, Student Association and Graduate Association.

Senator John Hall inquired as to when will we have proper Wi-Fi in each classroom. Mr. Torres responded that when we have the 725 access points properly installed, Wi-Fi for each classroom should be functioning properly; however, our needs will continue to increase. There is a possibility that the IT Tech Fee may be routed to resolve the Wi-Fi issues. In the meantime, please let IT know of classrooms that are a priority. The needs of students and faculty both need to be prioritized. Classrooms seem most important for faculty, but students may feel differently. Eric Barnett needs to be contacted for poor Wi-Fi areas in buildings. He will personally visit each area to resolve Wi-Fi issues.

Senator John Hall also asked if ASU was more secure in regard to the IRS issue. Mr. Torres answered affirmatively. Though we still have not found the culprit, we have a security expert whose team has tried to attack our system. They haven’t found any issues except small peripheral matters. The investigation will involve several more layers of analysis. Senator Warren Johnson inquired about the capacity of the Internet. Mr. Torres explained that the bandwidth, protection, and storage capacity have all been expanded. Currently, there is over 1.2 gigabytes that may be accessed, which is larger than anyone in the state. Senator Shivan Haran asked about plans to specialize usage for the labs of various colleges. Mr. Torres responded that technicians are available to assist.

FYE – Jill Simons

Dean of University College, Dr. Jill Simons invited everyone to see what the various disciplines did with their work in First Year Experiences. There will be a display next Wednesday from 11:00 to 1:00 in the Mockingbird Room of the Student Union. Appetizers will be served.

Old Business:

Faculty Marshals/Mace Bearer

Chair Julie Isaacson announced that Senator Bill Humphrey has agreed to carry the mace for commencement. All marshals will be senators through the spring.

Statement of Nondiscrimination – ready for vote

Senator Judy Pfriemer moved to accept the proposal. Cherisse Jones-Branch seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

New Business:

Faculty Emeriti Advisory Council Task Force

Chair Julie Isaacson inquired as to whether there was any interest in an Advisory Council Task Force for Faculty Emeriti. The general response was affirmative. Senator Bill Rowe mentioned that a national organization exists and offered to investigate. Senator John Hall agreed to assist. Dr. William Maynard (History) would also join the task force.

International Issues Task Force

Chair Julie Isaacson share the positive report that 30 faculty members responded to the email asking for volunteers to serve on the International Students and Scholars Committee. Due to the degree of interest, she suggested forming a Faculty Senate Task Force to supplement the work. The Senate was in favor of the idea.

Committee Reports:

SGOC (Shared Governance Oversight Committee)

Senator Andy Mooneyhan reported that there is a proposal to change the membership of the Employee Benefits Committee by adding an ex officio member. In addition, there is a faculty non-discrimination policy before SGOC. Also, the Senate was reminded that anyone may submit a proposal to SGOC.

Employee Benefits

Chair Julie Isaacson explained that the Employee Benefits document is a position statement pertaining to faculty, staff and employees. The following is a summary of the statement:

- Undergraduate hours capped at 132 credits
- All dependents must be legal
- Vesting time goes to 1 year (including 9 month employment)
- Housing discount terminated

- Fees discounted

Senator Tom Ratliff if there was a norm regarding credit hours taken. The answer is basically negative. Senator Judy Pfriemer commented that it was difficult to determine with attempted hours and completed hours. Many hours attempted were over 200. Some remain in school to avoid paying off student loans.

Senator Bill Rowe moved to endorse the position. The motion was seconded by Senator Amany Saleh. All were in favor.

Senate Finance (Bill Rowe)

Senator Bill Rowe reported that the Finance Committee met on 28 October 2013. They would have a presentation ready early in the spring. Data has been collected and will be sorted to compare ASU salaries to the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville, Southern Regional Educational Board averages, travel expenditures, etc. The goal is to look into the future in terms of our financial situation and decipher what we want to be as opposed to what we are. Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration Len Frey has been assisting as well as Senator Richard Segall.

Faculty Recognition—deferred

Patent (Fabricio Medina-Bolivar)

Senator Fabricio Medina-Bolivar met with Brian Rogers from the Office of Research and Technology Transfer (ORTT) to discuss the operating procedures of the patenting process at the university. Brian Rogers oversees the invention disclosures and patent applications from the university, and is also the Director of the Catalyst Innovation Accelerator. Senator Medina-Bolivar also met with different members of the Patent Task Force committee who are involved with patent application and agreed that another important area, which should be included in the procedures, is the licensing process. The committee will discuss the procedures with ORTT to make sure these are in compliance. An update will be presented at the next Senate meeting.

Gen Ed Task Force —Amany Saleh

Senator Amany Saleh reported that the General Education Task Force invited Vice Chancellor and Provost, Dr. Lynita Cooksey to their meeting on 8 November 2013. There were questions raised regarding guidelines, boundaries or restrictions with the General Education Core Curriculum. As mentioned in a Senate meeting last spring, Dr. Cooksey pointed out that we need to think outside the box and come up with a vision for our Gen Ed Curriculum. Director of the Honors College, Rebecca Oliver volunteered to pilot it in the Honors Programs. The committee requested that feedback be sought from all faculty members. Curriculum modification would be a decision supported by the faculty.

Bookstore —Jollean Sinclair

Senator Jollean Sinclair explained that the selection of vendors for the bookstore has been a complex process, which will serve 2 campuses. There is a link pertaining to the Operation and Management of the Bookstores at ASU Jonesboro and ASU Mountain Home, which is available for Request for Proposal (40-page document) and Questions & Answers (92 pages). Next Wednesday, 20 November 2013, the vendors will be visiting. Everyone is encouraged to attend. The vendor contract will be for 7 years. In regard to scoring criteria, ASU is more concerned with the experience of the vendors and performance (40%) than their financial proposal (20%) for our “Academic Bookstore”.

Problem solving involving students not having financial aid to pay for books has been difficult. Currently, there is no deadline for applying for financial aid. Credit is given to students in an account. A few weeks before school, the students receive emails to apply their funds to the bookstore. Feedback is needed on how to assist students who are waiting on money. It is difficult to give them credit. Basically, they need to take care of business.

A year ago, the Follett tool was adopted. Attendance at training sessions is light. Even with the use of the Follett tool, the bookstore sometimes fails to order the correct number of books. This is a legitimate issue, as the bookstore gets a report of how many students are enrolled, which is always a dated report. The real number is hard to attain. Sometimes what teachers turn in is incorrect. A formula is used to figure how many to order; however, some students will not buy the books, some will use iPads, some get them elsewhere, etc.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Task Force (John Hall)

Senator John Hall that the Student Evaluation of Teaching Task Force has been working on current practices on campus, problems, and best practices for evaluating teaching, including courses online. A system devised by the IDEA Education non-profit organization is being used by over 650 universities and institutions in the country (theideacenter.org). Their method allows students to complete evaluations by means of a mobile device. It is a possibility that we may do a pilot on our campus. One drawback is that there may be 50 questions, which is a lot, but the accuracy would be better. Our current system has not been precise; therefore, the task force would like to find a proper solution by the end of the spring semester.

Intercollegiate Athletics—deferred

Chair’s Report:

Faculty Research Awards

Chair Julie Isaacson announced that there will be a general information session for Faculty Research Awards in the spring.

HLC; Save the Date! - 12/5/13

Thanks to everyone for the great turnout during the visit of the Higher Learning Commission. There will be a reception held 5 December 2013 from 4:00 to 6:00 at Cooper Alumni Center in appreciation of all involved.

Security

Lori Winn (Human Resources) informed Chair Julie Isaacson by telephone that the Experian credit monitoring service will not be continued past one year (free of charge); however, we have negotiated a contract with Experian for a discount. The annual cost will be just over \$18 instead of over \$80. For those wishing to take advantage of this offer, do not go directly through Experian for payments. Contact Lori Winn with questions.

Administrative Executive Planning Session; BOT meeting

Instead of their scheduled 13 December meeting, The Board of Trustees will meet next Wednesday, 20 November 2013. Vice Chancellor Cooksey explained that they would be auditing international travel, which is the reason faculty members were notified via email that the Provost would review all international travel. She simply needs to be aware of the situation before it goes to the Board.

Reminders

Senator Judy Pfriemer asked the Senate to remind their colleagues that open enrollment would close on 24 November 2013. Please take time to go through the process online, even if no changes are needed.

Chair Julie Isaacson announced that the next Senate meeting should be 7 February 2014. A special meeting may be called.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Marika Kyriakos

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:

Minghui Gao

Joanna Grymes
John Hall
Andy Mooneyhan

Joe Nichols

Amany Saleh

Engineering:

Shivan Haran

Fine Arts:

Claire (Garrard) Abernathy
Marika Kyriakos
Bill Rowe

Humanities & Social Sciences:

Win Bridges
Warren Johnson
Cherisse Jones-Branch

Hans Hacker

Tom 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:

Margaret McClain

Military Science:

Cecil Clark

Library & Information Resources:

Wendy Crist