

ASU FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
September 21, 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
Jim Bednarz proxy - Larry Hilburn
Joe Sartorelli absent
Dick Freer
David Jimerson absent
Ernesto Lombeida
Bill Maynard absent
Victoria Spaniol
Richard Wang

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Dan Marburger
Clint Relyea absent
Jim Washam
Chris Brown

COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Jo Anna Grant
Lillie M. Fears

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Cindy Albright
Kris Biondolillo
Joe Justen absent
Veda McClain absent
Carl Vaupel absent

DEPT. OF ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCE

Charles Coleman absent

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

Bill Rowe
John O'Connell absent
Ken Hatch absent

COLLEGE OF Nursing & Health Professions

Terry Baggs absent
Steve Guffey absent
Debra Walden

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Polly Green proxy - Margaret McClain

LIBRARY

Myron Flugstad

MILITARY SCIENCE

Daniel Tiscareno absent

COUNCIL OF ACADEMIC DEANS

Jan Duggar

VISITORS

Warren Johnson (AS)	Newport Campus:
Greg Chance (KASU)	Jeanette Youngblood
Heather McCutcheon (Herald)	Joe Campbell
Rick McDaniel	Ike Wheeler
Mark Hoeting	Duane Doyle

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bennett called the meeting to order at 3:07.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes from the Sept. 7, 2001 Faculty Senate meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as amended made by Flugstad; seconded by Humphrey. Motion carried.

REMARKS

Chair Bennett requested that senate members introduce themselves when addressing the senate to facilitate identification for recorder. He also reminded senators of the importance of sending a proxy when unable to attend senate meetings.

Bennett recognized Dr. Rick McDaniel, Vice-president for Academic Affairs. Visitors and colleagues from the A.S.U. - Newport campus were welcomed. Chair Bennett expressed his appreciation to the faculty from Newport for their presence.

Dr. McDaniel was recognized. He stated that he and Bill Humphrey had been working together on the faculty handbooks and that he is pleased that the handbook committee has the goal of putting the handbook before the Board at the December meeting. He then opened the floor for questions.

Morrell asked for a report on status of general education changes. McDaniel reported that proposal is behind the original deadline and as yet had no definite date for implementation. He stated that the most significant change is that the general education curriculum is being prescribed based upon specific goals.

Brown asked McDaniel for an assessment of the effectiveness of the learning community concept supported by academic affairs. McDaniel noted that Dr. Lynita Cooksey directs this program and this initiative is being followed closely. He pointed out that the program started with 400 students and enjoys a fairly high retention rate with 380 students currently active in the program.

McDaniel reported that 300 FTE students have apparently dropped since the 11th day. This drop effects funding and impacts budgets. The current policy on tuition and fee refunds will be reviewed. Freer asked about the "economic hit" for the university. McDaniel stated "potentially \$500,000" and that several groups are addressing this issue.

Biondolillo asked if there was an administrative plan to help the library deal with budget concerns. She noted that faculty were being asked to assess journal holdings.

McDaniel stated that there was no specific plan other than expansion of electronic holdings. Flugstad noted that the library does have a growing collection of electronic holdings. He offered to provide a list of those holdings to faculty. Chair Bennett suggested that this list be provided on faculty list-serve. Bennett also offered to ask the library co-deans to meet with the faculty senate to provide information about budgetary concerns and library holdings.

Freer expressed concerns about cash reserves. He asked if there was an administrative plan to end the shifts in monies from academic to athletic budgets in light of concerns related to academic programs such as library holdings. McDaniel stated that there was no "plan" but a desire and an expectation. Chair Bennett pointed out that Nonie Wiggins (CNHP) is the most recent faculty appointment to the athletic committee.

McDaniel noted that \$138,000 dollars has been generated from tech fees for faculty computer needs. The goal is to try to replace one-third of faculty computers per year.

REPORTS

Chair Bennett reported that he had attended a Board meeting at the Newport campus. It was announced at this meeting that Dr. Larry Williams had been appointed Chancellor of the Newport Campus. Bennett stated that he had an opportunity to speak with Newport faculty about faculty governance issues.

Youngblood (Newport) state that two faculty members were on the committee to select the chancellor. However, the faculty association senate on that campus did not select these faculty.

Bennett proposed that the Jonesboro faculty reach out to faculty at distant sites in the campus system. He requested input as to how best to support colleagues within the system. Youngblood stated that she is concerned about decisions for the Newport campus being left to "the system." She described the faculty association's desire to affiliate itself with the Jonesboro senate. Bennett suggested that as the main campus, we have a responsibility to faculty on other campuses and that we welcome input.

A discussion followed regarding the need for developing a "system wide" faculty handbook in addition to handbooks for each unique campus.

Bennett reported that the President's Council met almost everyday during the first week after the tragedy in New York City to discuss the impact on our campus. Evolving from these meetings were the "Moment of Silence" and the "Walk for Unity".

Bennett reminded senators serving on shared governance committees to report findings to the senate.

OLD BUSINESS:

Faculty Handbook:

Chair Bennett stated that due to the efforts of Senator Humphey, the handbook will be made available on the WEB on Monday, Sept. 24, 2001. He reported that the executive committee's recommended proposal for dealing with the handbook had been presented to President Wyatt and Dr. McDaniel. Both have indicated support for the process. The proposal is that faculty will have a period of time to review the handbook. Any comments, suggestions or corrections will be submitted in writing, not per e-mail. Printing a page and making corrections on that page will enhance clarity. All suggestions will be forwarded to Humphrey. The executive committee will convene a meeting with the handbook committee and consider simple syntax concerns. Substantive changes will be brought back before the senate. After this process, the revised document will be submitted to administration. The deadline for this process will be December 9th or 11th, 2001. Lucinda Williams will review the document prior to submitting it to the Board. Bennett noted that the deadline to receive faculty suggestions would be October 15th, 2001.

Senator Grant asked whether a version of the handbook would be sent to the AAUP for review by their legal staff. After discussion, it was agreed that the senate would forward the copy of the handbook now on the WEB to the AAUP.

Faculty Survey

Chair Bennett reported that the results of the faculty survey had engendered interest and concern from President Wyatt and the Board of Trustees. President Wyatt is interested in knowing what the senate would like to do with the results of the survey. Bennett stated that he told Wyatt that there is interest in sorting out "key issues" of concern drawn from the survey. Wyatt expressed his interest in assisting the faculty in addressing these issues.

The senate executive committee has recommended that a committee be formed with faculty qualified to sort out this qualitative data. In addition, a member of the Board has expressed interest in serving on the committee. Any administrators would serve as "non-voting" members of such a committee.

Chair Bennett asked the senate if this is considered to be a logical direction. Discussion was held regarding ownership of the survey by the faculty. Wang suggested that it is our job to evaluate the survey findings. Bennett stated that the intent was to represent the faculty in determining those issues we wish the administration to address. He suggested that he was "hopeful" regarding the interest of administration in addressing faculty concerns. Rowe suggested that the survey itself was not very "scientific" and therefore may be difficult to analyze. Freer offered that we can't ignore the interest of a Board member. He suggested that a small team be formed to do preliminary work. This team could then share analysis with the senate and the board.

Bennett stated that he would be willing to find out how detailed a report administration is interested in receiving. Wang offered that Bennett and the executive committee has the

support of the senate to develop a plan to approach survey analysis. It was agreed that the executive committee would come back to the senate with a specific plan.

Faculty Association Accounts

Senator Rowe offered the following report:

In checking - \$1,517.28

Merrill Lynch - \$11,272.39

Foundation Account - \$22,414.49

Selection of Senators:

Chair Bennett opened discussion regarding the process of determining the number of senators for each college. Bailey reported that the plan had been to have the chair of the senate appoint a 3 to 5 member committee to revise the Howerton Plan for allocation of senate seats. This committee was not appointed during the summer. Bennett encouraged those interested in volunteering for this committee to contact him by the early part of next week.

Election Process

Morrell reminded the senate that we had delayed an election of a "president-elect" as required in the bylaws. After discussion, Morrell requested a delay in any discussion until a new copy of the bylaws was made available for review.

NEW BUSINESS

Publication of Faculty phone numbers

Bennett stated that some faculty are concerned about the publication of personal phone numbers and addresses in the ASU directory. He stated that he had spoken to President Wyatt and the office of human resources about this situation. President Wyatt agreed this was a valid concern. There is no policy requiring faculty data to be included in the directory. Rowe noted that many were concerned that unlisted phone numbers were being printed as well as phone numbers printed in error. Bennett offered to inquire as to a process for insuring that this information be published only when approved by faculty members.

Information and Technology Document

Bennett reminded senators that at the last meeting Jenus Burton passed out copies a document entitled "Arkansas State University Information and Technology Services Appropriate Use of Information and Technology Resources Policy". Mr. Burton requested feedback. Bennett asked for faculty comments. Albright suggested that the proper place to direct this document was to departmental or college computer committees. Humphrey noted several concerns about Section IV. Discussion was held regarding intellectual property rights issues. Mark Hoeting offered input as to the intent of the document as perceived by I.T. He suggested that the primary concern of the document was hardware issues.

Senator Grant made the following motion for a resolution:

Given the ambiguous nature of ownership clauses and security policies
the senate rejects the I.T. policy in its present form.

The motion was seconded by Biondiollo and passed unanimously per voice vote.

Resolution

Senator Brown submitted as resolution written in response to discussion at the last senate meeting regarding the dean's role in appointment membership of college PRT committees.

Brown read the following resolution to the senate:

Whereas the role and responsibilities of the college deans in the promotion, retention, and tenure process are outlined in Section V of the Faculty Handbook (Promotion, Retention, and Tenure Policies and Procedures)

And whereas the role and responsibilities (or lack thereof) of the college deans in the appointment and composition of College Promotion, retention, and tenure Committees is covered in the section of the Faculty Handbook with the heading "College" on pp. V-2 to V-3

And whereas the section of the Faculty Handbook referenced above defines **no** role for the Deans in the appointment of the college PRT Committee members or officers, except in the circumstance that a college is unable to form a PRT Committee composed of tenured or tenure pool faculty

Let it be resolved that the Faculty Senate is of the conviction that there is no role for the Deans in the appointment of College PRT committee members or officers, except in the circumstance described in the preceding section.

A motion to adopt the resolution was made by Senator Brown and seconded by Senator Wang. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Chair Bennett agreed to convey the sense of the senate to administration.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Bennett adjourned the meeting at 5:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra J. Walden
Asst. Professor of Nursing