

**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**Thursday, August 30, 2001, 3:30 P.M.**  
**Hunter Conference Center, Vermillion Cliffs Room**

- I. Call to order-3:32 pm by Pres. Steve Evans (delay to lack of quorum at 3:30 pm). Attending: Faculty Senators - Steve Evans (Pres.), Brian Heuett (Pres. Elect), David Lund (Secretary), Joe Baker (Treasurer), Virginia Stitt (Parliamentarian), Robert Eves, Art Porter, Greg Colf, Rick Lambson, Ben Davidson, Steve Heath, Rea Gubler, Boyd Fife, Deborah Hill, Tom Cunningham, Ron Martin, Steve Barney, Eric Brown, Idir Azouz, and Curt Bostick, James Aton; Visitors: Carl Templin (Provost), Cynthia Wright, Rhiannon Bent, and Said Bahi. Excused: Jim Mills. Absent: Kay Anderson and Darin Wadley
  
- II. Review and approval of minutes from previous meeting. It was noted that Steve Heath had been omitted from the list of attendees and needed to be added. Motion to accept the minutes as amended made by Ben Davidson and seconded by Joe Baker, motion carried by unanimous vote.
  
- III. Officers' Reports
  - A. President:
    1. Introductions of officers and all senators and visitors present (see list of attendees above). President Evans then discussed the importance of attendance and sending a voting proxy with a note indicating they could vote to represent them when absence is unavoidable; this is in accordance with the by-laws of the faculty senate.
    2. Schedule for the year-passed out as information item.
    3. Arrangements for meetings - Steve discussed the cost of the room and refreshments, the size of the group compared to the room size, and the room layout that is more conducive to appropriate seating for the senate. He explained that this is possible due to reduced expenses primarily as a result of reduced clerical help and a reduction of travel expense.
    4. Directory information – needs to be checked for accuracy, senators asked to try to ascertain the accuracy of information for all faculty in their respective colleges/departments.
    5. Major emphases for the coming year – Steve discussed a list of seven items of emphasis for the year and requested input from senators.
      - General Education Policy
      - Prioritization
      - Refinement of University Policies
      - Mission/Vision/Objectives/Goals for the University
      - Accreditation
      - Faculty Evaluation
      - Refinement of Constitution
    6. Committee assignments-It was noted that there are over 140 committee and organizational assignments, including the faculty senate, to be filled by SUU faculty. These assignments change frequently. Steve discussed a handout that showed the descriptions of the committees convened through the faculty senate, the requirements to fill each slot, and those known to be currently filling each one at the present. The plan of action is to fill all openings- any senator who knows of someone currently serving on a committee should share the information with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee today. Since consecutive terms can be served in committee, senators were asked to encourage those who have been involved to remain involved or volunteer to serve in new positions.

President Evans recommended that it would also be appropriate for senators to fill committee chair positions where possible, filling remaining committee seats with other appropriate faculty members. In order to have appropriate communication with other university committees which are not part of the faculty senate, senators were encouraged to volunteer to fill single slots on university committees so insure natural input and communication of knowledge of campus issues in our faculty senate deliberations.

Senators should encourage other faculty members to volunteer to fill other department/college seats on university committees and to volunteer to fill the appropriate seats on faculty senate committees, as well. Once faculty senate committee positions have been filled voluntarily, senators/chairs should call and use the assistance of the deans to fill remaining committee positions.

The discussion then centered around the report handed out regarding the “Status of the Committee and Organizational Assignments and Recommendations for the Academic Year.” It was noted that two cases, an ad hoc committee was formed to do some of the work that should probably have been done by a committee already constituted through the by-laws—these committees were the Ad Hoc By-Laws Revision Committee and the Ad Hoc Salary Equity Committee. Steve Evans’ suggestion in both cases was that ad hoc committees be folded back into the standing committees with ad hoc committee members becoming members of the regularly constituted committee where appropriate. Further, these two items required discussion and a vote of the faculty senate. (It was noted at this point that Margaret Dixon was left off the LRT Committee list and needs to be added.) In addition, some reorganization of the Lecture, and Publication and Scholarship Committees should be discussed, and any change in these committees would also require a vote of the faculty senate.

The changes would be to restructure the Distinguished Faculty Lecture Committee (11 members which handled distinguished faculty lecturer and outstanding scholar) and Publication Committee (5 members which handled the outstanding educator award). The suggestion was to realign these two committees to make three with 6 members on each. The Distinguished Faculty Lecturer Committee would handle the Distinguished Faculty Lecturer Award; the Teacher Recognition Committee would handle the Outstanding Educator Award, and Faculty Achievement Committee would handle the Outstanding Scholar Award. Steve Barney was concerned that the Outstanding Scholar Award as part of the Faculty Achievement Committee responsibilities might imply publication for the award and a number of other senators agreed citing the specific scholarship of disciplines such as those considered fine arts. Joe Baker felt the changes would be good because we need to streamline the work of the Faculty Senate and moved that we vote on the organizational changes as presented above. The motion was seconded by Ron Martin. During the ensuing discussion there was a question as to whether we were the only group seeking nominees for the Outstanding Educator Award, as Sterling Church had done this in the past. Cynthia Wright again brought up the semantics of scholar associated with achievement. Ron Martin indicated that outside SUU, Scholar is a more acceptable term. Tom questioned having one scholar from each college and indicated that the semantic problem associated with scholar had been discussed previously and scholar was the end result of a long-term genesis in the award—Carl Templin reminded us of the monetary award associated with the honor and that to make the award to one person from each college would be fiscally difficult. It was decided by several senators that the senate can pass the

structural changes and define the roles at a later date. A final question was posed by Steve Evans: Where does Sterling Church stand on these awards and will our restructure be in conflict with under the direction of Sterling Church? Steve Evans took the assignment to explore this question.

The motion for restructure as stated above then carried with all ayes and one abstention from Greg Colf.

Eric Brown moved that the ad hoc committee on Salary Equity be merged into the Faculty Finance Committee. Rick Lambson seconded the motion. Discussion centered on how to, or if ad hoc committee members be released, reassigned or merged. What were their responsibilities? It was moved to amend the motion to reassign the ad hoc members with their consent and the motion then passed with all ayes and two abstentions—Steve Barney and Idir Azouz (Idir had just arrived). It was noted that there was a need to research the Athletic committee and whether or not the faculty representatives from P. E were still excluded from service, since P. E. is no longer aligned with the Athletic Department. Steve Heath indicated that we need to talk to Dorian Page to see if the Insurance Committee should be restarted since insurance premiums and benefits are again under discussion. Steve Evans will check into the last two issues.

Committee guidelines – tabled for a later meeting.

Academic developments – tabled for a later meeting

#### B. President-elect

Policy reviews in general- Brian Heuett indicated that many of the 32 policies under review could be reviewed by committees with specific charges for the specific topic of the policy revision being considered; such reassignments would be considered and brought to the Senate at a later date.

General Education Policy – He also reminded the senators of the upcoming meeting of the Curriculum Committee on September 7 to continue work on the General Education policy, and that all senators should take the lead in being involved in the process of general hearings regarding reallocation and restructure within their individual colleges and departments scheduled for this Fall.

#### C. Secretary

E-Mail addresses/communications-Steve Evans covered this item in the agenda and used a handout indicating some of the known new faculty. It is critical that all faculty can be notified of appropriate Faculty Senate activity and it is necessary to have accurate and up-to-date information to do so

Faculty Senate Website – David Lund suggested that senators look at the page and comments and suggestions for improvement to Tom Cunningham or David Lund. Tom also made a motion that, at the suggestion of Mark Walton, the page be reworked to more closely match the style and layout of the pages in the SUU site; the motion was seconded by Bob Eves. Motion carried with Steve Heath in opposition and Eric Brown abstaining.

#### D. Treasurer

Bank account information – SUU account: \$4596; credit union accounts: checking = \$290, savings = \$4901, CD = \$9627. Total balance = \$19,414.

Governor Leavitt's 2.5% holdback of funds to higher education was briefly discussed by Steve Evans and it was noted that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee had volunteered to cut Faculty Senate expenses by 5% through reduced travel and clerical expenses.

Scholarships – there is some question as to how to handle the Faculty Senate Scholarships awarded for this year—there were three scholarships awarded, but

one of the students has now pulled out of school. Joe will get more information on this matter and report at a later meeting.

E. Parliamentary

Roberts Rules of Order (Handout)- Virginia referred to chart on the rules and handed out a copy to each attendee.

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Faculty Development and Evaluation Committee-Tom Cunningham had a handout of the draft prepared by the committee with instructions that it be reviewed by each department or college. Senators are to bring comments back to the next Faculty Senate meeting.
- B. By-Laws Revision Committee – Mike Stathis was unable to attend to make a report, due to a scheduling conflict; but it was determined that due to the late hour and the amount of time needed for discussion of the topic, this item should be deferred to a later meeting of the Faculty Senate. The point was made that the by-laws revision was important and would have a positive benefit for SUU.

V. Old Business

- A. Prioritization – It is mandated, we are in the middle, and as an Executive Committee we urge preparation, and participation to expedite the process.
- B. Surveys in progress – these are still in process and data should be analyzed within several weeks. The staff is also conducting a similar survey regarding satisfaction and an RFP is also going out to conduct a similar third party survey—probably in the Spring. There is some concern that the results will not be available until after faculty leaves campus for the Summer.
- C. Accreditation – In the process across the campus and moving to higher levels of accreditation.
- D. Assessment – in process, will be discussed.

VI. New Business-no one volunteered anything new.

VII. A motion for Executive Session was made by Rick Lambson, seconded by Virginia Stitt; the motion received unanimous approval.

VIII. Move for adjournment by Boyd Fife at 5:02 pm, also carried unanimously.