

## FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, February 24, 2000

3:30 P.M.

Board of Trustees Conference Room

### Present:

Jim Aton, Idir Azouz, Ann Barnes, Jeff Barnes, Rob Behunin (proxy for Elise Leahy), Luciane Berg, Bonnie Bishop, Morris Brown, Jim Cotts, Ben Davidson, Neil Gailey, Brian Hoover, Lamar Jordan, Suzanne Julian (proxy for Thomas Cunningham), Rick Lambson, Paul Larson, Michael McGarvey, Carol Ann Modesitt, Earl Mulderink, Dan Pence, Lila Schwaner.

### Absent:

Greg Powell.

### Excused:

Gary McIntyre, Bill Romey.

### Visitors:

Rhead Bowman, Dan Dail, Phil Dillard, Robert Eves, Scott Lanning, Bill Moody (Staff Association Representative), Connie Nyman, Amanda Presley (*University Journal*), Michael Stathis.

### I. Call to Order:

Earl Mulderink, Faculty Senate President, convened the meeting at 3:35 P.M.

### II. Review and Approval of Minutes of January 27, 2000 and February 17, 2000:

MOTION by Dan Pence to approve the minutes of January 27, 2000. SECONDED by Lila Schwaner. PASSED unanimously.

MOTION by Morris Brown to approve the minutes of the special meeting of February 17, 2000. SECONDED Ann Barnes. PASSED unanimously.

### III. Officers' Reports:

#### A. President.

1. "Higher Education" Rally at the Capitol, February 16, 2000.

Earl reported on the event and thanked all faculty who attended. About 18 faculty and staff from SUU attended, along with 70 students.

2. Meetings with Provost February 2, 2000 and with Provost and President February 17, 2000.

Earl reported that these meetings were productive and included communication about general education, prioritization, and other issues.

3. Special Faculty Senate Meeting on Prioritization, February 17, 2000.

Earl thanked everyone who attended and asked for feedback on the meeting. Earl reminded Senators about the March 9 Faculty Forum, at which time the

University's vision and other issues will be discussed.

4. Deans' Council Updates and Handouts.

Earl reported on recent Deans' Council meetings and distributed materials from those meetings, including a list of all programs offered at SUU; a time line for assessment, which he stressed is assessment, not prioritization; and an outline of classroom improvements through mediation of new technologies.

5. Committee for Distinguished/ Outstanding Educators (handout).

Earl distributed a memo from Lois Bulloch concerning formation of a committee to select an outstanding/distinguished educator and asked for nominees.

6. Informational Handouts.

Earl distributed a news article that describes a web page designed to assist professors in identifying plagiarism. He also distributed an article from the *Chronicle of Higher Education* that discusses a national poll about faculty job satisfaction.

B. President-elect.

Greg Powell represented Neil Gailey at the most recent Board of Trustees meeting, and since he is not in attendance there was no additional report.

C. Treasurer.

The Credit Union account balance is \$12,052.82, and the University account contains \$369.14.

Idir reported on the Faculty Senate web site, which is nearly ready. Earl commended Idir and Michael Jordan on their efforts. Faculty will be notified when it becomes operational.

**IV. Old Business**

A. Short-term Disability

Earl introduced Scott Lanning, Finance Committee Chair, who outlined the committee recommendations on a short-term disability policy. His handout compared our current policies with those of other institutions. The committee recommend that we continue with our present policies. MOTION by Bonnie Bishop to retain the policy as it currently exists without change. SECONDED by Carol Ann Modesitt. PASSED 18-1-1.

B. By-Laws Revision Committee report

Earl introduced Michael Stathis, Chair of the By-Laws Revision Committee, who reported on the committee's activities. They expect to submit a full report to the Senate by the end of the semester. Earl asked Mike to keep the Senate apprised of the committee's activities.

C. LRT Policies

Earl turned the time over to Ben Davidson, Chair of the LRT Policy Revision

Committee. Ben distributed a handout which outlines proposed changes in the annual review and three-year review policies. Senators praised the committee for their efforts. MOTION by Lamar Jordan that the Senate endorse the most recent revision that contains actual deadline dates. SECONDED by Rick Lambson. PASSED 17-3-0. MOTION by Ann Barnes that the policy revisions take effect no later than Fall Semester, 2000. SECONDED by Bonnie Bishop. PASSED unanimously.

Earl then asked Ben to discuss proposed changes to Section 6.7, which reduces the number of evaluative categories from five to three -- teaching effectiveness, scholarly activity, and service. He explained that the current categories are repetitive, and that candidates for tenure have been evaluated on criteria that do not relate to the tenure process. The proposed changes will define more clearly each of the three categories, and the committee's main purpose is simplification. Ben stated that much work remains to be done on this issue. Senators expressed their approval of the committee's efforts. The Senate's consensus is that the three-pronged approach is the appropriate one. The application form will also be revised to reflect the change.

**D. Due Process (Grievance Policy).**

Earl briefly reviewed the policy's history, and asked Rob Behunin and Connie Nyman, of the Grievance Policy Revision Committee, how the Senate can best evaluate the proposed policy. The committee will outline the major changes to facilitate the Senate's review. Earl asked the Senators to make the proposed policy and the list of significant changes available to the faculty and to ask faculty members to send their comments to Rob or Connie. Senators are to come prepared to vote on the policy at the next meeting.

**E. Meeting Schedule for the Remainder of the Academic Year.**

A motion was passed at the special meeting of February 17, 2000, that the Faculty Senate hold one special meeting per month until the end of the academic year. The discussion of the next meeting, March 23, 2000, will cover prioritization, and the meeting of March 30, 2000, will be a regular meeting.

**V. New Business**

**A. Committee on Academic Planning and Resources.**

Earl suggested that we table action on this issue, but the Senate discussed it briefly.

**VI. Executive Session:**

None.

**VII. Motion for Executive Session:**

MOTION for Executive Session at the next meeting made by Rob Behunin.  
SECONDED by Lila Schwaner. PASSED unanimously.

**VIII. Adjournment**

MOTION to adjourn by Lila Schwaner at 5:30 P.M.