

Faculty Senate Minutes  
April 25, 2013  
4:00 p.m. Charles Hunter Room, Hunter Conference Center

Senators in Attendance: Steve Barney, Julie Taylor, Janet Seegmiller, Lee Montgomery, Sarah Duffin, Steve Irving, Emmett Steed (also proxy for Jeff Barnes and Griffon Edwards), Artis Grady, Helen Boswell, Connie Nyman, Kim Weaver, Richard Cozzens (also proxy for Des Penny), Selwyn Layton, Michelle Orihel, Randle Hart, Shobha Gurung, Rachel Kirk, Randy Allen, Kyle Bishop, David Shwalb, Christine Frezza, Lynn Vartan, Nichole Wangsgard, Mark DeBeliso, Jim McCoy, and Jeremias Paul. Not attending: Wayne Roberts and Andrew Marvick. Also, Emily Dean, president-elect, and new senators: Thad Morton, Matt Edwards, Derek Hein, Jim Gustafson, Lindsey Harvell, Carmel White, and Tyler Stillman (excused)

1. Steve Barney: Call to order at 4:01 p.m. Motion to approve the minutes of March 28<sup>th</sup> by Mark DeBeliso; seconded by Helen Boswell. No discussion; minutes approved with one abstention.
  
2. Recognition of Guests and their reports moved up in agenda:
  - a. Earl Mulderink, interim director, Community Engagement Center and chair of Faculty Service Learning Committee explained that SUU's committee has proposed moving to a broader concept of Community Engaged Learning (CEL). Deans approved this in early April. It includes a new designation for courses and undergraduate students will be renamed Community Engaged Scholars. It is more than a name change; it is a broader conceptual change. CEL can include service learning, but also practice based research and other engaged teaching and scholarship. This will elevate the level of engagement for students and faculty.
  
  - b. Julie Simon, representing the ad hoc committee on women in leadership positions, spoke about an upcoming survey on gender differences and job satisfaction. The survey is ready and will gather unbiased information about our work. It will come in an email. It has IRB approval and some financial incentive. The Provost will publicize the survey through his email. Senators are asked to encourage faculty to take the survey which covers this academic year.
  
3. Recognition of new faculty senators:
  - a. COSE: Richard Cozzens introduced Thad Morton from Integrated Engineering; Matt Edwards from Integrated Technology & Construction, and Derek Hein from Math. Richard is the outgoing senator from the college.
  
  - b. PVA: no new senators.
  
  - c. HSS: Rachel Kirk introduced Jim Gustafson in Spanish who replaces her, and Randle Hart introduced Lindsay Harvell from Communication who replaces him.
  
  - d. Business: Emmett Steed introduced Tyler Stillman who replaces Wayne Roberts. Stillman could not attend.
  
  - e. Library: no new senators
  
  - f. Education: Nichole Wangsgard introduced Carmel White.
  
3. Executive Committee Elections: nominations or volunteers?
  - a. Treasurer: Kim Weaver volunteered.

- b. Secretary: Selwyn Layton volunteered at the end of the meeting.
  - c. Parliamentarian: Lee Montgomery is willing to serve another year.
4. Gavel turned over to Julie Taylor, new faculty senate president. Julie introduced Emily Dean as President-elect for 2013-2014.
  5. Provost Report: Brad Cook thanked Steve Barney for service.
    - a. The search for a new president began with Chair of Board of Regents meeting last week on campus. Pres. Benson's last day is June 30. Timeline includes identifying an interim president and organizing a search committee of 18, including faculty and students. Ideally the new President would begin Jan. 1, 2014, <sup>but</sup> may be as late as July 1. Selection of interim president is important due to major events in the upcoming year, including accreditation team visit in October, capital campaign that finishes in 2014, strategic planning as academic roadmap is ending and five-year-plan underway.
  6. President's Report: Julie asked Steve to report on Deans Council.
    - a. Steve Barney reported that Deans heard from Carmen Alldredge about challenges of students with disabilities. Faculty need to make sure that all course materials in class or on Canvas are accessible to these students. It is not optional; it is federal law that they must have accommodations and must have access to all course materials no matter the impairment.
    - b. Deans received report from latest Talent and Workforce skills survey of what employers are looking for in employees. Top skills wanted continue to be communication skills, interpersonal skills (can work in teams) and quantitative literacy, reasoning and decision making skills. Provost Cook says national surveys match with our Essential Learning Outcomes.
  7. Treasurers report: There is \$11,977.31 in scholarship account and \$1576.67 in Faculty Senate account. Donations for scholarships have increased to \$9700 and Executive Committee is recommending \$8,000 be approved for 2113-2014. Motion to spend the \$8,000 made by Mark DeBeliso; second by Jim McCoy. Approved unanimously. This funds four scholarships instead of the usual two. All are given to non-traditional students. Julie encouraged additional support.
  8. No ad hoc committee reports.
  9. Action Items:
    - a. **Dissolution of Faculty Development & Evaluation Committee.** Motion by Kyle Bishop; second by Mark DeBeliso. No discussion; approved unanimously.
    - b. **Appointment of Past President to become liaison to Academic Affairs Committee,** so that someone from the Senate would share our discussions with the committee in order to improve communication. Motion to approve by Artis Grady, second by Matt Edwards. Members of Academic Affairs committee are appointed by their deans; one is rotating off this year. This is a non-voting, advisory position. Vote: 22 for; 4 against; 2 abstentions.
  10. New Business:
    - a. **Policy 6.1 Leave, Rank & Tenure:** Deans proposed changes on p. 6, EVALUATION CRITERIA, VI. A.2. to say "Non-tenure track faculty members should demonstrate currency in their field as determined by the department and approved by the Dean of the college or school." And on p. 8

where it describes the FAAR Procedure for non-Tenure Track Faculty, II.A. delete “on their performance on each criterion except Scholarly/Creative-Contribution in Policy 6.1, VI above.” And on II.B. delete last sentence. Lynn Vartan made a motion to accept these changes, second by Lindsey Harvell.

Discussion: Steve explained the compromise approved by the Deans. Emmett Steed said current language would satisfy College of Business accreditation needs. Should there be an effective date? Lynn moved the previous question; Lee seconded. Motion approved with 22 votes in favor, 1 in opposition, and 5 abstentions.

**b. Policy 6.51 Graduate Policies.** The proposed changes are to bring the policy up to par with the ways things are being done. Mark DeBeliso made motion to approve; Connie Nyman seconded. Explains how students meet requirements for graduation. Procedural changes. Motion approved by 26 votes with 2 abstentions.

**c. Policy 6.5 Undergraduate Admissions:** Proposed changes eliminate reference to a published/printed catalog. Procedural changes and definitions are proposed. Randy Allen moved we approve these changes; Lynn Vartan seconded. Discussion regarding elimination of reference to the TOEFL and IELTS. Now there is no standard, just reference to “English language proficiency.” Calls for verification of English proficiency, but does not say what that verification is. Motion to table this action in order to get further clarification by Lee Montgomery; second by Selwyn Layton. Vote unanimous to table motion.

**d. Policy 6.8.3 General Education Committee.** Adds Essential Learning Outcomes (ELO) and SUU ELO definitions and changes composition of members on committee. Motion to approve by Mark DeBeliso; second by Shobha Gurung.

Provost spoke to explain need for change. Assessment of GE program was flagged in earlier accreditation (2003) and accreditation committee coming again in October. We have made no progress. We need stronger faculty voice in improving GE. We need assessment piece in our GE program and need better representation on committee, including weighted representation in science and humanities. Committee members are appointed by Deans. Some differences in proposals as two versions have been published. Senate members voted on the version before us at the time with statement “Faculty representatives are selected by the Dean of each College/School and the Library in consultation with the faculty member and the department chair.” Vote called for. There were 22 votes to approve and 5 abstentions.

e. The “Working Brief: Flexible Faculty Workload Policy” and the model for General Education proposal are informational. Please take these back for input from your faculty and they will be considered at our next meeting. The GE proposal was to come to senators from their deans and department chairs.

f. Petition from Professor John Howell to have his LRT application reviewed citing that University policy was not followed.

g. Denise Tomer passed out information titled “Save the Center for Sustainability” and asked for the support of faculty senators.

11. Julie announced that the next official meeting will be in September 2013. Motion for adjournment and executive session by Lee Montgomery, second by David Shwalb.