

SUU Faculty Senate Minutes  
December 5, 2013  
4:00 p.m. Charles Hunter Room, Hunter Conference Center

Senators in Attendance: Julie Taylor, Emily Dean, Kim Weaver, Selwyn Layton (proxy for Helen Boswell), Janet Seegmiller, Tyler Stillman, Lynn Vartan, Isabella Borisova, Jim McCoy, Carmel White, Connie Nyman, Kyle Bishop, Steve Irving, Elise Leahy (proxy for Jim Gustafson), Randall Allen, David Shwalb, Emmett Steed (proxy for Jeff Barnes), Thad Morton, Derek Hein, Michelle Orihel, Lindsey Harvell.

1. Julie Taylor: Call to order at 04:06 p.m. Motion to approve the minutes of October 24<sup>th</sup> by Emmett Steed; and seconded by Randall Allen with addendum of typographical and a name correction. Minutes approved.
2. Recognition of guests: Associate Provost William Byrnes, Travis Rosenberg, and John MacLean.
3. Treasurer report from Kim Weaver.
  - a. The Scholarship budget had \$12, 969 in the account at the beginning of the year and have spent \$4,000 in scholarships since that time and received donations from faculty of \$1589 and the current balance is \$10,558. Operating budget \$2,187 was budgeted for the year and have spent \$1,122 giving a balance of \$1,065. Some of this money was spent on a new projector for the faculty senate.
4. Vice President Report from Julie Taylor who was Emily Dean's proxy for the Board of Trustee's meeting.
  - a. Julie mentioned that President Scott Wyatt will be coming on campus in January and President Kendell will be finishing up his term as interim president will end at the end of this month. Also, that it was passed on in the meeting that faculty sentiments were expressed about how they were hoping for more open forum during the presidential search in order to get to know the applicants better. Chair Leavitt mentioned that he would include this in the report to the Regents. Dean O'Driscoll discussed the advertising and marketing in the Trustee's meeting. This includes social meeting outlets such as Facebook and Pandora in which SUU advertisements and video clips will be added to these outlets. This will include 50 different video clips every week with the theme of "Experience More." Part of this marketing scheme is to get current students, alumni, staff, and faculty to participate in the video clips. The intent is to recruit more students. Also, there was a proposal of a Master of Science in Critical Infrastructure Protection (Cyber Security). It will be partnership with and established international cyber security industry named Condition Zebra through the College of Science and Engineering and will be online helping with the SMART growth initiative at SUU. Discontinued the Master of Forensic Science and will allow the 15 students to finish their program at SUU. The academic calendar was approved by the Trustee's and is posted on the Canvas website. Associate Provost Byrnes emphasized it is not engraved in concrete and thus can be modified if needed. Athletics was congratulated for first post season competition. Gymnastics was said that to have the best team ever

according to Coach Bauman, Women's Basketball off to great start of 5 and 2 and Men's Basketball adjusting to a tough schedule with a young team and making adjustments to a slightly different officiating method this year. Question posed about the faculty losing their athletic and arts ticket privileges and what faculty senate could do about it? Also, asked about parking being part of these privileges and not having to pay to go to work. President Kendell also mentioned this previous to this meeting. Julie said she would put together a proposal.

5. President Report from Julie Taylor

- a. Dean's council proposed moved to go towards an electronic LRT portfolio and options are being looked at.
- b. College Student Inventory (CSI) was looked at for the first time this year. The data points brought up was that almost 900 students completed the survey. Two main points was to find out how many students were prone to drop out behaviors and who were most likely to drop out of SUU. About 21% demonstrated drop out behavior 63% were women and 37% were men. Follow up question was that, were students going to transfer about 25% indicated that they were not going to continue their degree at SUU but are unsure why and 74% were women and 26% were men. Question posed about the high tuition being a contributor to students wanting to transfer? Most senators voiced their concern about this and wanted to know how we are going to address this issue to improve retention. Julie mentioned that in the study there are several areas are mentioned on how to improve student retention.
- c. Dean's council looking for feedback about the NBC learn tool. All comments from the Senators pointed to the fact that there is a better use for these funds and we should not continue with this tool and that there are other tools better suited for less cost. It was mentioned that this needs to also be discussed with the school district since they are using it in conjunction with the University.

6. Discussion Items

- a. Policy 11.9 and 11.11 were passed on with the Dean's Council. A question on the second page under section D of policy 11.9 about the coordinator for student disabilities was included and the answer was they were going to include it. Also, 5.32 on the last page for HR it was proposed that the adjunct faculty remain 75% or less of what a full time lecturer would be teaching. Policy 6.9 is still under review. Flexible workload proposal is still being worked on and an update should be ready in January.
- b. Johnny MacLean presented the Center of Excellence in Teaching and Learning Peer Mentoring Program which can be found in the Senate course under Canvas. Question was asked about how to get in contact and be a part of this program? Contact is through Johnny MacLean, Grant Corser, and Nichole Wangsgard through email. Another question posed was about if the feedback could be used against the faculty member? The answer is only if it is shared with the Peer Mentoring Program and on the FAAR. However, it was mentioned that this should show teaching excellence and progression in the profession and not as a negative.
- c. Travis Rosenberg presented on faculty retention and turnover. It was found over the past five years that nationally faculty turnover is between 8% and 10% and SUU faculty turnover from SUU is 5% to 7%. Thus, SUU has been better than the national ratio. Travis has this breakdown in his office if anyone is interested in reviewing it as well as posted on Canvas.

- d. Associate Bill Byrnes reviewed the Edge program and that there are student and faculty feedback sessions happening to help improve upon the program and create a better communication process about the program. Associate Byrnes also mentioned the project presentations and how great of an asset this program can be in student learning through that experiential learning process.

7. Action Items:

- a. Policy 6.1 Leave Rank and Tenure policy – change on page 3 it was added currency in field at all levels, under page 4 effective teaching while maintaining currency in their field (each department can determine what that means), page 5 addition for CPVA was added, page 6 currency in their field as determined by department and approved by the Dean. It was mentioned that maybe there needs to be some sort of mediation when it comes to an impasse between the Dean and the Department. It was mentioned after a lot of discussion for or against the proposed idea that this could be added to the departments specific LRT and not to Policy 6.1. Associate Provost Byrnes mentioned that this is already in the policy on a section that talks about criteria and reads in case of dispute of criteria that a team is selected to resolve these issues. A motion was entertained to accept the changes proposed. Emmett Steed motioned for the changes as proposed and Randal Allen seconded the motion. Kyle Bishop discussed that there is a portion in the policy that may or may not be new pertaining to 3<sup>rd</sup> year review. After the discussion there was 1 in favor, 2 abstentions, and the rest were opposed. After further discussion Selwyn Layton found an old Policy 6.1 from 1990 which did have the exact verbiage that was brought into question about the 3<sup>rd</sup> year reviews for non-tenure tract faculty. However, it was mentioned that the verbiage reads in a way pertaining to non-tenure tract faculty that this 3<sup>rd</sup> year review only applies if they have asked for rank advancement for Associate Professor have received the advancement and the 3<sup>rd</sup> year review comes after that advancement has been awarded. It was also mentioned that there are some Deans who may be misinterpreting this and doing 3 year reviews regardless of rank advancement privileges and this is unnecessary since that faculty members FAAR is looked at each year and it is determined upon this if their yearly contract will be renewed. Julie Taylor said she would bring this concern of verbiage and interpretation to Deans Council. A second motion was made by Isabella Borisova and seconded by Emmett Steed for accepting the changes proposed with 10 in favor, 11 abstentions, and 1 opposed.
- b. Policy 6.27 – statement was added on page 3 for reassigned time of Faculty President and Vice President and in Policy 13.12, 6.1, and Senate Bylaws referencing 6.27. A question was posed about graduate teaching on Policy 6.27 section D page 6. Randall Allen motioned to accept all changes except the change of section D page 6 and Kim Weaver seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

8. New Business

- a. No New Business

Motion for Executive Session by Emmett Steed and seconded by David Shwalb and moved to adjourn by Kyle Bishop and seconded by Randal Allen at 06:05 pm.