

SUU Faculty Senate Minutes
February 27, 2014
4:00 p.m. Charles Hunter Room, Hunter Conference Center

Senators in Attendance: Julie Taylor, Emily Dean, Kim Weaver, Selwyn Layton, Rheana Gardner, Lynn Vartan, Janet Seegmiller (also Proxy for Steve Irving), Mark DeBeliso, Artis Grady, Kyle Bishop, Lhien-Ying Wang, Christine Frezza, David Lund (Proxy for Carmel White), Jim McCoy, Randall Allen, Jeff Barnes, Tyler Stillman, Isabella Borisova, Helen Boswell, Emmett Steed, David Shwalb, Derek Hein, Connie Nyman, Thad Morton, Lindsey Harvell, Shobha Gurung, Michelle Orihel.

1. Julie Taylor: Call meeting to order at 04:05 p.m. Motion to approve the minutes of January 23rd by Mark DeBeliso; and seconded by David Shwalb. All in favor. Minutes approved.
2. Recognition of guests: Provost Brad Cook , Steve Barney, Briget Eastep, and Kurt Harris
3. Provost's Report:
 - a. Dr. John Ault will be the commencement marshal. Leave, Rank, and Tenure reviews are completed and recommendations will go to Board of Trustees on March 24th. National Association for Schools for Public Affairs will be at SUU for an accreditation visit this next Wednesday. States revenue is up 79 million dollar fiscal note requested by the commissioner of higher education, however the legislature is not leaning towards increasing second tier increase this year and they are looking at how first tier funding may look. SUU looks like they will get some mission based funding out of this legislative session. Provost Cook is also encouraging faculty who are interested in undergraduate research to help aid the UGRASP effort. Also, the Festival of Excellence will be held on April 9, 2014. Provost Cook also states that this can be reported on the FAAR.
4. Treasurer report from Kim Weaver:
 - a. Operating budget at the beginning of the year was \$2187.00 and we have spent \$1345.00 with a remaining \$842.00 for the year. The Faculty Scholarship balance at the beginning of the year was \$12969.00 and we spent \$8000.00 in scholarships thus far. The Scholarship Fund thus far has received \$2200.00 which leaves a balance of \$7199.00 in the Scholarship Funds. If the trend of spending more money than funds received for scholarships continues we will only be able to award one scholarship versus two like last year. President Taylor drafted a letter with a payroll deduction slip for faculty to contribute to this scholarship which will be coming out within the next week.
5. Vice President Report from Emily Dean:
 - a. Update from Trustee's Meeting – Reduced Teaching Workload was approved for the Faculty Senate President Elect and Faculty Senate President. The R401 for the SUU STEM center was approved by the Board of Trustees and if interested in the details this can be found on Board of Trustees meeting minutes.

- b. Upcoming Senate elections – A reminder of upcoming senate elections including 1 from Business, 3 from COSE, 2 from Education, 4 from HSS, 2 from PVA, and 1 at large. Also, encouragement for qualified faculty to be nominated or volunteer to run for faculty senate elect was brought to the senate’s attention. A question was posed about increasing the Faculty Senate President from one term to two terms. President Julie Taylor stated that this would be beneficial since the by the end of the first term there would be a better understanding and knowledge of the involvement of the position and the next term more may be accomplished. There was also a comment made that even though the faculty senate is in support of the increased teaching release time for the senate president and president elect this may limit some from running for this position if they teach specialty courses and cannot give those courses up.
6. President Report from Julie Taylor:
- a. EDGE Update [Briget Eastep and Kurt Harris] – Todd Peterson is the new coordinator for the program. It was presented that 3 required one credit hour pass/fail courses including University 1010 course which introduces EDGE, the 3925 course which includes proposals and what the student will be learning and 4925 course which includes the reflection and synthesis piece of the program. Students were displeased that the EDGE is a graduation requirement. Administration felt strongly that this does need to be a requirement but with some adjustments from a one path model to two pathway model to give students more flexibility with plugging into current experiential learning opportunities which fit in with the 3925 course. The members of the committee are still working out the fine details of the EDGE program. There was also displeasure from transfer students for having to take a 1010 course and thus there will be a fast track piece for those students so they do not have to take a 1010 course. A question was posed about as faculty will we need to do something to make sure what we are doing would fit into the select tract option of the model versus the traditional model. The answer is that the committee is still working on this piece but this will be spelled out clearly for all faculty to know if their program or experiential learning opportunities meet this second tract of the model. There will be forms for the faculty to fill out which will streamline this process. One of the most important parts of this new model with the two tracts is the intentionality piece where the student puts thought into what they will do, how they will accomplish this, and then reflection. This model can be found on Canvas under faculty senate.
 - b. Highlights from Meeting with President Wyatt – President Julie Taylor mentioned that the faculty senate president has been invited by President Wyatt to join the president’s council in which the faculty senate president will start attending in March. President Wyatt also mentioned the imbalance of Staff versus Faculty and that this needs to be addressed and looked at. He also mentioned “The adjunct and overload pay will not be \$700 for ICH for next year.”
 - c. Update: Policy 6.10 (Faculty Senate Constitution-90% approval) – Our faculty Senate constitution went to the full faculty for a vote for the decreased Teaching load for

faculty senate president and president elect with 2/3 response in favor and thus the change to the constitution passed.

d. Report from Dean's Council

- i. New Policy Website [<http://suu.edu/policies/index.php>] – Looking for feedback on the website and if everything is looking good or if there are any bugs. You can follow the link above or the link is also posted on Canvas under faculty senate.
 - ii. Catalog Addition: “Academic Warning” – An issue came up in COSE where students are signing up for certain courses then never showing up and getting “UW” for the same course several times but there was no warning or flagging of these students. John Allred from Enrollment Services looked at this issue and responded by email. In Policy 6.13 under section C. A student should be aware that all classes he/she drops must be properly processed through the Registrar's Office. If a student stops attending a class without officially withdrawing, he/she will receive a “UW” (failure) for the course. This grade is calculated in the GPA as an “F.” The problem has been that as long as the student's cumulative grade stays above a 2.0 these students are not flagged and go unnoticed until it is too late. Thus, a new system has been put in place to help flag the student's GPA for the semester and not just the cumulative GPA, helping detect the problem early. This would give an academic warning versus academic probation. John stated that the main issue is that the UW versus the F indicates different circumstances. The UW indicates that the student stopped out of the class without completing and the F indicates the student continued through the whole course but earned a failing grade. He is asking faculty to note the difference and give a UW per the student stopping out and not showing for class and the F when they completed the full course but received a failing grade. Many faculty senators did not realize the difference and will take this to their faculty members so grades are assigned properly.
 - iii. HERI Survey – 27% return from faculty and there is encouragement to get more faculty to take this survey. There was a concern about the confidentiality of the survey and this is why some faculty has not taken the survey. President Taylor will ask Christian Reyner about this concern and get back to the faculty.
- e. Adjunct/Overload Pay Proposal – David Shwaulb presented the adjunct overload pay proposal and discussed the inconsistencies of the adjunct pay load over many years. He looked at what past trends at the University have been in pay and what the institutional rate of pay per economic growth is. The base would be raised to \$850 per credit hour versus the \$700 per credit hour that is given now. A discussion based on going in higher than lower on the proposal bid was pursued. Kim Weaver motioned to accept the proposal “as is” based on good faith and intentionality of President Wyatt. Mark DeBeliso seconded the motion. Randall Allen motioned to addend up to \$900. Faculty voted on the original motion with 14 in favor and 6 opposed with no abstentions. Motion to accept original proposal passed.

- f. April 9-11: FACULTY meeting with NWCCU Accreditation Evaluation Committee – We need to find a date and time for this meeting. Wed, Thurs, and a Friday is when they will be here on campus. President Julie Taylor will send out a poll to the senators for the most availability.
7. Action Items:
- a. Policy 6.50 - Graduate Council and University Curr. Comm. – In section 3a was to add the Dean of Graduate studies as a member of the graduate council. Motion from Mark DeBeliso to approve with a second of the motion from Jeff Barnes. 19 in favor and 1 abstention. Motion passed.
 - b. Policy 6.51 – Graduate Studies – Change on page 1 to add Dean of Graduate Studies. Mark DeBeliso motioned to approve the change and Jeff Barnes seconded motion. All in favor and motion passed.
 - c. Policy 6.9 – Supplemental Overload Compensation – Main change was to take out consultation and make it its own policy. Jeff Barnes motioned to accept the changes and Janet Seegmiller seconded motion. 13 in favor, 6 opposed, and 1 abstention. Motion passed.
 - d. Policy 6.9.1 – Consultation – Jeff Barnes motioned to accept the policy and Christine Frezza seconded motion. All in favor and motion passed.
8. New Business:
- a. Policy 6.5 – Undergraduate Admissions – Was seen by Faculty Senate last fall with two new sections on page 4 section 4 on evaluating English proficiency and page 5 section 11 clarifying it is for undergraduate students. Also, an online equivalent for transfer students is added. Then page 7 in section 5, more English proficiency is left open for changing criteria in the future. There still is concern for what the proficiency will be and there is a suggestion to put in the phrase of “The National Standard” and what is the TOFL score and is this a rigorous enough requirement. Julie Taylor stated she will speak with Mark Atkinson about wording of this policy. Kyle Bishop motioned to table and Randall Allen seconded motion.
 - b. Policy 6.8.3 – General Education Committee – Minor additions on page one the committee chair will be selected by the provost and on page 2 add an advisor to the committee. Randall Allen motioned to accept changes and Mark DeBeliso seconded motion. 17 in favor, 1 opposed, and 2 abstentions. Motion passed.
 - c. Policy 5.52 – Intellectual Property - The change in this policy is to clarify what intellectual policy is. Not a voting item but asking for faculty feedback on this policy and the new changes. It was mentioned that we need to look into other Universities and Colleges and how their policies address this. It was also mentioned that the incentives need to be looked at to make it lucrative for the faculty to actually try for these things.
 - d. Policy 6.33 - Academic Integrity – Forward to academic affairs. What merits an appeal? We need to clarify an academic issue versus student services issues. Jeff Barnes

motioned to accept this policy needs to be reviewed by academic affairs committee and Selwyn Layton seconded motion. Motion unanimous and passed.

9. Motion for Executive Session:

- a. Emmett Steed made motion for Executive Session; Jeff Barnes seconded with unanimous vote.

10. Motion to Adjourn:

- a. Mark DeBeliso moved to adjourn; Emmett Steed seconded with unanimous vote at 05:03 p.m.