

SUU Faculty Senate Minutes  
Nov 13, 2014  
4:00 p.m. Charles Hunter Room, Hunter Conference Center

Senators in Attendance: Emily Dean, Kevin Stein, Joy Sterrantino, Kim Weaver, Selwyn Layton, Loralyn Felix, Scott Lanning, Jeff Barnes, David Berri, Tyler Stillman, Mark DeBeliso, Katy Herbold, Brian Ludlow, Kholoud Al-Qubbaj, Andrew Van Alstyne, Lynn White, Jee-Young Chung, Michelle Orihel, Rheana Gardner, Denise Purvis, Mark Meilstrup, Isabella Borisova, Chad Gasser, Nasser Tadayon, Matthew Weeg.

1. Emily Dean: Call to Order at 04:00 p.m. Motion to approve the minutes of October 9, 2014 by Mark Debeliso; seconded by Kim Weaver. No discussion; minutes approved unanimously.
2. Recognition of Guests:
  - a. Provost Brad Cook, Tom McFarland, Matt Zufelt, and Jim Shakespeare.
3. Senate Treasurer's Report: Kim Weaver reported the budget set this year for faculty senate was just about \$2,200.00 and we have spent \$390.00 and have almost \$1,800.00 remaining. No one has increased their donations to the faculty senate scholarship fund thus we are in the same position as reported in August, September and October faculty senate meetings. Kim encouraged the senator's to go to their own group with the payroll forms in hand, hand the cards out, and collect them.
4. Senate President Elect's Report: Kevin Stein stated that there is nothing to report at this time from the Board of Trustee's meeting. Kevin reminded the senators of the by-laws pertaining to attending the senate meetings. The by-laws state that the senator must have a proxy if they are not able to attend the meeting and that the senate secretary must get an email up to 1 hour prior to the senate meeting with the proxy name. After two consecutive absences without a proxy the secretary will notify the senator. After three absences without a proxy the senator's seat will be considered vacated and procedures for filling the vacated seat will begin. Kevin stated he is reminding the senators of these by-laws as the importance of representing the University faculty members. The secretary at this time is Selwyn Layton and his email address is laytons@suu.edu.
5. Senate President's Report
  - i. The Presidents Council is proposing a Veterans Support Center on campus and will be sending out a proposal soon. Faculty Senate President Emily Dean was asked to be the co-chair on the Strategic Planning Committee.

Emily is encouraging the faculty to talk to the committee members if they have any input and stated that the meetings are open to all. The strategic planning will be a yearlong process starting with trying to rethink SUU's mission statement and core themes. Also, the committee has a March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline with the accreditor's making sure that the areas accreditors wanted SUU to address have been met.

- ii. The Dean's Council addressed the budget retreat and that it was encouraged to chat with them before next week to address any budgetary concerns. A retention report for Bachelor degree seeking students that is posted on CANVAS under faculty senate. This report is called "Project X". Ethnicity, College, Majors, etc. were looked at in the report. It is encouraged for the faculty to look at. The purpose is to figure out how to improve retention. HERI faculty survey on how happy the faculty is, is also posted. The faculty feel that they are getting overworked and underpaid and compared to the peer institution we tend to teach more credit hours and receive a little less pay. We are also not publishing as much but this is because we tend to teach a little more. Provost Cook also mention that more faculty have considered moving on than in previous years. We do feel that we get along with the administrators better and that we feel less stressed out than our peers.
- iii. Some of the faculty were able to meet with Senator Urquhart earlier on in the week. He wanted to stress that students were declaring a major by the end of year one and had taken a certain amount of credit hours by year two. The plan going to the state board is that we encourage students to get more pell grants which help students get through college and receive a degree. Urquhart wanted to change the timeline for graduation from 6 years to 4 years. Urquhart also wants to base funding on three initiatives. The number one initiative being research which has many concerned since our institution is more of a teaching institution rather than a research institution. If there are thoughts regarding any of these things it is encouraged to contact Senator Urquhart before any changes are made.

6. Action Items:

- a. Edit/Approve/Sign letter on Health Care Coverage Issues for President's Council. After discussion we want to amend the language to state faculty would like a choice on health care. Emily Dean will revise the letter and then get it out to the faculty for final approval before the end of the semester.
- b. Formation of ad-hoc committee to work on revising/looking at current summer compensation model.

- i. Mark DeBeliso motioned to form the committee and Joy Sterrantino seconded the motion. One abstention and the rest in favor. Joy Sterrantino, Kevin Stein, Jeff Barnes, Randy Allen, and Kim Weaver volunteered for serving on this committee.

7. Discussion Items:

- a. Q and A with Tom McFarland on Computers/Classroom Technology/IT issues on Campus:
  - i. Tom McFarland covered how technology in the classroom works or doesn't work in the classroom and discussion of issues. Tom covered how we are going as far as trends including the apple tv's in the classroom especially for using PowerPoint with iPad, etc. to move around the room wirelessly. He also pointed out the use of the Miracast devices that will be used for Windows or Andriod for wireless use. Tom also addressed the issue with Faculty not being able to install their own applications, programs, etc. and the administrative rights. This is due to the fact that they need to protect sensitive information which was addressed in an audit and the University was told they must implement this in order to protect this information. This includes the 15 minute sign out on the computers including office computers. He stated that in order for this to be changed the director of the program must ok that this be changed to a longer time limit. For any other issues Tom addressed that they are open to helping anyone who contacts them.
- b. Revisions for 6.19 and 6.33 have not come back and thus we will visit these items in December.

8. New Business:

- a. Lynn White brought up some faculty concerns to visit a hostile work environment policy. Kevin Stein stated there is a grievance policy that probably covers this issue.
- b. It was also brought up for training of an ombudsman for faculty to come forth anonymously with grievances. It was encouraged that the faculty members who wanted to present on this to get in contact with Emily Dean to set up a time with the senate to present on this issue.

9. Motion for Executive Session by Joy Sterrantino with a second by Mark DeBeliso, all in favor.

10. Motion to Adjourn by Brian Ludlow with a second by Kim Weaver, all in favor.