

**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**April 3, 2013**

Senators Present: Lea Ann Alexander, Stephanie Barron, Marck Beggs, Steven Carter, Kristen Benjamin, Nathan Campbell, Carolyn Eoff, David Evans, Daniel Fitzroy, John Greene, Megan Hickerson, Jana Jones, Patricia Loy, Beth Maxfield, Carolyn McClure, Lonnie McDonald, Malcolm Rigsby, Richard Schmid, Ingo Schranz, David Stoddard (for Beverly Buys), R. C. Smith, Patrick Wempe, Penny Whelchel, Paul Williamson, Fred Worth.

Senators Absent: Beverly Buys (sabbatical), Allison Harris, Janice O'Donnell.

Others Present: Pam Ligon, Dan Mabery, Lewis Shepherd, Maralyn Sommer, Alex Stewart, Kenneth Taylor.

1. Call to Order: President David Evans 3:15
2. Discussion with Interim Provost/VPAA, Dr. Maralyn Sommer
  - A. News: President Jones reported that a rumor is circulating and needs addressing: No faculty salary funding was awarded last year and unused. Any new state monies will be mandated to fund classified staff increases.
  - B. We are replacing a number of positions in areas such as social sciences, business, HPER, physics, and education. These positions are largely replacements of faculty who are either retiring or moving.
  - C. New undergraduate programs include criminal justice, entrepreneurship, engineering physics, and new masters programs are educational technology leadership and developmental therapy.
  - D. News: The Budget Committee meets for the April 4, primarily to consider fee requests. A recommendation is forthcoming to add a late admissions fee; some discussion features an application fee that will be refunded at registration. As legislature is still in session, many funding items have not been finalized; however, little hope exists for new monies from the state. Considerations of assigning faculty fill unassigned classes will be addressed as need arises, depending on enrollment.
3. Discussion with Guest Speaker VPSS, Dr. Lewis Shepherd
  - A. Several handouts were distributed; these papers reflected the challenges regarding freshmen: recruitment, application, admission, registration. A goal is to increase admissions to enrollment numbers from 37.4% to 42% for Fall 2013.
  - B. Reddie Receptions and Reddie Connection are designed to get admitted students to enroll; faculty are encouraged to attend these events and touch base with future students.
  - C. Steps continue to be taken to keep students on campus: increased activity in student life, continuing renovations to Smith and Newberry dormitories, cleanup of campus and surrounding university-owned property, GIF funds from governor's office to assist with Garrison refurbishment, and new franchises (Starbucks and Chik fil A) per SGA requests.
4. Approval of March 2013 Minutes by Acclamation.

## 5. President's Report

A. President Glen Jones reported that he has spent quite a bit of time with legislative matters this past month. He accepted an invitation to speak at the May 1 meeting of the Senate and indicated that this meeting would present an opportunity to clarify the university's budgeting issues since the legislature will have closed session.

- i. The current funding formula is based on the 2010 graduation rate, a high mark for HSU and now problematic. Discussion continues.
- ii. Complaints about Poise/Sylite system are being heard; problems include cost and conversion. Discussion includes cost-sharing with other institutions and leasing.
- iii. A request from the Faculty Senate for a representative on the President's Cabinet was declined. Faculty Senators asked for more information. A suggestion for collective response was introduced, and the matter was referred to the Executive Committee for further consideration.

B. Vice President Bobby Jones stated that online W2s no longer include SS numbers. New dining hall is on schedule. Next year's budget is in final stages. Campus improvements include trash pickup, landscaping, and widening the ravine bridge; personnel have been asked to share any concerns regarding appearance of campus.

## 6. Reports of Committees

A. Executive Committee: Nothing new to report.

B. Academics Committee: The committee had the following report:

- i. Withdrawal policy: Recommendations were made that the last day for course withdrawal be moved to one month prior to finals week and that the grades of WF and WP be removed. Discussion, including the students' ability to evaluate faculty in a punitive manner before withdrawing. The matter went back to committee for further review.
- ii. Online course proctoring: Recommendations included the creation of a GA position and making this position a "mobile" one, allowing the proctor to move about campus for proctoring duties. Discussion followed, including whether this proctor would be allowed to proctor pen/paper exams or just exams taken by computer. The matter went back to the committee for further review.
- iii. Academic Forgiveness: Two recommendations, one to allow forgiveness in LAC and remediation courses until the student earns a passing grade, and the other to allow only one forgiveness within the major unless department chair grants special permission. After much discussion and some requests for more rigorous policy on LAC and remediation classes, both recommendations went back to committee for further review.
- iv. Plagiarism: Recommendation was made that no designation of plagiarism be placed on student transcripts. Little discussion yielded no action.

C. Buildings and Grounds Committee: The committee had a number of items to report, as follows, some of which grew out of a request for faculty input:

- i. The art annex parking lot will be resurfaced at a cost of \$101,172.
- ii. Disability access has been addressed with the repairing of uneven pavement areas; please report any uneven pavement to Megan Hickerson.

- iii. Call boxes are being placed around campus.
- iv. Lighting across campus continues to be a priority; many new and better lights have been installed. An evening walk around campus will be conducted.
- v. A new one-way street system has been instituted in the area of the preschool after a number of complaints about traffic problems.
- vi. Elaine Kneebone has taken on the responsibility of disability cooperation.
- vii. An independent landscape architecture firm has been hired.
- viii. New “sweeping” campus efforts are in place to clean up trash. Please let Bobby Jones know if you see improvement or see areas that need improvement.

D. Finance Committee: Most operations are on hold until the legislature completes its term. Information has been requested from the AAUP.

E. Operations Committee: The committee had several items:

- i. A recommendation to make a technical formatting change on page 22 was approved by common consent.
- ii. A recommendation was made to provide for application to emeritus status. After much discussion, the matter was sent back to committee for further consideration.
- iii. The creation of a new rank of Lecturer was recommended; much discussion ensued and the matter was tabled. The committee will reconsider.
- iv. Promotion from Instructor to Assistant Professor: This matter was tabled until May meeting..

F. Procedures Committee: The committee is moving along with its plans to proceed with electronic elections. No other new information.

7. Old Business: None.

8. New Business: A suggestion to consider adding +/- grades to the current system was tabled. Senators were asked to reflect on this matter, poll their departments, and report in May.

9. Adjourn 5:17

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Maxfield