

Faculty Senate Minutes
November 2, 2005

Senators in Attendance: Lea Ann Alexander, Randy Duncan, Linda English, Betsy Fulmer, Duane Jackson, Catherine Leach, Mike Matthews, Hal McAfee, Patti Miley, Jules Mollere, Henry Perez, Brett Serviss, Bruce Smith, George Ann Stallings, Laura Storm, Larry Thye, Carol Underwood, Linda Wen and Alan Wright.

Guest: Vice President Robert Houston.

President Matthews called the Faculty Senate to order at 3:15 p.m. with a quorum present.

The Minutes of the October meeting were approved as distributed. Apologies were extended for sending “the working copy” instead of the finalized copy. Mea Culpa.

Vice President Houston met with the Senate and gave his report. (For details to this report, see the President’s report which follows this set of Minutes). An additional item of discussion included an eight (8) semester degree plan under development as a result of legislative action. A lengthy report from Vice-President Wright’s office on Ektron was delivered to the Senate by Dr. Houston.

Committee Reports:

Academics Committee: No report.

Building and Grounds Committee: Report is included at the end of this set of Minutes.

Operations Committee: No Report.

Procedures Committee: Report is included at the end of this set of Minutes.

Webmaster: Report that the Faculty Webpage is “up and running”.

Under Old Business: The Senate received a written report in response to the campus-wide meeting on Ektron held in September. Senators were encouraged to look over the report and will be able to ask questions at next month’s Senate Meeting. The report is attached.

From the President’s Report, issues which were discussed included:

Ektron

University Committees

E-mailing of Advisees

New Faculty Excellence Awards

Five percent (5%) raise for Distinguished Professors status

Cabinet Minutes

Under Old Business and regarding Faculty Excellence Award Committee work, there was a motion and second to extend the deadline for submission of nominations to the Committee until February 3, 2005. Motion carried.

President Matthews agreed to send an e-mail to all Faculty members of this change.

The Committee on Faculty Morale presented its findings thus far. (This report is included at the end of this set of Minutes.)

Under New Business:

There was a motion and second that we join Arkansas Consortium of University Faculty Senate Chairs. Motion carried. (This report is included at the end of this set of Minutes.)

President Matthews agreed to share this information with Public Relations personnel and the Webmaster.

A lengthy discussion was held in regard to On-line Registration. A request was made for the Minutes to reflect this discussion and “dissatisfaction with current on-line registration”.

The Faculty Senate adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda G. English
Faculty Senate Secretary

P. S. Reports and related information to follow this report. Keep scrolling! L~

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT
FOR NOVEMBER 2, 2005 MEETING OF FACULTY SENATE**

MEETING WITH VICE PRESIDENT HOUSTON ON OCTOBER 26, 2005

At the last senate meeting, I reported that Dr. Houston was going to ask Tom Gattin about the establishment of a subcommittee of the Enrollment Management Committee to study summer school “problems”. As it turns out, Mr. Gattin remains on this committee but is no longer co-chair. Also, the new Vice President for Student Services that is to be hired shortly will be responsible next term for this committee. A study of summer school is therefore in abeyance. Dr. Houston, however, expressed his concern that the Senate should pursue looking at summer school and enrollment in general. He also expressed an interest in the Senate considering the awarding of scholarships.

With regard to the undergraduate catalog revision, this is also at a standstill due to other duties that are taking up the time of the Registrar.

I informed Dr. Houston of the present situation concerning the Faculty Excellence Award Committees. His office has received a list of committee members and the names of chairs of the committees. Policy stated in the Faculty Handbook requires that nominations for the awards should be completed by the end of the Fall semester, followed by committee selection of recipients early in the Spring term.

I mentioned that no report has been issued after the campus forum on Ektron.

I emphasized to him that the Senate had established a Faculty Morale Committee to further study this issue that was raised by a survey conducted by one of the Strategic Planning committees. This led to comments on faculty morale he had noted in the HERI Faculty Survey report.

MEETING WITH PRESIDENT DUNN ON OCTOBER 28, 2005

Dr. Dunn stated that the Board of Trustees had passed a resolution at the October 13 meeting that stated the acceptance of the Strategic Planning Report, and furthermore “directs the President of the University to prepare and present an implementation plan to the Board of Trustees that prioritizes the Report’s recommendations by the date of the February, 2006, meeting of the Board of Trustees.” The plan that Dr. Dunn outlined is to have the Vice Presidents and Deans review the plan, establish priorities, and then submit these to the faculty and staff for comments.

I told him that a report on the Ektron forum which had been promised the faculty has not been received yet. He indicated that he would check on it. I asked if I could at least report to the faculty that a two-server system would be put into place. He stated that we will have a two-server system!

I pointed out that new appointments to University Committees for this year had not yet been made. He stated that they are on his desk awaiting approval.

I asked that he check to see if Computer and Communication Services had made it possible to email advisees and majors as a group, and if so, for someone to inform faculty of the procedure for this. (Subsequent to this conversation, a Senator figured out that we do have the ability to email advisees!)

Two items passed by the Senate that need Board approval were pointed out to Dr. Dunn.

I inquired about Cabinet minutes since September 12; this was the last one sent to faculty.

Buildings and Grounds Committee report to the Faculty Senate.

November 2, 2005.

The following items were discussed during the Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting on October 31, 2005.

There were numerous other items on the agenda that are not presented in this report. These other items will be discussed during the next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting.

Items discussed during the October 31st meeting:

1. Building entrances and windows need to be cleaned on a regularly scheduled basis.

2. The pine trees outside Reynolds should potentially be cut down and replaced with deciduous trees.
3. The stray cats need to be expelled form the cafeteria area (if still present).
4. More trash cans are needed on the campus.
5. Fire ant control for some areas of campus may need to be increased.
6. Adjustment in the time periods that irrigation/watering of the grounds occurs so that areas of high pedestrian traffic are not wet during school hours (8:00–5:00).
7. Collapsing, damaged, and obscured drains in the lawn area to the south and southeast of the Reynolds building must be repaired and their position made obvious to pedestrians. They represent a serious safety hazard.
8. Exterior lighting problems on campus.

Item one: Alan Jester explained that the custodians do periodically wash the doors and windows of the buildings. The external washing of doorways and windows is affected by constraints of time, weather, and equipment availability. For example, the machinery used to lift the custodians to the higher windows is only available to HSU every other month. Some of this equipment is shared with OBU.

Item two: this is a nonnegotiable item because those pine trees have significance in regards to the history of the university. They will not be cut down.

Item three: I stated to the committee that I would look into this and see if it is still a problem. The cats persisting around the cafeteria was noticed some time ago and they may or may not still be present.

Item four: Alan Jester surveyed the campus and determined that while most of the campus has adequate trash receptacles in place, several areas did need additional receptacles. Through rearrangement/redistribution of the trash receptacles that we currently have, and by ordering about six more receptacles, there should be an adequate distribution and availability of trash receptacles across the entire campus. Bobby Jones approved the request for the additional receptacles, and these will be ordered and placed on campus in the very near future.

Items five through seven: I have contacted Scott Serwacki and John Corley about these and as of this time I have not heard back from them.

Item eight: this has been addressed by the strategic planning taskforces, in particular the facilities task force, and the administration is already aware of the problems and potential solutions for the lighting needs of the campus.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Buildings and Grounds Committee,

Brett Serviss

To: Faculty Senate

From: Procedures Committee

Date: October 26, 2005

Re: Departmental Faculty Senate Representatives

Department	Senator	Alternate
Art	Beverly Buys	Betsey Fulmer
Aviation	Troy Hogue	Jonathan Moss
Chemistry	Maralea Gourley	
Ed Leadership and Special E	Georgine Steinmiller	Bruce Smith
English, Foreign Lang & Phil	Kevin Durand	Julia Hall
Music	Laura Storm	Steve Becraft
Nursing	Carol Underwood	Cindy Jackson
Physics	Rick McDaniel	
Psychology	Rafael Bejarano	Paul Williamson
Social Science	Martin Halpern	Stuart Shaw

Respectfully submitted,

Linda G. English
Faculty Senate Secretary

From: MOLLERE, JULES

Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2005 5:22 PM

To: English, Linda; ALEXANDER, LEA ANN; MOLLERE, JULES; PEREZ, HENRY; Serviss, Brett; SHARMA, SHANTA; SMITH, BRUCE

Subject: Faculty report - Morale committee

To summarize the discussion in the Faculty Senate–

We've looked at material relating to morale issues in general and at other institutions. This has provided us with a model to address morale issues. This should help us address the question deliberately, looking for specific solutions, and not reinventing the wheel.

One general conclusion from these surveys is that morale is different for different groups and needs to be addressed for specific groups. We will refine the survey to identify different groups, ask about top reasons for a faculty member's current morale, and to address specific findings from the previous survey.

Questions raised in the Faculty Senate meeting were a) are there other studies specifically relating to HSU or other faculty members that need to be included and b) should we concentrate just on faculty morale and leave the staff senate to address issues of staff morale.

For those of you on the committee – We probably will have to keep our meeting time the same (Tuesday 12:30 – 1:30). Do you want to meet this Tuesday (Nov. 8) or not?

Jules

Name of Organization: Arkansas Consortium of University Faculty Senate Chairs

Vision: To have a positive impact upon statewide higher education.

Mission: To sustain a viable organization of faculty senate chairs (former, current, and chairs elect) from Arkansas 4 year public universities to:

- Promote inter-university collegiality and association.
- Combine professorial resources.
- Anticipate and address issues that affect university faculty and educational opportunities for our citizenry.
- Preserve academic freedom, tenure, and other principles that are conducive to seeking truth through knowledge.
- Develop a statewide voice for university faculty.
- Advise regarding academic issues such as:
 - * Curriculum
 - * Academic Policies
 - * Tenure and Promotion
 - * Academic Scheduling and Calendars

Member Universities: 4 year public universities in Arkansas.

- * Arkansas State University
- * Henderson State University
- * Arkansas TECH University
- * Southern Arkansas University

- * University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
- * University of Arkansas, Little Rock
- * University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
- * University of Arkansas, Monticello
- * University of Central Arkansas
- * University of Arkansas, Fort Smith
- * University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff

Membership:

- Former chairs of faculty senates
- Current chairs of faculty senates
- Chairs Elect of faculty senates

Officers: President (annual rotation- alphabetical order), Executive Secretary (5 year term)

Meetings: Bi-annual; Fall (October), at president’s university
Spring; (February), Central Location - Little Rock
Called Meetings as needed

Voting Rights:

- One vote per university.

Communications:

- E-mail once per month and/or as needed for discussion
- Press release for annual and called meetings
- Routine contact with state and national legislators, Presidents, and VPAA’s