

February 2, 2011 Faculty Senate Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Troy Bray at 3:15pm.
Present: Troy Bray, Catherine Leach, Brett Serviss, Fred Worth, Martha Dale Cooley, Jana Jones, Don Benton, Lynn Glover-Stanley, Connie Phelps, Barbara Landrum, Teresa Holsclaw, Rafael Bejarano, Ed Conrad, John Long, Beverly Buys, David Etienne, Haroon Khan, Richard Schmid, Allison Vetter, Tommy Finley, Shannon Clardy, Heidi Vix, Staff Senate President Deborah Sesser, Student representative Israel Wardlaw, and Julia Correia
2. Dr. Vernon Miles, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs discussed
 - a. Athletic Training Accreditation visit went well with only a few minor citations.
 - b. NCATE visit for the Teachers College will occur in March
 - c. Higher Learning Commission requires confirmation visit for off-site programs in DeQueen and Sheridan – the requested dates were in April.
 - d. Budget committee will hold meetings Wednesdays at 1pm in the Cabe room.
3. The minutes for December's meeting and for the special session in January were approved.
4. New senate officers were elected.

President-Elect: Brett Serviss

Secretary: Shannon Clardy

Representative to the Board of Trustees: Fred Worth

Representative to the Graduate Council: Beverly Buys

Representative to the Staff Senate: Jana Jones

A motion was approved to leave the webmaster position vacant until further information is obtained about the future role of this position.

Dr. Troy Bray appointed Catherine Leach to serve as Parliamentarian.

5. Deborah Sesser, President of the Staff Senate announced that Staff Senate meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 10am.
6. President's Report

Report of Visit with Dr. Welch (January 28, 2011)

Dr. Welch and I discussed some of the current renovations including the installation of the remaining new exterior light poles and the renovation of Womack. Dr. Welch explained the need to make Womack ADA compliant and emphasized the steps being taken during construction to accommodate those individuals unable to negotiate the stairway (e.g. the Womack staff will meet with such persons in the Garrison Center when necessary).

As for the presidential search, Dr. Welch reported that the Board of Trustees considered feedback from the presidential search advisory committee, but took no action at their January 27th meeting. The Board decided to continue to assess any applications which may arrive in the next 10 to 14 days and determine at a later date how to proceed.

According to Dr. Welch a few bills being introduced during this legislative session warrant watching closely. Dr. Welch mentioned one bill being introduced that would standardize core course numbers at both 4 year and 2 year institutions across the state. However, it is not expected that this legislation would affect course content. Another bill of interest which could be introduced includes extending the smoking ban on Arkansas campuses to include sidewalks adjacent to university property.

Dr. Welch concluded his remarks by stating the budget continues to look good with SSCH up 7.8%.

*Report of Meeting with Mr. Bobby Jones
(January 25, 2011)*

Mr. Jones stated that Henderson received the approval from the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board for a \$2.75 million loan at a rate not greater than 7% interest for 20-30 years for the new 20,000 sq.ft. dining hall. ARAMARK has committed to \$2.5 million toward the new dining hall for a 10 year contract with an option to renew. Total cost of the structure is estimated at \$5 million.

Construction/renovation to Foster Hall and Womack will begin shortly with stimulus money that will need to be spent by December 2011. Latest estimate is \$2.75 million. The Simonson Biological Field Station on Lake DeGray is on schedule to be completed as early as April. Private funds are being utilized to make improvements to the baseball field.

Repairs of broken pipes in McBrien have been made and it appears that the carpet can be salvaged, but test for mold will be conducted at the end of the month.

Jones indicated that if our enrollment numbers continue to hold through the spring semester, he wants to increase the supplies and services budget for next year.

7. Old Business: there was no old business
8. New Business:
 - a. Selection of senate committees. The senate committees are as follows:

Faculty Senate Committees for 2011

** Indicates acting chair. The acting chair will call the first meeting of the committee, at which the committee chair will be selected.

Academics Committee

Rafael Bejarano
Julie Correia
David Etienne
Pedro Lopes
Allison Vetter
Fred Worth **

**Buildings and Ground
Committee**

Lea Ann Alexander **
Carrie Barber
Martha Dale Cooley
Teresa Holsclaw
John Long

Finance Committee

Tommy Finley
Troy Hogue
Catherine Leach
Basil Miller **
Richard Schmid

Operations Committee

Beverly Buys
Ed Conrad
Barbara Landrum
Connie Phelps
Heidi Vix **

Procedures Committee

Shannon Clardy
Jana Jones **
Megan Hickerson
Pat Weaver

- b. The operations committee will address faculty concerns with the university website. Much discussion followed.
 - c. Israel Wardlaw, the student representative to the faculty senate, mentioned student concerns about the website.
 - d. A resolution was passed thanking the previous senate officers and members for a productive year and a job well done.
9. The meeting adjourned at 4:20pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Shannon Clardy
Faculty Senate Secretary