

Draft

Faculty Senate Minutes
January 15, 2003

President Travis Langley called the meeting to order at 3:15 and called for election of new officers to the Senate and the following individuals were elected to the office indicated:

Vice-President/President Elect: Dr. Fred Worth
Secretary: Mr. Don Wells
Representative to the Board: Dr. Carolyn Eoff.

In addition Dr. Kevin Durand was appointed by President Langley to be Parliamentarian.

Upon completion of the election President Langley told the senate that there were two issues that the University Academic Council has asked the Senate to consider: The articulation agreements with the state community colleges and the revised Mission Statement.

Mr. Tom Gattin was invited to discuss the issues relative to the articulation agreements and he explained to the Senate that in recent years at least three and maybe more community colleges were not requiring their students to meet the state mandated 46 hour core curriculum, meaning that students with an associate degree from those institutions may have as many as 10 fewer general education credits and HSU students. He further told senators that recently he had found that the articulation agreements which were thought to be mandated were in fact optional.

There was further discussion on the issue and it was the will of the Senate to have the Academic Committee examine the issue in more detail and bring a recommendation to the February Senate meeting.

Dr. Langley then explained to the Senate the rationale for revisions to the Mission Statement that were related to assessment issues. He told the senators that we were not being asked to evaluate the statement per se but rather to approve or disapprove changes being proposed to make it more objective for assessment purposes. There was some discussion of various issues related the language proposed as well as origins of the changes. After some general discussion the issue was referred to the Academics Committee for review and a recommendation at the February Senate meeting to facilitate input from faculty since we only received the document in the middle of the afternoon and faculty have had only limited opportunity to respond to it.

Dr. Langley then presented his President's Report with the main points as follows:

1. He asked Dr. Dunn what the most important issues were going to be for the University to consider this year. Dr. Langley reported that Dr. Dunn said raises and funding issues would be most important, the assessment process, and enrollment itself. Henderson State will be struggling for new funds in the present legislative session due to poor enrollment statistic a few years ago. Dr. Dunn was quoted as indicating he would like to see salary increases one to one and a half above the cost of living increases for the next three years which will be a challenge in the present economic climate.
2. Dr. Langley reported that Dr. Dunn gave praise to the assessment committee created by Dr. Houston.
3. Dr. Langley indicated that Dr. Dunn also talked about the image campaign that is more that to improve our image as an institution but also has a goal to increase enrollment by at least 300 students and provide the image change for a campaign for private monies that would hopefully generate an additional 20 million dollars (compared to 8 million currently raised).

4. When asked about the minutes of the cabinet retreat being made available to the faculty, Dr. Dunn was quoted as saying his assistant was out for the day and he would check with her about making them available.
5. When asked for a clarification of the cabinet's role, Dr. Dunn was reported to have indicated it is advisory to the President and that there were no formal votes taken at it, that he listened to their comments until there was some consensus or not. Since it is advisory to the President it is not open to the public and Dr. Dunn felt a faculty representative on it may inhibit discussion, therefore he has no plans for a faculty representative on it.

Dr. Langley then solicited questions from the faculty representatives on the senate for his discussions next month with the President.

Mitzi Bass then reported to the Senate that the Recommendations of the Operations Committee approved by the Senate in the November Senate Meeting had been presented to the Board of Trustees and approved as a revision of the Faculty Handbook. (See November Senate Minutes for details).

Julia Hall said that the Finance Committee had met, although Dr. Langley had already covered most of the issues addressed by that committee.

James Engman, as outgoing chair of the Procedures Committee, agreed to address issues related to the most recent Senate elections, such as the fact that no single person should be an alternate to two different senators.

The Operations Committee and the Buildings and Grounds Committee did not meet during the past month.

The Senate adjourned at approximately 5:45 (the secretary forgot to look at the time)

Respectfully submitted,

Don Wells
Faculty Senate Secretary