

March 7, 2012 Faculty Senate Minutes

Present: Brett Serviss, Catherine Leach, Beth Maxfield, David Evans, Kathie Buckman, Wray Jones, Marck Beggs, Tommy Finley, Allison Harris, Beverly Buys, Paul Williamson, Teresa Holsclaw, Allison Vetter, Pedro Lopes, Shannon Clardy, John Long, Megan Hickerson, Richard Miller, Nathan Campbell, Steven Carter, Bernie Hellums, Barbara Landrum, Ashley Loftin, Provost/VPAA Vernon Miles

Absent: Patricia Loy, Frank Smith, Connie Phelps, Jana Jones, Richard Schmid, Julia Correia, Tim Baghurst.

1. Call to Order – President Brett Serviss 3:15

2. Discussion with Provost/VPAA, Dr. Vernon Miles

- a. HLC Final Report deadline April 3rd. Should receive before then and will get a chance to correct factual errors. Do anticipate accreditation. Expected issues are most likely regarding GenEd assessment.
- b. Dr. Miles reiterated what Board Chair Bill Wright said in that HSU made Arkansas history in becoming the first non-minority university in the state to name to a minority as its president. Dr. Miles added that we should all work together in support of our new president.
- c. Fielded questions.
 1. Tuition would have to be raised 11% in order to raise the faculty salary to level in resolution. HSU would not do. Dr. Miles stressed that this is looking at only a tuition hike to adjust salaries; there could be other possibilities. A bonus may be possible in June. A 3% salary increase is possible next year along with an increase to adjunct faculty budget. Then focus on faculty salaries the next year.
 2. Dr. Miles has no knowledge of individuals receiving twice the amount of their budgeted salaries.
 3. Dr. Miles has no knowledge about the anonymity of administration evaluations, but said he would check on this issue.
 4. Look into student evaluations concerning ones on the list that should not be there (i.e., have been dropped) and the possibility that pushing to evaluate is skewing results.

3. Approval of February 8th and February 22nd Special Session, 2012 Minutes

February 8th Minutes approved. A motion was put forth to amend the February 22nd Minutes to indicate that the Salary Resolution was passed by the Senate. The motion passed and the amended February 22nd Minutes were approved.

4. President's Report

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Mr. Bobby Jones stated that he and Ms. Lecia Franklin are currently working with the budget in order to determine what funds will be available for new positions, supplies and services, travel, and a potential salary increase for non-classified personnel.

Meeting with the Vice President for Finance

Ms. Lecia Franklin stated that she was in the process of determining what funds would be available in order to potentially provide a salary increase for non-classified personnel, and what additional funds will be required for adjunct contracts and scholarships. She did

mention utility costs should remain more or less constant from those of last year. Ms. Franklin also mentioned that on Tuesday, March 13th, a pre-bid meeting will be held for potential contractors and that on Tuesday, March 27th, bidding will be open to contractors for the new dining facility.

Announcements

Confidentiality concerns regarding the electronic evaluation process for administrators were discussed with Mr. David Epperhart, Director of Computer Services. Mr. Epperhart stated that the process is completely confidential, and that administrators are not in any way able to view their evaluations, nor are they able to deduce who evaluated them. Mr. Epperhart also mentioned that he would address the Faculty Senate regarding the evaluation process and any questions about that process at the April Faculty Senate meeting.

5. Reports of Committees

- a. Executive Committee-No report.
- b. Academics Committee-No report.
- c. Buildings and Grounds-See report below*.
- d. Finance Committee-No report.
- e. Operations Committee- Changes to Faculty Handbook were made. There were six minor mistakes discovered and they will be corrected. Information is still being gathered concerning issues with the web server. David Epperhart will be invited to the April Meeting address concerns.
- f. Procedures Committee-Elections for the Faculty Hearing Committee are going to be held soon.

6. Old Business

Handbook and web server/email concerns-see aforementioned Operations Committee Report.

7. New Business

- a. Faculty representative to Staff Senate
Resolved: Dr. Beth Maxfield will continue as the Staff Senate representative.
- b. Faculty representative to Committee on Committees.
Resolved: Dr. Steven Carter agreed to serve as the second Faculty Senate representative to the Committee on Committees.

8. Adjourn-President Brett Serviss 4:13

*** Building and Grounds Report**

After soliciting e-mails from across campus, the Buildings and Grounds Committee of the Faculty Senate decided to divide the concerns into two categories: safety and aesthetics. While we recognize that the safety issues should get top priority, we hope the aesthetic concerns will also be addressed by the administration.

Safety concerns	Aesthetic (and other) concerns
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lighting all around campus, particularly around the library, various parking lots, and the Davis-Baker Preschool; not only is new lighting needed in several places, but bulbs that go out need to be replaced asap • Cross walks at 12th & Henderson • Benches in the hallways of Arkansas Hall (students are regularly sprawled out on the floor, people trip) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches around the quad (this particular issue has been voiced for nearly 20 years, but never brought to closure) • The area all around the quad looks shabby and lifeless (more flowers!) • The pond between Mooney and the Library is barren • The faculty parking lot between Evans & Smith has disappeared • Parking stripes and parking designations in general are not well maintained, thus creating parking problems • Disability parking at the Edwards House should be changed to faculty/staff parking now that the Disability Resource Center is no longer located there • The expensive events' sign at the bottom of the hill rarely works • Racquetball courts are not well maintained (swept) • The Garrison workout room is not open early enough (one suggestion was for it to open at 6 am)