

Minutes of  
THE FACULTY SENATE  
OF  
ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY-OZARK CAMPUS

The Faculty Senate met Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Health Science & Wellness (HSW) building. The following members were present:

Jessica Pipkins, Chair  
Cory Kendall  
Gwen Faulkenberry  
Chris Rambo  
Clinton Hall

Nina Pope was absent.

Mrs. Erin Brickley, Student Services, and Mr. Mike Bogue, Student Success Lab, were visitors.

- CALL TO ORDER Mrs. Pipkins called the meeting to order. The minutes from the last meeting were distributed.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES Motion by Mrs. Faulkenberry, seconded by Mr. Rambo, to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion carried
- NEW BUSINESS: Mrs. Pipkins indicated the administrative officers had their weekly meeting to Wednesday afternoons, and that Mr. Murders, Chief Academic Officer would be unable to attend.
- Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Mrs. Brickley was asked to speak, by the chief officers, to the faculty senate concerning Prior Learning Assessments (PLA). This would allow students with prior learning experience to receive credit for their work experience as college course work. This would be credited through the department heads in conjunction with the Chief Academic Officer. Credit could be awarded through either a mastery test prepared by department or certification from an outside source.
- Adult Learner Inventory (ALI) Mrs. Brickley indicated that the PLA plan was available immediately and students could receive up to 24 credit hours through the PLA option.
- Mr. Bogue to speak to the faculty senate about the Adult Learner Inventory (ALI) information. Mr. Bogue indicated that the majority of the findings of the ALI were positive for the campus. He also noted that there would be focus groups created to examine challenges revealed through the use of the ALI.
- Discussion items from Chief Academic Officer Mr. Murders, Chief Academic Officer, provided Mrs. Pipkins with a list of items for discussion by the senate.
- The first item was to discuss the final exam schedule for this fall. It would be the same as the Spring 2016 final exam schedule with the addition of the newly created MWF courses that meet for one hour. The concern for the final exam schedule is a two hour test duration for a course that normally meets for one hour.
- After discussion, Faculty Senate would recommend the Chief Academic advise instructors for

the one hour courses to utilize one of three options: 1) administer the test in two parts; giving part one on the last class day and part two on the exam scheduled day 2) create a test appropriate for the course that could be completed in the one hour time frame 3) create a partial test for take-home and partially administered within the one hour time frame.

Second item for discussion was whether or not the Faculty Senate wished to have a briefing or information from the Staff Senate.

Discussion for this item was that the minutes from both the Staff Senate and Faculty Senate should be published on the website so that all faculty and staff members would have access to information from the meetings. It was suggested that the secretary for the Faculty Senate send approved minutes to the chair and then they could be forwarded to the Public Information Officer for publishing on the website.

Third item for discussion was concerning a faculty consolidated support plan and what would be the role of the Faculty Senate.

The senate was unsure of this topic. Clarification was needed from Mr. Murders concerning if this was a professional or personal support question.

Mrs. Faulkenberry stated she was thankful for the recent update regarding a faculty member's medical situation that was passed along through campus e-mail and that more information concerning such issues should be communicated in this manner.

A discussion concerning the establishment of a "Sunshine Fund" began. Mrs. Faulkenberry thought it would be a good idea for the establishment of such a fund for sending cards or flowers. It would be a voluntary donation to the fund from any staff or faculty member wishing to give.

Mrs. Faulkenberry made a motion to create the "Sunshine Fund" and was seconded by Mrs. Pipkins. Motion carried.

The last items requested for discussion by Mr. Murders was professional development opportunities and how would faculty be willing to accomplish.

Mrs. Faulkenberry suggested professional development of more cultural diversity provided through MarTeze Hammonds, instructor and department head of cultural diversity on the Russellville Campus.

#### Faculty Excellence Awards

Mrs. Pipkins remarked that the Faculty Senate would be taking nominations for the Faculty Excellence awards at the October meeting and that guidelines would need to be distributed. A discussion concerning the overhauling of guidelines for the nominations and submissions for the awards began. Members stated that the nomination process as well as the nominee submission process was very extensive and possibly could be simplified.

Mr. Kendall asked if there could be an award process created for the faculty of the Arkansas Tech University Career Center (ATUCC). Mrs. Pipkins indicated that this could be looked into. Discussion was made that the instructors at ATUCC were part of the ATUOC and should be nominated and submitted under the same guidelines as faculty at ATUOC.

#### Old Business

Mr. Kendall indicated that no progress had been made on the evaluation process for

instructors of ATUCC. He had indicated that he believed Mr. Murders and Mrs. Edmonds, director, ATUCC, were working out this process; however, he also said that in a meeting with Mr. Sikes, Chancellor, ATUOC that the evaluation process could be worked out with the faculty and director of ATUCC. Mr. Kendall was at a loss as to the delay on getting this process finalized since it had been appearing on the Faculty Senate Agenda for at least three years.

It was suggested that the faculty at ATUCC follow the same guidelines as the ATUOC on evaluations regarding a portfolio but adding since they were teaching minors that a classroom visit may be required. An evaluation form from an area high school could be obtained to utilize as a model then modified to accommodate ATUCC's specific needs for the classroom visit.

#### Adjournment

As there being no other business the meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Rambo seconded by Mr. Kendall. Motion carried. The next meeting is scheduled for 3:30 on Tuesday, October 4, 2016 as this coincides with the ATUOC advisory meetings.

Respectfully submitted  
Clinton Hall