

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

- ATTENDANCE The Faculty Senate met in a regular session Monday, March 11, 2019, at 3:00 p.m. in the conference room of the HSW Building. The following members were present:
- Gwen Faulkenberry, Chair
Clinton Hall
Jessica Pipkins
Marcus Smith
- Adele Berry and Bobby Sewell were unable to attend.
- Special Guests: Staff Senate Representatives Mrs. Beverly Nehus, Mrs. Stacie Hardin and Mr. Mike Bogue attended as well as Mr. Thomas Pennington, Legal Counsel for the University.
- CALL TO ORDER Mrs. Faulkenberry called the meeting to order.
- APPROVAL OF
MINUTES Motion by Mrs. Pipkins, seconded by Mr. Smith, all approved.
- NEW BUSINESS:
- ETHICS POLICY Mr. Thomas Pennington presented the Faculty Senate, along with Staff Senate Representatives, with a document concerning a proposed updated Ethics Policy for the university. Mr. Pennington stated in the past the policy followed wording from state law. The proposed policy has additional dialog specific to the university as to aspire conduct to be above reproach including fairness and integrity. Mr. Pennington indicated the updated proposed policy would position the university to be more in compliance with the upcoming HLC (Higher Learning Commission) visit.
- Mr. Pennington also shared a website, which has been developed by the university for individuals to voice concerns or give notice of violations of the ethics policy. That website is www.atu.edu/standingcommittees/ethics.php. This policy would be shared with the entire faculty and staff at both campuses for discussion and review. The senates would vote to adopt the proposals then they would be presented to the Executive Council.
- Mr. Pennington also stated the committees would need to adopt policies for medical marijuana, free speech and official university functions. Each of these have existing policies but need to be updated due to updates in state law and issues concerning the university. Mr. Pennington asked that both senates have two representatives each to serve on these subcommittees to review and discuss the proposed policies. Mr. Smith and Mr. Sewell will serve on the medical marijuana policy subcommittee, Mrs. Faulkenberry and Mr. Hall will serve on the free speech subcommittee and Mrs. Pipkins and Mrs. Berry will serve on the official functions subcommittee.
- Mr. Pennington indicated the new laws concerning free speech must be in compliance within 90 days after the current legislative session ends. Therefore, the free speech policy would need to be adopted before May by the Senates for it to be presented for official adoption by the Executive Council to be in compliance with state law.

OTHER BUSINESS:

FACULTY
HANDBOOK

Mrs. Faulkenberry stated she had spoken with Mrs. Brenda Shoop concerning the updates of the Faculty Handbook. Mrs. Shoop indicated the updates from the Russellville campus were currently being processed and the updates to the Ozark Campus Handbook would follow.

PRESIDENT'S
COMMUNICATION
COMMITTEE

Mrs. Faulkenberry stated she had attended another President's Communication Committee meeting indicating there were updates of activities of the Russellville Campus. Mrs. Faulkenberry also stated there were some budget issues on the Russellville Campus but these should not affect the Ozark Campus.

CALENDAR

The next scheduled meeting will be held on April 8 at 3:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Smith made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mrs. Pipkins.

Respectfully submitted
Clinton Hall