

Minutes of
THE FACULTY SENATE
OF
ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

The Faculty Senate met Tuesday, October 14, 2014, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 325 of the Ross Pendergraft Library and Technology Center. The following members were present:

Dr. Molly Brant	Dr. Johnette Moody
Dr. Marcel Finan	Dr. Jason Patton
Dr. Marc Fusaro	Dr. Michael Rogers
Mr. Ken Futterer	Dr. Rebecca Shopfner
Dr. Annette Holeyfield	Dr. Jack Tucci
Dr. Sean Huss	Dr. Dana Ward
Dr. Chris Kellner	Dr. David Ward
Dr. Timothy Leggett	Dr. Deborah Wilson

Dr. Glen Bishop, Dr. Carey Bosold, Mr. Neal Harrington, Dr. Linda Kondrick and Dr. Kevin Mason were absent. Dr. Robin Bowen, Dr. John Watson, Mr. Michael Stoker, Dr. Sandra Smith, Dr. James Musser, Dr. Malcolm Rainey, Dr. J.J. Mayo, Dr. Dawn Ward, Dr. Carl Brucker, Dr. Charles Gagen, Dr. Melinda Wilkins, Ms. Cheryl Chaney, Dr. Eric Lovely, Dr. Jeff Robertson and Ms. Pat Chronister were visitors.

CALL TO ORDER

President Ward called the meeting to order and asked for a motion in regard to the minutes of the September 9, 2014, meeting.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Futterer, seconded by Dr. Rogers, to approve the minutes as distributed.
Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:
CURRICULAR
ITEMS

President Ward asked the Senate to consider the curricular proposals by department, rather than voting to approve the proposals as a block.

Motion by Dr. Kellner, seconded by Dr. Huss, to approve the following curricular proposals from the Department of Art:

Department of Art

1. Delete ART 4701, Special Methods in Art, from the course descriptions;
2. Add ART 1001, Introduction to Art, to the course descriptions;
3. Add ART 3001, Sophomore Review, to the course descriptions;
4. Modify the Curriculum in Art for Teacher Licensure, as follows: delete TECH 1001, Orientation to the University; add ART 1001, Introduction to Art; Add ART 3001, Sophomore Review; add ART 1163, Basic Photography, (new title: Basic Digital Photography); delete ART 4701, Special Methods in Art; and delete 3 hours 3000-4000 Art Electives;
5. Modify the Curriculum in Fine Arts as follows: delete TECH 1001, Orientation to the University; add ART 1001, Introduction to Art; add ART 3001, Sophomore Review; and delete one hour of elective; and
6. Modify the Curriculum in Graphic Design as follows: delete TECH 1001, Orientation to the University; add ART 1001, Introduction to Art; add ART 3001, Sophomore Review; and delete one hour of elective.

Motion carried.

Motion by Dr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Moody, to approve the following curricular proposals from the Department of English and World Languages:

Department of English and World Languages

1. Add ENGL 3183, Studies in Television, to the course descriptions;
2. Modify the Curriculum in World Languages (BA Degree with Concentration in Spanish) as follows: a. Replace SPAN 3143, Study Abroad or SPAN 3163, Community Internship Experience, SPAN 4003, Oral Communication, and SPAN 4203, Short Story, with 9 hours of upper division Spanish electives; b. delete the requirement to take the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI); and c. delete Footnote 5 requiring the OPI;
3. Modify the Curriculum in Foreign Language with Concentration in Spanish for Teacher Licensure as follows: Replace SPAN 3143, Study Abroad or SPAN 3163, Community Internship Experience, and SPAN 4203, Short Story, with 6 hours of upper division Spanish electives;
4. Modify the Minor in Film Studies as follows: add ENGL 3183, Studies in Television, to the list of courses that may be used to complete the required 18 hours.

Following the motion, Dr. Kellner questioned the rationale for the addition of ENGL 3183, Studies in Television, stating student interest and instructor availability did not seem to be a sufficient justification for adding a course. Dr. Wilson responded, in addition to student interest, film studies have expanded in recent years to include the study of television. Dr. Kellner expressed the preference for that rationale to be included in the written justification.

Motion by Dr. Kellner, seconded by Dr. Patton, to table the approval of items 1 and 4 of the English and World Languages proposal, pending additional justification. Motion failed.

President Ward then called for the question in regard to the original motion to approve the department's proposals.

Motion to approve carried.

President Ward then asked for a motion in regard to the Agriculture proposals.

Motion by Dr. Huss, seconded by Mr. Futterer, to approve the following curricular proposals from the Department of Agriculture:

Department of Agriculture

1. Add AGBU 4973, Senior Seminar in Agriculture Business, to the course descriptions;
2. Modify the Curriculum in Agriculture Business, Animal Science Option, Feed Mill Management Option, Horticulture Option, and Public Relations Option as follows: a) delete 3 hours for Agriculture Electives; and b) add AGBU 4793, Senior Seminar in Agriculture Business; and modify the Curriculum in Pre-Veterinary Medicine Option as follows: a) delete one hour for Agriculture Electives; and b) add AGBU 4793, Senior Seminar in Agriculture Business; Note the options total hours will be 122 hours.

Motion carried.

Motion by Dr. Moody, seconded by Dr. Rogers, to table the curricular proposals from the Department of Emergency Management until the November meeting.

Motion to table carried.

Motion by Dr. Kellner, seconded by Dr. Finan, to approve the following curricular proposals from the College of Natural and Health Sciences:

College of Natural and Health Sciences

- A. Department of Biological Sciences
 1. Add BIOL 2054, Microbiology for Health Sciences, to the course descriptions;
 2. Add the Prerequisite: Score of 19 or higher on the reading portion of the enhanced ACT or completion of ENGL 1013, Composition I, to BIOL 1004, Principles of Environmental Science;
 3. Add the Prerequisite: Score of 19 or higher on the reading portion of the enhanced ACT or completion of ENGL 1013, Composition I, to BIOL 1014, Introduction to Biological Science; and
 4. Modify the Curriculum in Health Information Management as follows: delete ACCT 2003, Accounting Principles I, and add 3 hours of elective.
- B. Department of Physical Sciences
 1. Add the Prerequisite: Score of 19 or higher on the reading portion of the enhanced ACT or completion of ENGL 1013, Composition I, to PHSC 1004, Principles of Environmental Science; and
 2. Add the Curriculum in Mathematics and Physics Education.

President Ward recognized Dr. Malcolm Rainey, Chair of the Curriculum Committee and Dr. J.J. Mayo, Chair of the General Education Committee and invited them to address the Senate on these proposals. Dr. Rainey reported the Curriculum Committee had concerns that the prerequisite changes included in the proposals would affect a large number of students, particularly incoming freshmen, but noted the proposals were ultimately approved by the committee. Dr. Mayo stated the General Education Committee felt the proposals needed further explanation by a representative, and having none present, the committee voted to not recommend the proposals for approval. He mentioned the General Education Committee had also been presented with evidence that students with an ACT score of 19 or higher on the reading portion are not more likely to pass the courses in question. Dr. Rainey stated the Curriculum Committee approved the proposals without knowledge of that evidence.

Continuing discussion centered on the impact this prerequisite could have on students who frequently use these Biological and Physical Science courses to satisfy general education requirements, with a counterpoint that high school students enrolling in the concurrent sections of these courses are required to have a score of 19 or higher on the science portion of the ACT. Dr. John Watson, Vice President for Academic Affairs, stated, in general, ACT scores are not accurate predictors for success, noting high school GPA is a better indicator. Dr. Charles Gagen, Chair, Department of Biological Sciences, encouraged the Senate to consider the prerequisites separately from the remaining sections of the proposals which did not appear to raise any concerns.

Dr. Kellner withdrew his previous motion to approve the proposals.

Motion by Dr. Rogers, seconded by Dr. Kellner, to approve the following portions of the curricular proposals from the College of Natural and Health Sciences:

- A. Department of Biological Sciences
 1. Add BIOL 2054, Microbiology for Health Sciences, to the course descriptions;
 4. Modify the Curriculum in Health Information Management as follows: delete ACCT 2003, Accounting Principles I, and add 3 hours of elective.
- B. Department of Physical Sciences
 2. Add the Curriculum in Mathematics and Physics Education.

Motion to approve carried.

Motion by Dr. Rogers, seconded by Dr. Kellner, to table the discussion of the following portions of the curricular proposals from the College of Natural and Health Sciences until the November meeting:

- A. Department of Biological Sciences
 2. Add the Prerequisite: Score of 19 or higher on the reading portion of the enhanced ACT or completion of ENGL 1013, Composition I, to BIOL 1004, Principles of Environmental Science;
 3. Add the Prerequisite: Score of 19 or higher on the reading portion of the enhanced ACT or completion of ENGL 1013, Composition I, to BIOL 1014, Introduction to Biological Science.
- B. Department of Physical Sciences
 1. Add the Prerequisite: Score of 19 or higher on the reading portion of the enhanced ACT or completion of ENGL 1013, Composition I, to PHSC 1004, Principles of Environmental Science.

Motion to table carried.

FACULTY WEBPAGES/ UNIVERSITY WEBSITE

Dr. Fusaro distributed a list of proposed changes to the faculty webpages (Attachment A), which were currently under review by the ad hoc committee and asked the senators for any additions they may have. Mr. Michael Stoker, Director of Web Strategies and Operations, noted some of the proposed changes would need to be addressed within the Banner system and others would be addressed after the new website design was implemented. Dr. Rogers reported one of his colleagues expressed concern that the new web policy requires a photo on the departmental faculty webpage. Mr. Stoker stated the faculty would have the ability to opt-out and will not have a photo posted if it is against their will.

Mr. Stoker then gave a presentation on the new design for the university website. He stated the coming year will bring many changes to the look and feel of the website, but the functionality will not change. He mentioned one emphasis for this redesign was to tailor the language on the website to be more relevant to an external audience. Dr. Patton questioned if a slow internet connection would have difficulty loading the high definition photo backgrounds in the new design, stating many students and faculty members live in areas without access to high speed internet. Mr. Stoker stated he would address that concern. The Senate provided positive feedback on the appearance and design of the new website.

ADJUNCT SUPPORT COMMITTEE

President Ward invited Mr. Stoker to address the Senate on behalf of the Adjunct Support Committee. Mr. Stoker distributed a list of goals developed by the committee (Attachment B) and requested guidance from the Senate. President Ward noted in order for the Faculty Senate to add an adjunct representative as a voting member, it would have to go before the full faculty body for a vote to change the bylaws of the Senate in the Faculty Handbook, then through the administrative approval process. Dr. Rogers encouraged the Senate to approach Dr. Bowen and Dr. Watson with this proposal to discuss the feasibility and any issues with the language prior to sending it for a faculty vote. Dr. Holeyfield reminded the senators that Dr. Kellner had drafted a letter to the President, requesting reconsideration of the changes to the Senate membership previously voted upon by the faculty. She noted those changes included the addition of tenure, which would in effect exclude adjunct faculty. Suggestions were offered such as the addition of an adjunct delegate or an adjunct ex officio member, or to have a regular faculty senator who is elected by the adjunct faculty. Dr. Rogers suggested restoring the existing subcommittee to collaborate with the administration, which included himself and Dr. Huss. President Ward asked for any volunteers to be added to the subcommittee. Mr. Futterer volunteered.

SENATE MEETING LOCATION

President Ward stated the Senate appeared to be outgrowing the current meeting location, particularly when guests are present. He asked for any objections to finding a larger location for the meetings.

Motion by Mr. Futterer, seconded by Dr. Huss, to leave the Faculty Senate meeting location to the discretion of the Senate President. Motion carried.

Dr. Kellner requested the agenda be amended to allow the drafted letter for Dr. Bowen to be discussed as the next item of business.

Motion by Mr. Futterer, seconded by Dr. Rogers, to amend the agenda to move item D to the first item of Old Business. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:
SENATE
MEMBERSHIP/
DRAFTED LETTER

President Ward asked if there were any motions in regard to the letter drafted by Dr. Kellner to Dr. Bowen requesting reconsideration of the changes to the Senate membership.

Motion by Mr. Futterer, seconded by Dr. Huss, to accept the letter drafted by Dr. Kellner.

Discussion following the motion centered on the timing for submitting a request to the administration for reconsideration of the items voted upon by the faculty at large. Dr. Huss asked if the Senate would prefer the subcommittee collaborating with the administration to present the letter to Dr. Bowen, or if the letter should instead be submitted prior to that meeting. Dr. Rogers recommended the subcommittee present the letter to Dr. Bowen for discussion. Mr. Futterer asked President Ward if Dr. Bowen was resistant to the changes when he previously discussed this with her. President Ward stated, in general, she seemed hesitant to disenfranchise any faculty from the Senate, but she was not presented with all of the data at that time. Dr. Kellner noted the concerns prompting the original faculty vote to change the membership may no longer exist under the new administration, but could resurface in the future.

Motion by Dr. Rogers, seconded by Dr. Huss, to table any action on the letter until the November meeting.

Dr. Rogers recommended the senators return to their departments to determine if the faculty have an interest in pursuing this issue further.

Motion carried.

REPORT ON
CAMPUS
RECREATION

Dr. Holeyfield reported the improvements to campus recreation continue to be a work in progress. She stated a committee appointed by the Executive Council had been tasked with increasing facility usage on campus and she had also taken Dr. Bowen on a tour of the Hull building. She asked for the campus recreation subcommittee to remain intact as she was optimistic there was much they would be able to accomplish.

PHASED
RETIREMENT
POLICY

Dr. Fusaro circulated suggestions received from the faculty in the College of Business regarding a phased retirement policy, such as removing any research or service requirements for faculty opting into the policy. Dr. Rogers reported faculty he spoke with were largely positive but wanted further detail.

Motion by Mr. Futterer, seconded by Dr. Rogers, to send the example of a phased retirement policy to the administration for consideration due to faculty interest. Motion carried.

HONOR CODE

Dr. Rogers redistributed the Honor Code document developed during the 2013-14 academic year and asked the Senate if they would like to recommend and forward this to the administration prior to the beginning of the strategic planning process.

Motion by Mr. Futterer, seconded by Dr. Huss, to leave this discussion on the agenda, and forward to the administration in the spring. Motion carried.

PROMOTION AND TENURE	Mr. Futterer did not have anything to report.
OPEN FORUM	The senators did not have any items of discussion for open forum.
ANNOUNCEMENTS/ INFORMATION ITEMS	Dr. Moody announced the Staff Senate membership had been finalized and the first meeting would be held on Wednesday, October 15.
ADJOURNMENT	The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David W. Ward, Ph.D., President



Johnette Moody, DBA, Secretary

Attachment A

Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Web Pages

List of Proposed Changes

Faculty listing on the departmental pages

This page currently contains contact information, educational background, and courses taught. We would like to see a category for our professional lives. This could be something as simple as “area of specialty” which is generic enough to include research interests, dissertation topic, just the topics that underlie the advanced courses taught, or other areas as requested by the faculty member. I know this info has to come from banner, but there must be some way to get it done.

Status: Any changes/additions to Banner profiles would have to go thru Academic Affairs and OIS.

The link to “faculty.atu.edu” is buried in the contact information. The link should be in a more prominent position. This link is more than just directory information.

Status: Our global template/formatting for the Tech web will be changing pretty soon which may resolve this issues. Will readdress issue after this global change.

Link from departmental page to faculty space

When a user clicks the link he is taken, not to the faculty member’s web page, but to faculty.atu.edu which has the disclaimer and a list of faculty members with web space. From there the user must find the name of the faculty member and click again. Rather than this two step procedure change the link to go directly to the faculty member’s web space with a pop-up disclaimer that lets the user know that they are leaving University space and that the University is not responsible for content on this space.

Status: Our global template/formatting for the Tech web will be changing pretty soon which may resolve this issues. Will readdress issue after this global change.

faculty.atu.edu page

Divide the faculty list by college or department.

Status: Our global template/formatting for the Tech web will be changing pretty soon which may resolve this issues. Will readdress issue after this global change.

Attachment B

Committee on Adjunct Support - Report

Mission

The mission of the Committee on Adjunct Support is to promote professional equity, teaching excellence, collegial cooperation, and active participation in the shared governance of the university.

Goal 1 - Adjunct faculty are informed and involved in the shared governance of the university

- Objective - Representation by an adjunct who is a voting member of the Faculty Senate
 - Action 1 - Change Faculty Senate constitution to include election of adjunct senator by Committee on Adjunct Support *
 - Action 2 - Change committee listing in faculty handbook to reflect changes in member terms (2 year) and committee composition **

Goal 2 - Adjunct faculty are informed and involved in the departmental decision-making process

- Objective 1 - Adjunct faculty are active contributors to their departments
 - Action 1 - Add adjunct faculty to departmental listings on web sites

Goal 3 - Adjunct faculty are prepared to provide students with quality educational experiences

- Objective 1 – Adjunct faculty are provided with access to computers, licensed software and office space
 - Action 1 - Virtual desktop solution provided by Office of Information Systems
- Objective 2 – Adjunct faculty are provided with opportunities for professional development
 - Action 1 – Creation of an adjunct orientation program
 - Action 2 – Creation of an adjunct resources web page

Goal 4 - Adjunct faculty earn equitable rewards for service

** Proposed changes to faculty handbook*

Section III – Committee on Adjunct Support

Membership - Four full-time faculty members appointed by the Faculty Senate and four adjunct instructors elected by the adjunct faculty (visiting lecturers) **to serve a two year term.**

Function - To provide support to adjunct faculty and to enhance the standing of such ~~on~~ faculty on campus. **An elected committee member will serve as a senator on the Faculty Senate.**

*** Proposed changes to Faculty Senate Constitution*

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF OFFICE

Section 1.a.: ***Elective Membership** - One Senator shall be elected by each of the Colleges of the University upon obtaining a minimum of fifteen full-time faculty members. A College shall be eligible for one additional Senator for each twenty full-time faculty members or additional portion thereof. A College entitled to multiple Senators may elect no more than two from any one department. Any College or independent Academic Unit that has less than fifteen full-time faculty members will be combined into a Supernumerary voting block operating under the above delineated rules.

Section 1.b.: **Elective Adjunct Membership** - One Senator shall be elected by the members of the Adjunct Support Committee to represent adjunct faculty on the Faculty Senate.

Total Adjunct Count for Fall 2014
Broken Down by Number of Credit Hours Taught
(includes on and off schedule for fall 2014)

Department	Credit Hours Taught						Total
	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-11	12	13+	
Art	1	2	1				4
Behavioral Sciences	3	2	2		1		8
Communication/Journalism		1	3				4
English/World Languages	4	5	8		8	1	26
History/Political Science	4	3	1				8
Music	2	1		1			4
Accounting/Economics	2	2					4
Management/Marketing*	2	1					3
College Student Personnel	2						2
Curriculum/Instruction	1	1	6				8
Health/Physical Education	1	2	2				5
Agriculture	2						2
Computer/Information Science	3	2					5
Electrical Engineering							0
Emergency Management	2		1				3
Mechanical Engineering	1						1
Parks/Recreation/Hospitality*	9						9
Biological Sciences	1	2	1		1		5
Mathematics	1	2	1				4
Nursing		2	2	1	2		7
Physical Sciences	3				1		4
Professional Studies	3	3	3				9
Center for Leadership/Learning	4						4
Totals	51	31	31	2	13	1	129

Note: adjuncts are defined as those individuals whose only employment with ATU is as adjunct faculty.

Staff teaching classes as overloads are not counted in these totals.

Also does not include high school concurrent adjuncts as they are not university employees.

*Management/Marketing has an additional 4th adjunct who is also teaching in Curriculum/Instruction. This individual is counting as a C&I adjunct for headcount purposes since she is teaching 5 hours for C&I and only 3 hours for Mgmt/Mkt.

*Parks/Recreation/Hospitality has an additional 10th adjunct who is also teaching for the Ozark Campus. This individual is counting as an Ozark adjunct for headcount purposes since he is teaching 9 hours for Ozark and only 1 hour for Parks/Rec/Hospitality.