

Minutes of  
THE FACULTY SENATE  
OF  
ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Called Meeting

The Faculty Senate met Tuesday, December 7, 2004, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 325 of the Ross Pendergraft Library and Technology Center. The following members were present:

Dr. Joe Moore	Mr. Ken Futterer
Dr. Carl Greco	Ms. Peggy Lee
Dr. Kevin Mason	Dr. Trey Philpotts
Dr. Jeff Robertson	Dr. Sid Womack
Ms. Marti Wilkerson	Dr. Carey Roberts
Dr. Shelia Jackson	

Dr. Kathy Pearson, Dr. Charles Busch, Dr. Brenda Montgomery, and Ms. Darla Sparacino were absent. Dr. Jack Hamm, Dr. Jo Blondin (Chief Student Officer, Ozark campus), Dr. Eva Spurgin (Chief Academic Officer, Ozark campus), and Mr. Ken Warden (Chair, Curriculum Committee, Ozark campus) were visitors.

CALL TO ORDER

President Philpotts called the meeting to order and noted that representatives from the Ozark campus were present to speak to the proposals under consideration. He asked the Senators and visitors to introduce themselves.

NEW BUSINESS:  
CURRICULAR  
ITEMS

The following actions were taken with regards to recommendations from the Ozark campus Curriculum Committee and the main campus Curriculum Committee:

Arkansas Tech University Ozark Campus:

- A. Motion by Dr. Womack, seconded by Dr. Roberts, to add to the degree offerings an Associate of Applied Science (i.e., A.A.S.) degree in Allied Health with options in Practical Nursing and Paramedic/Emergency Medical Technician. Dr. Blondin reported that this degree, as do the other two A.A.S. degrees, incorporates 15 hours of general education courses, the technical certificate blocks, and additional technical support courses to bring total credit hours to 60 to 72 hours per degree program option. Dr. Hamm advised that the general education courses would most likely be taught on the Ozark campus utilizing adjuncts selected by department heads on the main campus. He stated that some of these courses may be offered by web or distance learning in the future. Dr. Hamm noted that only a small percentage of the students would initially enroll in the A.A.S. degrees, but that he expected this number to grow over time. Dr. Hamm and Dr. Blondin also distributed copies of sample transcripts, illustrating how technical coursework and academic coursework will appear on an undergraduate vocational (UV) transcript and how the same academic coursework will also appear on the regular undergraduate (U) transcript. Responding to a question, Dr. Spurgin stated that the current pass rate for their LPN students on the state nursing board exams was 98 to 100 percent. She also noted that faculty are still working on some of the measures of success for the assessment plans for each of the degree program options being considered. Motion carried.

- B. Motion by Dr. Mason, seconded by Mr. Futterer, to add to the degree offerings an A.A.S. degree in Business Technology with options in Business Technology and Medical Transcriptionist. Dr. Hamm emphasized that the business courses offered on the Ozark campus will only be transcribed on the UV transcript. Motion carried.
- C. Motion by Dr. Jackson, seconded by Dr. Moore, to add to the degree offerings an A.A.S. degree in General Technology with options in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration, Applied Laboratory Technology, Automotive Service Technology, Computer Information Systems, Cosmetic Science, Collision Repair Technology, Electronics Technology, and Welding. Dr. Blondin stated that this degree encompasses eight areas of technical certificate programs. Motion carried.

Mr. Futterer questioned if plans were underway to certify as transferrable some of the courses offered on the Ozark campus to the main campus. Dr. Hamm commented that the process of developing a faculty governance system similar to that established on the main campus was just beginning on the Ozark campus and noted that the main emphasis at this time was working with the curriculum. Dr. Hamm stated his belief that, with time, a closer coordination will develop between the two faculties and also advised that there were a number of programs offered on the Ozark campus that could function very well on this campus which would add to the opportunities available for main campus students.

Dr. Roberts questioned the role of the Faculty Senate in future curricular issues. Dr. Hamm stated that curricular issues concerning the technical certificate part of any degree program need to be decided on the Ozark campus by that curriculum committee. If additional credit hour work offered only by the main campus were to be considered for any of the technical or A.A.S. programs, then the Curriculum Committee and Faculty Senate on the main campus will be involved. Dr. Hamm noted again that the two governance systems may merge more closely in the future, but he stated that this would need to be approached with considerable thought.

Dr. Hamm stated that the three A.A.S. degree programs just approved would be implemented in fall, 2005. At this time, Dr. Hamm, Dr. Blondin, Dr. Spurgin, and Mr. Warden excused themselves from the meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:  
ADD NOMINATING  
AND ELECTION  
COORDINATING  
COMMITTEE**

President Philpotts asked Dr. Greco to address this item. Dr. Greco distributed another copy of suggested wording for a new elected standing committee to be titled "Nominating and Election Coordinating Committee." He stated that creation of this committee would help address several issues relating to the school and campus elections held each spring. The committee would be responsible for coordinating and administering the school elections, would resolve issues related to accountability in the school elections, and would coordinate and administer the campus wide election. Dr. Greco noted that approval of this committee today by the Senate would allow for submission to the Board of Trustees in January for the final approval; therefore, elections to the new committee could be held this spring, and the committee could function for the 2005-06 academic year. Mr. Futterer stated that the function of the new committee as drafted would, in effect, create both the campus wide coordinating committee and the school election committees. He further objected to the proposal by asserting that he did not see major problems in the School of Liberal and Fine Arts with the current election process. Dr. Mason noted that he also had not observed problems in his school relating to elections of faculty to the standing committees. Dr. Greco responded that he believed the Senate had already recognized that there were problems with the school elections during previous meetings. Mr. Futterer then noted that he believed most issues related to inconsistencies in how the school elections were held.

Dr. Jackson stated that the Senate should function as the overseer of the election process, not create another committee to perform this responsibility. She also noted that each school is represented on the Senate and that oversight of the school elections by each School's representatives would not be difficult. President Philpotts emphasized that he did not see a need to create an enormous bureaucracy to try to fix the problems being referenced.

Motion by Mr. Futterer, seconded by Dr. Womack, to hold the spring, campus wide election using electronic voting, review the results and any issues or problems that arise from that election and method of voting, and then determine if another committee is needed to assist with oversight of the election process. Motion carried.

INFORMATION  
ITEMS

It was noted that the next step in approving the change in the Faculty Senate's By-Laws was to present the change to the faculty at large as part of the ballot used during the upcoming spring, standing committee elections.

Mr. Futterer reported that he was aware of several problems relating to faculty governance on the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith campus and observed that the Senate should monitor the situation concerning their colleagues on the Tech Ozark campus closely. He commented that the Ozark campus may one day need representation on the Faculty Senate.

MEETING TIME

After discussion, it was determined that the Faculty Senate would meet the second Thursday of the month at 3:00 p.m. in Pendergraft 325 for the spring, 2005 semester. The first regular meeting will be in February.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Trey Philpotts, Ph.D., President



Jeff Robertson, Ph.D., Secretary