

Minutes of
THE FACULTY SENATE
OF
ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

The Faculty Senate met Monday, December 3, 2007, at 3 p.m. in Room 300 North of the Ross Pendergraft Library and Technology Center. The following members were present:

Dr. Tim Smith	Dr. Trey Philpotts
Dr. Glen Bishop	Dr. Annette Holeyfield
Dr. Willy Hoefler	Dr. Sammie Stephenson
Dr. Jeff Mitchell	Dr. Cheryl Smith
Dr. Pat Buford	Dr. Cathy Baker
Dr. Scott Kirkconnell	Ms. Sarah Robison
Dr. Andrew Cannon	Dr. Hanna Norton
Mr. Rick Ihde	

Dr. Robert Fithen and Dr. David Ward were absent. Dr. Linda Kondrick, Dr. Kevin Mason, Dr. Pam Carr, Dr. Charles Gagen, and students from Mr. William Byrd's advanced news reporting class were visitors.

CALL TO ORDER
APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

President Tim Smith called the meeting to order and asked for action on the November 12, 2007, minutes. There being no amendments or corrections, motion by Dr. Cheryl Smith, seconded by Dr. Hoefler, to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:
CURRICULAR
ITEMS

The following action was taken with regards to recommendations from the Curriculum Committee.

Motion by Dr. Norton, seconded by Dr. Stephenson, to consider the following proposals as a group. Motion carried.

Departments of Accounting and Business and Economics

(a) add ACCT 4103, Special Topics in Accounting, to the course descriptions; (b) delete BUAD 1001, Keyboarding I, and BUAD 2002, Keyboarding II, from the course descriptions; (c) add BUAD 1023, Keyboarding, to the course descriptions; (d) add FIN 4103, Special Topics in Finance, to the course descriptions; (e) add MGMT 3113, Managerial Process Analysis, to the course descriptions; (f) add MGMT 3123, Business Ethics, to the course descriptions; (g) add MGMT 4063, Entrepreneurial Development, to the course descriptions; (h) modify the course description for MGMT 4113, Managerial Issues in Electronic Commerce; (i) modify the Curriculum for Business Education for Teacher Licensure as follows (three proposals): (1) delete HLED 1513, Personal Health and Wellness; add Electives 3 hours; (2) add SPH 2003, Public Speaking, or SPH 2173, Business and Professional Speaking, as alternatives for completion of speech requirement; and (3) delete one hour of physical activity; and add BUAD 1023, Keyboarding; (j) modify the course description for BUAD 1003, Introduction to Business Systems, and modify the Curricula for Accounting, Economics, and Management and Marketing as follows: add BUAD 1003, Introduction to Business Systems, and delete 3 hours of Electives; (k) delete footnote #4 in the Curriculum in Accounting and delete footnote #5 in the Curricula in Economics and Management and Marketing; (l) add a minor in Accounting; (m) add a minor in Business; and (n) add a minor in Economics.

Department of English

(a) modify the Curricula for Creative Writing For Teacher Licensure, English, and English For Teacher Licensure as follows: reduce the requirement to two semesters of foreign language and add electives as appropriate.

Department of Foreign Languages and International Studies

(a) add JPN 3143, Study Abroad, as a cross listing with GER/FR/SPAN 3143, Study Abroad; (b) add 4991-4, Special Problems in Japanese, to the course descriptions; (c) add SPAN 4023, Introduction to Spanish Linguistics, to the course descriptions; and (d) modify the Curriculum in Foreign Languages with Concentration in Spanish for Teacher Licensure as follows: (1) add SPAN 4023, Introduction in Spanish Linguistics; (2) delete 3 hours of elective; (3) delete SPAN 3113, Business Spanish; and (4) add SPAN 3123, Spanish Civilization and Culture, or SPAN 3133, Spanish-American Civilization and Culture. (Note: No modification to the Curriculum in Foreign Languages with Concentration in French/German for Teacher Licensure.)

Department of Social Sciences and Philosophy

(a) add HIST/POLS 4971-6, Internship, to the course descriptions; (b) add HIST 4183/5183, American Legal History, to the course descriptions (graduate course will be considered by Graduate Council); and (c) add POLS 2253, Survey of Western Political Thought, to the course descriptions.

Department of Biological Sciences

(a) add BIOL 4083, Cancer Biology, to the course descriptions; (b) modify the Curriculum in Life Science and Earth Science for Teacher Licensure as follows: change the math elective from Math Elective > MATH 1113 to MATH 2163, Introduction to Statistical Method; and (c) add FW 4103/5103, Human Dimensions of Fisheries and Wildlife Management, to the course descriptions (graduate course to be considered by Graduate Council) (tabled at November 12, 2007, meeting).

Department of Physical and Life Sciences

(a) add PHSC 1074, Physical Science Inquiry, to the course descriptions and to the general education physical science course options for completion of the physical science requirement for Early Childhood Education and Middle Level Education majors only.

Department of Agriculture

(a) add AGPM 3104, Introduction to Entomology, to the course descriptions; (b) add AGPM 3124, Applied Pest Control, to the course descriptions; (c) add AGPM 4103, Integrated Pest Management, to the course descriptions; (d) modify the prerequisites for AGBU 4023, Agricultural Finance, from prerequisites: AGBU 2063, Principles of Agricultural Macroeconomics, and AGBU 2073, Principles of Agricultural Microeconomics, or consent of instructor, to prerequisites: AGBU 2063, Principles of Agricultural Macroeconomics, AGBU 2073, Principles of Agricultural Microeconomics, and ACCT 2003, Accounting Principles I, and modify the course description; (e) change the title of AGPS 3053, Weeds and Weed Control, to Weed Ecology, and modify the prerequisites from: AGPS 1024,

Principles of Horticulture, Junior Standing, or consent of instructor to: AGPS 1003, Principles of Crop Science, and Junior Standing, or consent of instructor, and modify the course description; and (f) add the Pest Management Option to the Curriculum in Agriculture Business.

Department of Parks, Recreation, and Hospitality Administration

(a) add RP 3763, Introduction to Turfgrass Management, to the course descriptions; (b) add RP 4763, Golf Course Operations and Design, to the course descriptions; (c) change the course number for RP 4783, Turfgrass Management: Equipment, to RP 3791; add a \$25 course fee; and modify the course description; (d) change the course number and title for RP 3783, Turfgrass Management: Basic Chemical Usage, to RP 3793, Turfgrass Pest Control; modify the prerequisites from prerequisite: BIOL 2134, Principles of Botany, and CHEM 1114, A Survey of Chemistry, to prerequisite or corequisite: RP 3763, Introduction to Turfgrass Management; and modify the course description; (e) change the course number and title for RP 3773, Sports Facilities Planning and Design (formerly Golf Course Planning and Design), to RP 4753, Sports Field Management and Design; add the prerequisite or corequisite: RP 3034, Site Planning and Design; RP 3763, Turfgrass Management; and RP 3793, Turfgrass Management: Pest Control; modify the course description; and add a \$25 course fee; (f) delete RP 4773, Turfgrass Management: Climatic Regions and Cultivars, from the course descriptions; and (g) modify the Curriculum in Recreation and Park Administration Turf Management Emphasis as follows: (1) change RP 3783, Turfgrass Management: Basic Chemical Usage, to RP 3793, Turfgrass Pest Control; (2) change RP 3773, Sports Facilities Planning and Design (formerly Golf Course Planning and Design), to RP 4753, Sports Field Management and Design; (3) delete RP 4773, Turfgrass Management: Climatic Regions and Cultivars; RP 4783, Turfgrass Management Equipment; and one hour approved elective; and (4) add RP 4763, Golf Course Operations and Design; RP 3763, Introduction to Turfgrass Management; and RP 3791, Turfgrass Management: Equipment.

Motion by Dr. Philpotts, seconded by Dr. Buford, to approve the proposals as presented. Motion carried.

SPRING MEETING DAY AND TIME

After discussion, it was determined that the Faculty Senate will meet on the second Friday of the month at 3 p.m. for the months of February, March, and April. The May meeting will most likely take place on Reading Day to avoid examination week.

WORDING FOR REGISTRATION EMAIL REMINDER

President Smith asked for discussion of this issue. He reminded the Senators of the concern expressed at the previous meeting that students may not come prepared for their advising sessions with work schedules, athletic practice schedules, etc., and that one suggestion was to include a reminder concerning this in the registration information sent out by the Registrar's Office. Dr. Bishop noted that students are generally not shy about telling their advisor when they do not wish to be scheduled in classes and that advisors should not "overdo the hand holding." Several indicated their belief that it is the student's responsibility to accurately formulate their schedule with their advisor. President Smith indicated that he had sent an email to the Athletic Director, Steve Mullins, and asked that Athletics post the practice schedule on the web each term for all sports. He noted that he has not yet received a response. Ms. Robison emphasized that coaches should also tell their athletes what the practice schedule is so that the student comes to the advising session with this information. Dr. Bishop noted that some classes which happen to be scheduled during practice times cannot be changed and coaches need to understand this. President Smith stated that he would include this information in a reminder email to Coach Mullins and would report back in the spring.

INCONSISTENCIES
IN PROMOTION
AND TENURE
PROCESS IN
FACULTY
HANDBOOK

President Smith stated he had included several pages from the *Faculty Handbook* in the Senators' packets relating to the issues brought up at the previous meeting, namely issues concerning portfolio preparation and peer review. He stated his belief that, the more general the portfolio guidelines, the more creative an applicant can be in submitting materials specific to their department and discipline. Dr. Bishop agreed with this assessment but indicated some applicants had been told to include other items not listed in the *Handbook* by members of the Promotion and Tenure Committee. Dr. Cheryl Smith stated that this is unfair as other applicants would not have been given this information.

Dr. Philpotts reminded the Senators that the membership of the Promotion and Tenure Committee changes and that what one committee may wish included might not be desired by the next committee. Dr. Holeyfield commented that the Promotion and Tenure Committee can meet with Dr. Hamm and suggest any changes to the portfolio preparation guidelines stated in the *Handbook* if and when they see a need. Dr. Philpotts observed that Academic Affairs has been providing information relating to grade distributions when requested by the Promotion and Tenure Committee. He also stated that, as a previous member of the Promotion and Tenure Committee, one concern of some of the members was that of applicants "reprocessing" student evaluation scores which can raise questions with the Committee about what they are doing.

Dr. Bishop reported that his department head had questioned whether the annual review of the faculty going up for promotion and/or tenure in that department should have been done prior to submission of the faculty member's portfolio. It was noted that annual reviews are traditionally done in the spring semester, and that the faculty member going up for promotion and/or tenure should have included their annual evaluation results from the previous spring.

President Smith questioned whether further discussion or action by the Senate was necessary. No one indicated any continuing concerns.

OLD BUSINESS:
GROWTH OF
FACULTY

President Smith referenced the bar graph included in the packets which Dr. Mitchell had provided from the national AAUP's website. Dr. Mitchell expressed his opinion that Tech is not in "bad shape" with respect to the numbers of adjunct faculty when compared to national statistics. He stated that his main concern continues to be adjunct pay. It was noted that this is also a concern of Academic Affairs; however, budget constraints have made it difficult to fund an increase in the adjunct per-credit-hour pay.

The discussion shifted to the breakdown in full-time faculty by tenure categories. Motion by Dr. Bishop, seconded by Dr. Cannon, to ask Academic Affairs to provide numbers of full-time faculty since 2000 broken down by tenured, non-tenured on track, and non-tenure-track. Motion carried.

CAMPUS SAFETY

President Smith asked Dr. Mitchell for his report. Dr. Mitchell reported he had spoken with both Steve Lawrence and the mayor of Russellville concerning several safety issues. He had specifically asked the mayor about a pedestrian bridge for the Highway 7 intersection in front of Whattaburger. The mayor was willing to consider a bridge and possible funding. He stated that he had spoken with Mr. Lawrence about a traffic mirror for the intersection of North Fargo and West M Streets. He had not heard back from Public Safety about this issue.

OPEN FORUM

President Smith reported that he had sent a memo to the School of Systems Science and the Departments of Behavioral Science and Social Sciences and Philosophy, with a copy to the dean of Liberal and Fine Arts, concerning the previous discussions in the Senate on their respective names. He read the response from the School of Systems Science which indicated ongoing discussions about this issue within the School and a difficulty in finding an appropriate school name due to the diverse departments within the school. President Smith also read the response received from the department head in Social Sciences and Philosophy who had noted that most individuals expect to find history, political sciences, and geography in a department named “social sciences.” The difficulty comes in also having philosophy within the department. Dr. Mitchell indicated that the Social Sciences and Philosophy departmental faculty had not discussed this issue and that he would ask for departmental discussion. When asked what Dr. Mitchell thought the department’s name should be, he responded that he thought the name should include “social studies.” President Smith stated that he had not received a response from Behavioral Sciences.

Dr. Kirkconnell reported that he had received information from UAMS today concerning grade point averaging for admissions purposes. At Tech when a student retakes a 1000 or 2000 level class, only one grade is calculated in the student’s grade point average. For admissions purposes, UAMS calculates the GPA using both grades received.

Dr. Kirkconnell reported that he had spoken with Richard Kersh, a wellness consultant, at length and stated that he “was astonished about how much he knows about the legal and financial implications of preventive medicine.” He suggested that he invite Mr. Kersh to speak with the Senate in the spring concerning the financial impact of wellness of employees on health insurance rates. Dr. Norton questioned whether Mr. Kersh should speak with only the Senate or a larger audience. Dr. Kirkconnell stated that he would like to videotape the presentation to the Senate and make it available on the network for everyone to watch it. After discussion, it was determined that the Insurance Committee was the most appropriate committee to meet with Mr. Kersh initially. President Smith stated that he would contact the Insurance Committee concerning this suggestion.

Concerning issues for discussion during the spring semester, President Smith stated that he would be inviting Dr. Christine Austin from College Student Personnel and Ms. Leslie Miller with the Student Government Association to a meeting for discussion of the proposed student honor code. Dr. Philpotts noted that the Senate would also need to prepare for the spring elected standing committees elections by electronic ballot.

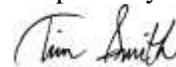
ANNOUNCEMENTS/
INFORMATION
ITEMS

President Smith stated that the next meeting of the Senate would be on February 8 at 3 p.m. The place will be announced at a later date.

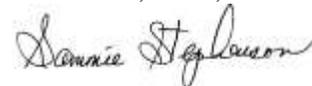
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tim Smith, D.M., President



Sammie Stephenson, Ed.D., Secretary