

Minutes of
THE FACULTY SENATE
OF
ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

The Faculty Senate met Tuesday, May 4, 2010, at 12:45 p.m. in the Williamson Hall Dining Room. The following members were present:

Dr. Jennifer Helms	Dr. David Eshelman
Dr. Glen Bishop	Dr. Larry Morell
Dr. Eric Lovely	Dr. Tom Limperis
Dr. Jim Walton	Mr. David Mudrinich
Dr. Linda Bean	Dr. V. Carole Smith
Dr. Alex Mirkovic	Dr. Cathy Baker
Dr. Penny Willmering	Mr. Ken Futterer
Dr. Jeff Robertson	

Dr. Annette Holeyfield and Dr. Gill Richards were absent.

CALL TO ORDER
APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

President Bishop called the meeting to order and asked for action on the minutes of the April meeting. Motion by Dr. Bean, seconded by Dr. Robertson, to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion carried.

Motion by Dr. Baker, seconded by Dr. Eshelman, to change the order of the agenda and allow Mr. Brian Lasey, Assistant Director of Physical Plant, to speak concerning campus recycling (New Business, Item A) first. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:
CAMPUS
RECYCLING

President Bishop asked Mr. Lasey for comments. Mr. Lasey reported that Physical Plant has limited resources available for campus recycling efforts and he hopes to be able to devote additional resources in the future, subject to both funding and availability of manpower. He also noted that the campus as a whole will need to embrace recycling efforts in order for the endeavor to ever be considered successful.

Currently, Mr. Lasey advised that Green Source Recycling from Clarksville recycles corrugated cardboard, newspapers, and cans and bottles. The Booneville Human Development Center recycles the white office paper. A 20 cubic yard dumpster resides behind the cafeteria, and Chartwells is the primary user of this dumpster. The dumpster averages a cost of \$750 per month to be emptied. Bins have also been placed in Dean Hall, Witherspoon, Pendergraft and the Young Building game room, all places where students can have access. Mr. Lasey, however, reported these bins are not widely used. The custodians collect as much of the cardboard as possible.

Dr. Lovely questioned whether the efforts can be expanded to include sporting events and the residence halls. Mr. Lasey responded that Athletics and Residence Life hire their own custodians and have not wanted to put resources into recycling.

Mr. Mudrinich questioned what to do with office paper. Mr. Lasey stated that it can be shredded, placed in bags, and put into the dumpster behind Chartwells; or the department can make arrangements for the Booneville group to come by and pick it up. For security purposes, he encouraged shredding everything first which has "Arkansas Tech University" or names and phone numbers, etc., included on it.

Mr. Lasey noted that both the Booneville Human Development Center group and Green Source would like to have a centralized area for pick up of materials; however, he stated this is a big challenge for Physical Plant as it is difficult for custodians to move large amounts of materials to another area of campus and still get their jobs done.

Mr. Mudrinich suggested having recycling as part of freshmen orientation. Mr. Lasey indicated that the university as a whole has not had a widespread educational effort regarding recycling.

Dr. Walton questioned whether grants are available to fund a position responsible for recycling efforts on the campus. Mr. Lasey responded that he did not know but assumed some potential funding might be available.

President Bishop thanked Mr. Lasey for his time. Mr. Lasey excused himself from the meeting.

At this time, the order of the agenda was resumed.

OLD BUSINESS:
SUBCOMMITTEE
REPORT ON
REVIEW OF
PROMOTION AND
TENURE POLICY

President Bishop distributed a revision to the evaluation, promotion and tenure policy in the *Faculty Handbook* proposed by the subcommittee. The material has been reorganized to assist the faculty member in locating information in the order in which they will most likely need it. The reorganized policy starts with the annual review process with both formative and summative assessment, moves to the third year review, and then proceeds to promotion and tenure procedures and policies. President Bishop acknowledged that the subcommittee was unable to finish their work in order to get the proposal to the Senate in a timely fashion and noted discussion could be held now or this item could be postponed until fall.

Dr. Bean advised that the highlighted material represents areas of either clarification of wording or places where material has been moved around. She emphasized that there were no policy changes within the document. Mr. Futterer questioned where wording clarification occurred; President Bishop noted some new language within the formative assessment area. Motion by Mr. Futterer, seconded by Dr. Lovely, to postpone discussion on this item until the fall. Motion carried.

At this time, Dr. Morell excused himself from the meeting.

SUBCOMMITTEE
REPORT ON
REVIEW OF
ELECTED
STANDING
COMMITTEE
MEMBERSHIPS

President Bishop recognized Dr. Lovely, who yielded to Mr. Futterer. Mr. Futterer reported that the subcommittee had decided to start with the Faculty Senate membership as the first piece in the review process of the elected standing committee memberships. He distributed two proposed amendments to the Constitution of the Faculty Senate and one proposed *Faculty Handbook* rewording should the amendments be approved.

Proposed amendments/revision:

Current Article II:

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF OFFICE

Section 2: Elective Membership - One Senator shall be elected by each of the Colleges of the University, except that a College having over twenty faculty members is eligible for one Senator for each twenty full-time faculty members or portion thereof. But a College entitled to multiple Senators may elect no more than one from each department.

Proposed amendment to Article II.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF OFFICE

Section 2: 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 rule.

Current Article V:

ARTICLE V: RATIFICATION AND AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

Section 1: Ratification - This Constitution and attached By-Laws shall be considered as ratified and in force upon their being approved by two-thirds of the elective and appointive members of the Senate, by a majority of those voting in a regular convened meeting of the faculty of the University, and by the Board of Trustees.

Section 2: Amendment - The Constitution or the By-Laws of the Senate may be amended in the following manner:

c. The proposed amendment shall be approved by a majority of those voting in the next regularly convened meeting of the faculty of the University.

Proposed amendment to Article V.

ARTICLE V: RATIFICATION AND AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

Section 1: Ratification - This Constitution and attached By-Laws shall be considered as ratified and in force upon their being approved by two-thirds of the elective and appointive members of the Senate, by a majority of those voting in a regular or special election of the faculty of the University, and by the Board of Trustees.

Section 2: Amendment - The Constitution or the By-Laws of the Senate may be amended in the following manner:

c. The proposed amendment shall be approved by a majority of those voting in the next regular or special election of the faculty of the University.

NOTE:

If the above amendments are successfully incorporated into the Constitution, the following portions of the faculty handbook should be changed:

Current statement: Faculty Senate (Committee on Committees)

Membership: Seventeen faculty members—five elected by the College of Arts and Humanities, one elected by the College of Business, two elected by the College of Education, four by the College of Natural and Health Sciences, three by the College of Applied Sciences, one appointed by the President of the University and one by the Vice President for Academic Affairs. For a full description of membership and terms of office, please refer to “The Constitution of the Faculty Senate” section of this document.

Proposed change: Faculty Senate (Committee on Committees)

Membership: Membership of the Faculty Senate will be established according to Article II, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Faculty Senate of Arkansas Tech University. That membership will be augmented by two additional Senators, one appointed by the President of the University and one by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Motion to approve the proposed amendments and revision by Dr. Lovely, seconded by Dr. Bean. Discussion included concern that a supernumerary voting block of five faculty would carry the same weight as the smallest college of 19 faculty. President Bishop noted that the Elective Membership section in Article II was actually Section 1, not Section 2, and questioned whether Section 1 of Article V needed to even be changed. He also asked if a “special election” referenced in the proposed amendment to Article V, Section 2, should be defined. Dr. Walton noted his agreement that amendment of Section 1 of Article V was unnecessary and made a motion to delete this section from the proposed amendment changes. Seconded by Mr. Futterer. Motion carried. Motion to amend the constitution and revise the appropriate section of the *Faculty Handbook* carried.

Motion by Mr. Futterer, seconded by Dr. Lovely, to post the proposed amendments in an online special election by the faculty at large. Motion carried. Motion by Dr. Bean, seconded by Dr. Eshelman, to set the dates of the election from the date posted by Dr. Robertson through Thursday, May 13, 2010. Motion carried. Dr. Robertson stated he would try to post the new election ballot within the next few days.

Dr. Eshelman excused himself from the meeting.

**HIRING
GUIDELINES**

President Bishop asked Dr. Lovely for comments. Dr. Lovely reminded the Senators of previously approved motions and recommendations concerning the hiring guidelines approved by the Senate this past December. He noted that the response of the administration this past month to those recommendations indicated that faculty are being sufficiently represented during the search process. Dr. Lovely reported that he had questioned several faculty concerning their role in the search committee process, with some reporting sufficient involvement and some reporting little involvement. He stated that, until he had some “real data” to review, he did not know how to proceed. He asked that the Senate form a subcommittee to research the issue and report in the fall. Dr. Smith noted a lack of transparency in the hiring process which she would like to see addressed.

Motion by Dr. Lovely, seconded by Dr. Willmering, to form the subcommittee to explore the hiring process and the faculty’s role in the process. Motion carried. After discussion, it was decided to wait until the first meeting in August to form the subcommittee.

**NEW BUSINESS:
COMPUTER
SERVICES**

Mr. Futterer noted that the calendar on OneTech is now functioning correctly. Motion by Mr. Futterer, seconded by Dr. Willmering, to commend Dr. Underwood and the IT staff for their attention to resolution of the calendar issue. Motion carried.

**COSMETIC
CURRICULUM
CHANGES**

President Bishop asked for any comments relating to the cosmetic curriculum change process on the Curriculum Committee website. Mr. Futterer noted that the site “looks good.” President Bishop stated his belief that this change in process would save the Curriculum Committee and Faculty Senate “a lot of reading” over the coming years.

STANDING
COMMITTEE
ELECTION
RESULTS

President Bishop asked to add to the agenda at this time review of the standing committee election results and the need to break a tie in an at-large position. There were no objections. Dr. Robertson noted that 121 faculty voted in the online election this April. President Bishop commended Dr. Robertson for his efforts on behalf of the Senate.

President Bishop read the election results and noted a tie on the Student Affairs Committee for an at-large position between Dr. Mark Peacock and Ms. Susan West. Motion by Mr. Futterer, seconded by Dr. Smith, to include breaking this tie in the special online election to be conducted on the constitutional amendments. Motion carried.

OPEN FORUM

Motion by Mr. Futterer, seconded by Dr. Mirkovic, to commend Mr. Moll and his staff for the excellent lunch and to thank Dr. Watson for sponsoring the lunch. Motion carried.

President Bishop asked for any additional items for discussion. Dr. Mirkovic reported on a recent reception held to honor faculty for given years of service: Dr. Richard Cohoon, 50; Mr. David Krueger, 50; Dr. Michael Link, 45; Dr. Randy Culp, 35; Dr. Georgena Duncan, 35; Dr. Michael Keisler, 35; Mr. Ken Futterer, 30; Ms. Karen Futterer, 30; Dr. Mary Ann Rollans, 30; Dr. Robert Allen, 30; Dr. Don Carnahan, 25; Mr. Ken Shores, 25; Dr. Theresa Herrick, 25; Dr. Annette Holeyfield, 25; Dr. Charles Gagen, 20; Dr. George Johnson, 20; Mr. William Parton, 20; Dr. Glenn Sheets, 20; Ms. Connie Zimmer, 20; and Mr. Steve Zimmer, 20. Motion by Dr. Mirkovic, seconded by Mr. Futterer, for the Faculty Senate to officially recognize this service to the institution. Motion carried.

Dr. Bean expressed her appreciation to President Bishop for his guidance and service this year as Senate chair.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/
INFORMATION
ITEMS

President Bishop reported that Dr. Watson has talked with the deans about setting committee meeting times for the Curriculum Committee and Faculty Senate. He stated Dr. Watson hopes to have these in place for spring, 2011, as the schedule for fall is set.

President Bishop thanked the Senators for their time and efforts in service to the university during this academic year.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Glen Bishop, Ph.D., President



Cathy Baker, Ph.D., Secretary