

Minutes of
THE FACULTY SENATE
OF
ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

The Faculty Senate met Tuesday, April 10, 2012, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 325 of the Ross Pendergraft Library and Technology Center. The following members were present:

Dr. Ernest Enchelmayer	Dr. Cathi McMahan
Dr. Dan Bullock	Dr. V. Carole Smith
Dr. Eric Lovely	Dr. Tom Limperis
Dr. Susan Underwood	Ms. Jamie Earls
Dr. Sean Huss	Dr. Johnette Moody
Dr. James Walton	Mr. Ken Futterer
Dr. David Eshelman	Ms. Annette Stuckey
Dr. Sherman Alexander	Dr. Jennifer Helms

Dr. Robin Lasey and Dr. Penny Willmering were absent.

CALL TO ORDER
APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

President Smith called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2012, meeting.

Motion by Dr. Moody, seconded by Ms. Earls, to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion carried.

President Smith announced that Mr. Thomas Pennington, scheduled to speak concerning the revision of the sexual harassment policy under New Business, would not be present today, having indicated the policy was not yet complete. She stated she would ask him to wait until fall to bring this item to the Senate.

OLD BUSINESS:
REPORT ON
RETIREMENT
FUNDS AND
CHARGE TO
COMMITTEE

President Smith asked Dr. Bullock for a report. Dr. Bullock noted he is waiting on findings from the Faculty Salary, Benefits, and Awards Committee.

REPORT ON
FACULTY HIRING
PRACTICES AND
THE FACULTY'S
ROLE

President Smith asked for a report. Dr. Huss stated he had sent the list of potential survey questions out by email and he distributed another copy at the meeting. Dr. Huss noted he is waiting for additional feedback from the Senators on the questions and will also check to see if the final survey questions will need to be submitted to the Human Subjects Committee. He stated it may be fall before the final survey is ready.

REPORT ON
ONLINE STUDENT
EVALUATIONS

President Smith asked for a report. As the subcommittee had not yet met, no report was given.

REPORT ON
MOTION ON
EVALUATION OF
ADMINISTRATORS

President Smith asked Mr. Futterer for a report. Mr. Futterer announced that the subcommittee had met and advocates going forward with a motion for evaluation of administrators but had some reservations about whether certain individuals should be included. Namely, he questioned whether the registrar or some of the vice presidents should be included or excluded. President Smith asked if the subcommittee had considered asking

other institutions in the state what their practice is regarding evaluation of administrators. Mr. Futterer stated they had not considered this but could do so.

Dr. Eshelman noted his concern for evaluating administrators outside of academics. Dr. Walton observed that much of the information concerning some of these individuals is based on hearsay from students. Dr. Enchelmayer suggested the survey be used for those areas to gather information about experiences with the offices (for instance, payroll, travel, the registrar, etc.), which would be an evaluation of services and not individuals. However, Dr. Helms noted that her department works very closely with the registrar and some in her department might appreciate the opportunity to evaluate the registrar. She suggested that the survey might be designed to allow the evaluator to “opt out” of a question if they did not feel qualified to make an evaluation. Mr. Futterer suggested using a similar evaluation instrument as is currently used for evaluation of the deans.

Dr. Walton questioned whether members of the staff would also be evaluating administrators. Mr. Futterer stated his committee did not consider this, but noted that the University of Central Arkansas has a Staff Senate similar to their Faculty Senate. Dr. Walton also expressed his apprehension for an electronic survey, stating his preference for a paper document.

Dr. Lovely questioned the practicality of going forth with the survey instrument if the administration is not going to support the idea or assist with its implementation. Mr. Futterer stated he would meet with Dr. Watson concerning this issue and report back.

NEW BUSINESS:
ADJUNCT SUPPORT
COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATIONS

President Smith asked for a report from Dr. Eshelman and noted the recommendations sent to the Senators as part of their agenda. Dr. Eshelman stated that the recommendations from the committee are a “list of ideas” to be reviewed by the appropriate individuals to see if implementation is possible. For example, he noted that Dr. Holeyfield is reviewing the request to allow adjuncts to use TechFit.

Motion to accept and support the recommendations by Dr. Eshelman, seconded by Mr. Futterer. Motion carried.

OPEN FORUM

President Smith asked for new items for discussion. Dr. Underwood gave an update on the online voting for the standing committee elections. As of now, 52 faculty had voted with Friday being the last day. She stated she would send two more reminders.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/
INFORMATION
ITEMS

President Smith asked for any announcements. Dr. Huss stated that the Behavioral Sciences Department was working with students on a Red Flag campaign. Additionally, he announced that Earth Day will be celebrated on campus on April 19 and 20 with several events scheduled, including a film, a march from the campus to the downtown depot area, and live music.

President Smith reported that the next meeting of the Senate will be on May 1, 2012 (Reading Day). A lunch will be held at noon in Baswell Techionary, room 202 with the meeting beginning at approximately 12:30 p.m..

Dr. Eshelman noted he will be finishing his term on the Senate this spring and asked that someone from the Senate consider taking his place on the Adjunct Support Committee.

Ms. Earls announced that a farewell recognition event will be held later this month for Mr. Ed Leachman’s retirement.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "V. Carole Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "V" at the beginning.

V. Carole Smith, Ph.D., President

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel W. Bullock". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "D" at the beginning.

Daniel W. Bullock, Ph.D., Secretary