

Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Meeting #427
December 10, 2014

I. Call to Order

Chair George Franks called to order the regular meeting of the Stephen F. Austin State University Faculty Senate at 2:30 p.m. on December 10, 2014 at the Baker Pattillo Student Center, Tiered Classroom, 2.201.

II. Attendees

Secretary Tammy Harris conducted attendance. The following individuals were present: Charlotte Allen, Norjuan Austin, Joey Bray, Leisha Bridwell, Leslie Cecil, Erica Chapman, Carlos Cuadra, George Franks, Dorothy Gotshall, Tammy Harris, Stacey Hendricks, Janice Hensarling, I-Kuai Hung, Karen Embry Jenlink, Robin Johnson, Stephen Kosovich, Matthew Kwiatkowski, David McKemy, Bradley Meyer, Mary Olle, Kefa Onchoke, Karen Price, Violet Rogers, J.D. Salas, Louise Stoehr, Steve Taaffe, Jay Thornton, Johanna Warwick. Excused: Kimberly Welsh.

III. Presentations

A. Dr. Pattillo: No presentation

B. Dr. Ric Berry: Presented an update on SAC's requirements from recent meeting in Nashville. The following items were discussed:

1. Core Requirements - Continued discussion from all schools on core requirements.
2. Comprehensive Standards – Involves institutional effectiveness which measures outcomes of our education programs. Funding is based on these measures and Dr. Berry feels that we are continuing to improve on collecting data that is reflective of the great job that is done at SFA.
3. Federal Requirements – Involves assessment, our 5th year report will be due March 2017.
4. Dr. Berry has also been approached by individuals who have suggested course evaluations be left open longer as many students are not getting them completed. Discussion ensued by Senators. Senators did not want evaluations open longer as grades will be posted during this time and evaluations should be complete prior to grade posting. It was suggested that evaluations be opened a week

earlier to give students adequate time prior to finals to complete evaluations.

5. Work load for clinical hours – No answer yet but will be uploaded soon.
6. Senator Taaffe asked why some faculty salaries were in line and others were lower. Dr. Berry explained that this was a multi-faceted issued. Faculty salaries are based on allocation of funds at the college level, what the nonacademic market can bear and historical salary levels. Challenges for SFA is enrollment numbers and the number of graduate programs as these are measures tied to formula funding and would therefore increase money available for increasing salaries.

C. Dr. Mary Nelle Brunson: No presentation

D. Dr. Dana Cooper: Open Educational Resources Dr. Cooper introduced and encouraged the use of open education resources. These are online and free sources of information such as online textbooks. Use of these will help keep costs down for students. Several options mentioned were Open Stacks & Lumen Learning. She encouraged professors to contact her and she would assist in finding resources available

IV. Officer Reports:

Chair Franks: Distribution of Peer Comparison Project: Will address this issue later in the meeting

Chair-Elect: No report.

Secretary Harris: Harris reminded senators to sign attendance sheet.

Treasurer: Bray reported the balance of \$4,258.65 with no expenditures over the last month.

V. Approval of Minutes

Chair Franks requested approval of minutes from Meeting #426. Senator Bray moved that the minutes from meeting #426 be approved and was seconded by Senator Hensarling; the motion carried.

VI. Committee Reports

A. External (University) Committees

1. Academic Affairs: No report.
2. Core Curriculum Assessment: No report.
3. Distance Education: Committee continues to work on intellectual property policies with a goal of implementation for the next academic year. Survey will be sent out to faculty for input.

4. Graduate Council: No report.
5. Policy: Post tenure review policy continues to be reviewed with possible policy ready for review after the 1st of the year.

B. Internal (FS) Committees

1. Academic Affairs: Senator Stoehr reported committee met and will be reviewing issue of release time and its relationship to FAR expectations.
2. Administration & Finance: No Report.
3. Communications: No Report.
4. Elections: Senator Olle and her committee will be working on policies related to elections.
5. Ethics: No report.
6. Faculty Government & Involvement: No report.
7. Professional Welfare: Senator Salas reported that the committee will work on Adjunct Teaching Excellence Awards.

VII. Old Business

Peer Comparison Project: Chair Franks discussed the planned use of the data from the peer comparison project. Presentation to Board of Regents would include request for 2% merit raise increase, 2% cost of living raise, and 3% request to fix disparities among salaries. There has been some individual use of the data by faculty which has been presented to specific colleges and deans. Chair Franks warned against individual presentations by faculty as opposed to a joint voice from the faculty senate. Chair Franks stated that data should be used for the faculty at large instead of just fixing one college. When a cheaper fix is presented, administration may choose to go with that instead of addressing the issue across the board. Discussion ensued regarding the data being public record and faculty's ability to use the data to support what is best for their college. Again Chair Franks warned against this and reported that there would be a re-evaluation of the presentation prior to meeting with Dean's, Administration and Board of Regents. Chair-Elect Embry-Jenlink reported that this would be multi-year and multi-faceted issue that would take time to address.

VIII. New Business

- A. Resolution Regarding Alcohol & SFA Advertising:** Chair-Elect Embry-Jenlink proposed a resolution against joining SFA's name & logo with alcoholic beverage advertising. Discussion regarding faculty senate's role in policing tobacco and alcohol usage among students ensued. Support for this resolution was not positive and the resolution was withdrawn.

IX. Adjournment

Senator Austin moved that the meeting be adjourned at 4:15 p.m. Senator Rogers seconded, motion carried.

