

Stephen F. Austin State University Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Meeting #381 December 09, 2009

Subject to approval at the 382nd meeting.

Senators present: Kim Archer(1); Brian Beavers(3); Kathleen Belanger(4); Vikki Boatman(6); Parliamentarian, Linda Bobo(7); Dennis Bradford(8); Susan Clarke(10); Chair-Elect, Ken Collier(11); Secretary, Carolyn Conn(12); Randi Cox(13); Mitch Crocker(14); Christina Guenther(16); David Howard(17), Treasurer, Keith Hubbard(18), Mikhail Kouliavtsev(19), Chair, Kevin Langford(20); Cynthia McCarley(21); Emmerentie Oliphant(22); Ken Untiedt(26).

Excused/Sent Representative: Carl Pfaffenberg(23) (sent representative Carol Bradley)

Not present: Neil Armstrong(2); Sara Bishop (5); Erin Brown(9); Dianne Dentice(15); Daniel Scognamillo(24)

Agenda

I. Call to order. Chair Langford called the meeting to order at 2:33 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes from Meeting #380. Boatman moved to approve the minutes of Meeting #380. Kouliavtsev seconded the motion and the motion carried.

III. Dr. Berry and Dr. Brunson:

- Report on SACS meeting in Atlanta. Reaffirmation that we are “on the right track.” Received some helpful pointers for continued success. Intent is to improve student learning.
- QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan) input is highly encouraged by Dr. Brunson!

IV. Chair Langford:

- Memoriam for Lee Stewart
 - Senate observed a standing moment of silence in respect of the loss of Lee Stewart
 - Chair Langford opened floor for memoriam suggestions
 - Senator Belanger suggests recognition on Faculty Senate website
 - Senator Clarke suggests purchase of books for library
 - Dr. Berry suggests scholarship but Senator Collier asks about Senate’s ability to raise those funds – could see if we could assist College of Education with this idea
 - Senators from Education are asked to check with Dean Mel Finkenberg about the possibility of our assisting with a scholarship

V. Officers’ reports:

A. Chair:

- Chair Langford wants to look into tuition assistance programs. Would like to review and compare to other Universities. Would like to take closer look at Lamar University to see if we can compete.

B. Chair Elect: No report.

- C. Treasurer: \$4,353 in account. No expenses
- D. Secretary: no report

VI. Committees Report:

- A. Academic Affairs Committee – Chair-Erin Brown, Kim Archer, Dianne Dentice, Cynthia McCarley, Daniel Scognamillo.
No report.
- B. Administration and Finance – Mikhail Kouliavtsev, Carl Pfaffenberg, Randi Cox.
Open floor to discussion about how to increase raises for promotions. Current is \$3000 for Associate and \$5000 for Full Professor. Discussion around how we might affect an increase to \$5000/\$7500. Keith Hubbard suggests we consider monies that are “lost” when retiring Full Professors are replaced with Assistant Professors. Dr. Berry confirms that summer school is partially funded by this “salary savings.” General feelings are that there is little that we can affect and some feel that we should leave the subject untouched at this time.
- C. Faculty Government and Involvement – Chair-David Howard, Mitch Crocker, Keith Hubbard, Neil Armstrong.

Committee put forth a resolution regarding Student Recruitment and Retention. Resolution was sent earlier via e-mail and distributed in hard copy at meeting. Resolution is set forth as motion by the committee and was seconded by Christina Guenther. Discussion followed.

Voted on to approve resolution with suggested minor editing. With that agreed, resolution has passed unanimously.
- D. Communication Committee– Chair – Kathleen Belanger, Brian Beavers, Emmerentie Oliphant, Susan Clarke, Christina Guenther.

Updated perks on Faculty Senate website.
Faculty can eat in cafeteria for \$5 but we are not authorized to publish this on our website.
Please send recommendations about website links to committee.
Also still working on text book issues/concerns.
- E. Professional Welfare Committee – Chair- Sara Bishop, Ken Untiedt, Linda Bobo, Dennis Bradford.
Please send feedback to committee about the attachment to last month’s minutes entitled “Flow Chart Professional Welfare Committee Project.” This has several ideas and suggestions on what to include on our Faculty Recruitment webpage.
- F. Elections– Chair- Vikki Boatman- other members of faculty senate as needed.
No report.

VII. Old Business:

Library Survey closes today
Quiet zones will be implemented in Spring

VIII. New Business

- Grade submission on Tuesday rather than Wednesday
Calendar committee will be informed that this should be reported to faculty sooner so that syllabi may be adjusted
- Ken Untiedt brings up concerns about how early small courses are cancelled.
- Sick Leave/Personal Leave Policy – Ms. Belanger brings a concern from her department regarding this policy. Dr. Berry clarified that there has been an adjustment in the policy to allow personal and/or sick leave but it must be taken in half day increments. General feeling is that working within your department with your Chair will be sufficient always keeping in mind fairness and understanding that not logging sick/personal time lost with your Chair is considered fraud.
- Smoke-free campus – continue to consider how this may be supported by other groups on campus.

IX. Chair Langford adjourned the meeting at 4:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Conn
Secretary