

Stephen F. Austin State University Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Meeting #382 February 10, 2010

Subject to approval at the 383rd meeting.

Senators present: Kim Archer(1); Neil Armstrong(2); 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); Dianne Dentice(15); Christina Guenther(16); David Howard(17), Treasurer, Keith Hubbard(18), Mikhail Kouliavtsev(19), Cynthia McCarley(21); Emmerentie Oliphant(22); Carl Pfaffenberg(23); Daniel Scognamillo(24); Ken Untiedt(26).

Excused/Sent Representative:

Sara Bishop (5); Chair, Kevin Langford(20)

Not present:

Erin Brown(9)

Agenda

I. Call to order. Chair-Elect Collier called the meeting to order at 2:33 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes from Meeting #381. Boatman moved to approve the minutes of Meeting #381. Untiedt seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Announcements from Dr. Berry:

- Congratulations on record high enrollment!
- Discussion on cutting budget of 5%. Setting fees on February 25th will give more insight on our specific situation. Currently looking at conserving energy costs and other spending. Review needs of re-filling vacant positions etc... Broad University consultation will be sought before any plans are solidified.
- Question abt. eliminating low producing programs. Dr. Berry does not feel that this would be a savings in cost but this will be looked at for other reasons as well.
- Sen. Belanger asks how "painful" as in losing jobs that the cuts may be. Dr. Berry answers that that is definitely not expected to take place. What will happen with merit raises? Dr. Berry says this will be tied to tuition increases and can be subject to reduction. Will protect promotion stipends and other prior commitments.
- Sen. Untiedt brings up reductions on photocopies. Suggest .pdf of syllabi and extra readings for courses. Dr. Berry recognizes this as great idea. A mandate on this should be initiated from the Senate. Discussion continues.

III. Officers' reports:

A. Chair: Out of town. Not present for report.

B. Chair Elect:

- Deadline for Faculty Senate Conference is February 12th. Anyone interested in attending notify Chair-Elect Collier immediately.
 - Strong emphasis on more online education from Regent's Meeting. Faculty should weigh in on what this should be. Discussion continues. Sen. Belanger suggests using OIT to assist Senate in writing a resolution regarding online courses and the number of students that should be handled in each course.
- C. Treasurer: \$4,353 in account. No new expenditures.
- D. Secretary: no report

IV. 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.
- Can senate address situation of students being dropped from classes due to non-payment? Is there a way that when they are waiting for financial aid to be processed can get a waiver until financial aid is cleared? This generates a lot of problems. Discussion continues. Dr. Berry brings up that these students are supplied with information that those awaiting financial aid need only make a small payment in order to avoid being dropped from classes.
- Suggested that this committee seeks specific information regarding this situation and determine whether clarity needs to be added to this information. Possibly adding “clickable” links to the e-mail for the emergency loan website or the registrar’s website where they can make an electronic payment.
- C. Faculty Government and Involvement – Chair-David Howard, Mitch Crocker, Keith Hubbard, Neil Armstrong.
Corrected verbiage issues on resolution and it has been submitted
- D. Communication Committee– Chair – Kathleen Belanger, Brian Beavers, Emmerentie Oliphant, Susan Clarke, Christina Guenther.
Bookstores are having difficulty getting information from campus bookstore. Need info from faculty by finals week especially regarding new edition and/or new books being used.
- Send any issues to Sen. Brian Beavers so that they may be addressed.
- Any comments on the faculty perks page should be directed to Sen. Susan Clarke
- Looking at generating a faculty survey or “suggestion box”
- E. Professional Welfare Committee – Chair- Sara Bishop, Ken Untiedt, Linda Bobo, Dennis Bradford.
No report
- F. Elections– Chair- Vikki Boatman- other members of faculty senate as needed.

Committee will solicit nominees in March. 10 members rotating off. Dr. Boatman is rotating off and needs a volunteer Senator to help with heading this process.

V. Old Business:

Smoke Free Campus –

- Suggestion to provide “designated smoking areas” rather than going full smoke free campus. SGA will be meeting on this issue and providing feedback.
- Only 3 meetings remaining. Suggest that you present any need for upcoming resolutions by March meeting in order to get work completed by May.

VI. New Business

- Nominations need to be brought forth for nominating committee beginning by the March meeting.

VII. Chair-Elect Collier adjourned the meeting at 3:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Conn
Secretary