Faculty Senate Approved Minutes

October 10, 2011

SU 313 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

**Present:** Deb Brown, Mary Carrabba, Dave Carter, Prakash Chenjeri, Kate Cleland-Sipfle, Sherry Ettlich, Fredna Grimland, Michael Naumes, Garth Pittman, Kay Sagmiller, Donna Mills, Dennis Slattery, Robin Strangeld, Jamie Vener, Jody Waters, Cynthia White, Elizabeth Whitman, Dan Wilson, Wilkins-O’Riley Zinn.

**Absent:** Todd Carney, Steve Jessup, Ellen Siem, Dan Wilson.

**Visitors:** Ed Battistella, Rich May, Jim Klein, Jonathan Eldridge, Susan Walsh, Charles Lane, Dan Harvey (*in place of Dan Wilson*), Katherine Gohring.

**Waters called the meeting to order at 4:03.**

**Agenda:**

**1. Approval of minutes from September 26, 2011:**

There were two minor amendments to the minutes. Sue Walsh clarified that in second paragraph, number three, the Capacity report will not be discussed at the upcoming Chairs’ Retreat. She will send corrections for final minutes. Waters clarified that HEC classes begin at 6:00, not at 5:30 as reported in the minutes.

* Carter moved that minutes from September 26, 2011, be approved with amendments. Whitman seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed and Slattery abstaining.

**2. Announcements:**

* **Pittman:** The Committee on Committees still needs two members. This important committee meets two or three times each year. If interested, contact Pittman or Strangfeld for more information.
* **Chenjeri:** Chenjeri announced that he worked with Mary Jane Cedar-Face and Emily Francisco to apply for a grant from the International Society for Science and Religion. The ISSR peer reviewed over 2000 books and selected 220 titles which will be rebound and awarded to institutions around the world. SOU’s application was accepted in September, and the books have arrived and are being cataloged now.
* **Chenjeri:** Chenjeri also announced that this week, the kick-off events for the Campus Theme begin when Judge John Jones presents two lectures: one on Thursday, October 13, at 7:00pm and the second on Friday, October 14, at 4:00p.m.
* **Ettlich:** Ettlich extended thanks to all who participated in the faculty meeting last Friday. One development from Friday’s meeting was that the departmental expectations could develop into the tables in the proposal. She encouraged chairs to discuss the proposal with their faculty. She also requested that willing Senators stay after today’s meeting to discuss this further.

**Discussion:** Waters also expressed how important it will be to have the proposal discussed at the departmental level. This will be on the agenda for the next Chairs’ Meeting on Wednesday.

* **Waters:**  PEBB representatives will be on campus on Tuesday, October 11, from 1:00-3:00 in the SU Arena. Faculty and staff are encouraged to attend and ask questions, as it may be the only opportunity to do so.

**Discussion:** Ettlich pointed out that notes from the meeting held on the OSU campus can be found online. Waters can provide the link to this information to anyone who is interested.

* **Sagmiller:** Sagmiller reported that the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA) is underway, and she highlighted several lessons learned through our participation. The early registration incentive for participating students was effective. Our numbers are impressive, especially when compared to peer institutions.

**3. Comments from President Cullinan:**

President Cullinan was absent from the meeting.

**4. Comments from Provost Klein:**

* Klein referenced a current book, *Academically Adrift*, which reports that students are not demonstrating significant improvement in critical thinking, among other skills. As a follow up to Sagmiller’s report on SOU’s performance on the CLA, Klein notes that SOU students perform higher than the national averages reported in this book.
* Enrollment is up 4.2% in headcount, up 3% in FTE. Students appear to be carrying a lighter credit load than in previous years.
* SOU has joined the Educational Advisory Board’s University Leadership Council, which is a “best practices” research group in Washington D.C. Membership gives us unlimited access to research, reports (including explanation of the reports), and one yearly campus visit. This group will conduct research and analyze data we collect.
* There will be a Budget Report at the next Senate meeting.
* A steering committee will be formed to coordinate efforts for our capacity study and will include representation from Faculty Senate and APSOU.
* Budget Committee still needs a Senate representative, and that person must be a current Senator.

**5. AC Report:**

Waters explained that most of the Advisory Council meeting focused on the document sent out by faculty in preparation for Friday’s faculty meeting. The AC determined that the all-faculty meeting was the most effective forum for this discussion.

**6. Student Senate Report--Hassan Harris:**

* Harris reports that ASSOU has created an on-line survey and has been surveying students (250 already). This survey is available online at the ASSOU website, and he encourages faculty to take it as well.
* ASSOU has identified four areas of concern: Academics, ASSOU, Student Life, and Institutional/Infrastructure.
* ASSOU members will be meeting with key members of SOU administration (Jennifer Fountain, Provost Klein, Jon Eldridge, and Craig Morris)to discuss these issues.
* Tech-Share program: ASSOU would like feedback from faculty.

**Discussion:** Waters notes that we still need a Senate representative to attend ASSOU. Slattery encourages faculty to participate and has found it rewarding himself.

**7. Information Items: IFS Report - Kay Sagmiller**

* Sagmiller is SOU’s representative on OUS learning outcomes and assessment and presented to IFS; Waters can provide Powerpoint slides to those who request them**.**
* Sagmiller reported that OIT may have to go through retrenchment, so they were interested in hearing about SOU’s experiences. U of O faculty members anticipate leaving OUS system. Their high number of out-of-state and International students results in a more stable financial situation.
* IFS Website is being reconsidered. They are questioning what information should be included and what the main purpose of the website should be.
* PEBB—Sagmiller outlined three main concerns with the insurance changes: 1.Re-enrollment process is designed as a cost-saving process; 2. HEM requires each member watch two videos and self report waistline sizes; 3. For this biennium, these changes are non-negotiable but will be revisited in 2013. IFS is communicating their concerns to the chancellor and the board.

**Discussion:**

* Waters questioned the legality of these changes and wondered if some of the privacy issues violate basic human rights. Sagmiller pointed out that it is not clear where the “penalty” dollars go. Ettlich questioned the legality of the new model and wondered if it might meet the requirements for a class-action lawsuit. Gohring noted that she has heard talk from faculty who have consuted with ACLU representatives. Sagmiller noted that PEBB claims to have checked on legal issues with the Attorney General and have found no violations. Waters said that the campus should discuss this at greater length. Sagmiller agreed that all campuses will need to discuss this further. Waters urged faculty to attend PEBB meeting tomorrow.
* Klein noted that if SOU were to be free from the state, we could negotiate our own health care plan.
* Lane has been following email traffic on this topic, and he explained that the IFS is interested in this. This will be discussed at a November 4 meeting in Eugene of OUS Faculty Senate chairs.
* Waters explained that Lane and Seim’s terms on IFC will expire soon, and we will need two representatives from SOU. Lane has been nominated for the position of IFS Vice President, and he is willing to continue his service.
* Location of IFS meetings was discussed. During legislative years, most meetings take place in Portland. In off years, meetings rotate through different campuses.
* Waters expressed her appreciation to Lane for his willingness to serve in this new role.

**8. Discussion Items: Academic Policies Committee – Curtis Feist**

* Feist reported that Matt Stillman could not attend the meeting as planned. Discussion ensued about proposed catalog changes. Questions about changes can be sent to Feist. Stillman will explain these changes at the next meeting. The issue was tabled until Stillman can report to the Senate and answer questions.

**9. Action Items:**

There were no Action Items.

**10. Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52p.m.