Faculty Senate Minutes

November 26, 2012

SU 313 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

**Present:** Deborah Brown, Dave Carter, Prakash Chenjeri, Kate Cleland-Sipfle, Sherry Ettlich, Doug Gentry, Fredna Grimland, Mary Russell-Miller, Kevin Sahr (for Dan Harvey), Ellen Siem, Gerry McCain, Narcisa Pricope (for Steve Jessup), John King, Byron Marlowe, Rich May, Kasey Mohammad, John Richards, Larry Shrewsbury, Tracy Templeton (for Robin Strangfeld), Jamie Vener, Jody Waters.

**Absent:** Amy Belcastro, Todd Carney.

**Visitors:** Craig Morris, Erika Leppman, Provost Klein, President Cullinan, Sue Walsh, Robert Ellis Cochran, Craig Morris, Vicki Purslow, Steve Schein, Kyle Ragsdale, Charles Lane.

**Agenda:**

The meeting was called to order at 4:04.

**Approval of minutes from November 12**

Sahr had one correction to the notes. The EMDA course is a requirement for the Bachelor of Science, not for University Studies.

Richards motioned to approve the minutes with that one correction. Ettlich seconded the motion, which passed with no abstentions.

**Announcements**:

Grimland announced that at 3:00 on Sunday, the concert choir and the chamber choir will perform.

**Comments from President Cullinan**:

The Chancellor will visit SOU this week, along with three OUS board members. They will meet with faculty from 3:00 to 4:00 on Wednesday, November 28, in the Meese Auditorium. Advisory Council will meet with them at 1:30. This will be the first visit to campus for some board members.

The Distinguished Lecture Series continues in winter quarter with Dr. Greg Jones and in spring quarter with Geoff Mills.

**Comments from Provost Klein**:

Provost Klein announced that the Provost's office has returned to Churchill Hall following renovations.

**ASSOU Report**:

Last week, ASSOU voted on the constitution. Polls will open for students to vote on the constitution for one week. Oregon Student Association registered over 50,000 students in Oregon this year, 1,000 at SOU alone.

Discussion:

Grimland enjoyed attending the meeting, and the crowd was enthusiastic and excited. She was encouraged by the level of engagement she observed in the students. Shrewsbury also attended the student meeting.

**Advisory Council Report** **– John King:**

King reported that AC talked about four major items:

1. Students serving on faculty committees
2. Evaluations of library faculty who aren’t teaching CRN-based courses.
3. Process by which campus will be able to weigh in on House models. The Change Committee will evaluate proposals, but a Survey Monkey will launch today. Carter explains that there are four questions that faculty, staff, and students will be encouraged to answer.
4. Prioritization process template. The teams are constructing the template, but AC talked about vetting that a bit before it goes out through departments. It will come to Senate before going out to the general population.

**Discussion:**

Gentry asked about possibility that templates might be done earlier in the Winter break so there might be a possibility over the break to look at the templates. January 7 would be the latest.

**Information Items:**

**Digital Media Center – Erik Palmer**:

* Palmer reports that the RVTV and others are being reorganized into the larger umbrella of the Digital Media Center. This move will better serve our students and be a better candidate for external funding. In the future, potential exists for an SOU “channel” to deliver content. Enhancing use of social media will improve and increase our visibility online locally, regionally, and even nationally. Reopening will occur in the fourth week of January and will include open houses, showing off of new technologies.

**Discussion:**

* Ettlich thought that all components are visual, but social media doesn’t fit nicely there. How should we think about it? Palmer explained that his job is to make this a more profitable enterprise for the university. Cable and video will continue, but the “action” is in the digital world.
* Gentry asked about potential projects Public/private Ashland Home Network with Jim Teece. Palmer confirmed that they already do work with Teece, and as prioritization continues, they will look for projects to better serve students.
* Grimland wondered about potential airing of concerts and even instruction. Palmer says this is already happening, especially with student work. He is eager to expand these types of showings.
* Walsh notes that requests for coverage through RVTV go through CAS and Alyssa Arp’s office.
* Waters credits Palmer with hard work and lots of innovative programs. Palmer reiterates that he’d like folks to attend the open house in January.

**Sustainability Center – Steve Schein**

* Schein explained plans for the SOU student farm and sustainability program. He founded the certificate program in sustainability. This past spring, students competed in the Oregon Challenge. Two teams successfully competed and began the SOU Student Farm. This fall, Vince Smith joined the program and brought a background in Sustainable Agriculture. He is now chair of sustainability subcommittee. The proposal went to UPB, and Smith has met with Craig Morris. The farm is located on South Walker, adjacent to the Science Museum. Although this is in the early stages, it can potentially provide outdoor learning space in future. Meetings will take place in the coming months to discuss this. It is intended to be self-supporting. Start up costs may rely on green tax from students. Schein foresees producing food for resale and running PSA featuring students and faculty. Schein credits Smith and other students for hard work and commitment.

**Discussion**:

* Waters mentioned that UPB heard from Smith and Shibley and voted to endorse the plan. It is forward thinking and exciting.
* Cleland-Sipfle wants to know if this will be limited to plants—Schein says no plans to expand exist at the moment. Gentry knows of several grant opportunities with quickly approaching deadlines.

**Charles Lane (IFS):**

* Lane reported on the latest IFS meeting. Bob Mason (Chair of Biology at OSU) is now Chair and presided over the meeting. Conversation centered around the purpose of IFS and if it should continue to exist. It appears that PSU and U of O will have independent boards. It was a short discussion, but the consensus was that yes, it should still exist. Many discussions still remain on OEIB items, including credit for prior learning, etc. In the context of 40/40/20, the question is disturbing. Discussion did not center around the quality of the product we are providing. Larger issues of PEBB and PERS will be discussed in the future.
* IFS will return to their former practice of meeting on various campuses. IFS will meet at SOU on September 27-8 next year. This will occur prior to the October meeting and will focus on prepping the Mason for the upcoming board meeting. Will invite local elected officials.
* PEBB is an issue on some campuses, especially OSU, with faculty working or studying abroad. Coverage is not equal to what Blue Cross used to be.   
  OARs and definitions of faculty rank were discussed. Ettlich doesn’t know anything new. Melody Rose attended second half of the meeting. One more public hearing will be held in Salem in December. OEIB is heading to Senate. (Steerers and Rowers). OEIB wants to steer. Faculty are the rowers.
* HECC will carry forward Western Governr’s University as a new public institution. This could impact student financial dollars if it passes, and it looks like it will. Next meeting OSU January and Western in March.

**Discussion:**

* King wants clarification. IFS is advisory? To whom? Lane explains that the state board has been exclusively in Portland and meets with the Chancellor. Lane has met 30-40 minutes with Chancellor directly. Discussed how to influence OEIB and HECC, but the conversation continues.
* Ettlich wonders who is influencing the OEIB. Lane feels that the governor works on what his passions/interests are, which is why we see K-12 getting more funding than higher education.
* Belcastro asks about lack of representation on board (nobody south of Eugene or east of I-5 on the board.

**Student Seats on Senate Committees – Jody Waters**:

* Waters explained that some changes to bylaws last spring occurred, but student involvement on committees was not part of the changes. Questions have arisen about the nature of student involvement. Waters commends the ASSOU for populating student position on Senate committees. Please speak to colleagues to make sure we are following the bylaws where student participation is concerned.
* Ettlich notes that the only exception to students on committees is the Faculty Personnel Committee. On Academic Standards and Financial Aid Committees, student representatives cannot be “clientele.” They must be in good standing with that body in order to serve and participate.
* Faculty Development Committee is concerned about students participating in this evaluative role in dispersing funds without preparation and if they work with faculty. Leppman wonders if students should be involved in dispersing funds not associated with fees. Waters notes a potential confidentiality statement that members would sign. Could we word each differently to fit the particular committee? How could we train and prepare students for particular committee assignments? Perhaps we could enhance skills and allow them to contribute more effectively.
* Leppman explained that many members of the Faculty Development Committee were unaware that students could/would be sitting on the committee.
* Ellis mentioned that Waters’ suggestions should be considered: can the student serve the position with integrity, without compromising confidentiality? Ellis calls for committee members to remember that ASSOU student representatives have been entrusted with these duties and want to fulfill them.
* Ragsdale wants to encourage a confidentiality clause and potential training. If there is a violation, what happens? OARs must be reviewed.
* Gentry wonders if there is extra concern about student confidentiality. The whole committee should be subject to the same clauses, not just students.
* Ettlich reiterated the value of having students on committees, but the position must be taken seriously by all parties.
* Ragsdale explained that Ellis will be the point of contact for students participating on committees. Report to Ellis or Josh if there are any problems with student attendance or performance on committees.

**Discussion Items:**

None

**Action Items:**

**Emerging Media and Digital Arts Major – Curriculum Committee/eMDA**:

Ettlich motioned to approve the proposal from the Curriculum Committee. Carter seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor and no abstentions.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:27.