**Faculty Senate Minutes**

**May 19, 2014**

**SU 313 4:04 - 5:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Jackie Apodaca, Deborah Brown, Todd Carney, Dave Carter, Kate Cleland-Sipfle, Carol Ferguson, Dennis Jablonski (for John King), Byron Marlowe, Richard May, Pete Nordquist, Garth Pittman, Vicki Purslow, John Richards, Mary Russell-Miller, Kevin Sahr, Larry Shrewsbury, Robin Strangfeld, Jamie Vener, Elizabeth Whitman, and Erin Wilder.

**Absent:**, Amy Belcastro (Sab.), Gregg Gassman (for Amy Belcastro), John King (Sab.), Steve Jessup, Curtis Feist, Kasey Mohammad

**Visitors:** Mary Cullinan, James Klein, Dotty Ormes, Sherry Ettlich, Sue Walsh,

Lisa Garcia-Hanson, Brian Fedorek, Jamie Ross, Brian Stonelake, Lee Ayers, Teresa Ristow, Steve Thorpe, Matt Sayre

**Agenda**

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m.

**ASSOU:**

* It would be great if you could give a plug in your class about voting in the Student Body Positions in ASSOU.

**HEC Report:**

* Handout was passed out “HECC Table of Action Items”
* The second most pressing concern for students is textbook cost. There were seven recommendations that came forward. They want this to be faculty driven.

**Campus Theme for 2014-2015:**

* Morris gave a summary of what was done this year.
* Campus Themes was started 5 years ago.
* This year’s theme is “Revolution”
* This will be an action item on the next meeting.

**Comments from President Cullinan:**

* Retirement and recognition event is tomorrow.
* Bob Davies and Mary Cullinan, working with the Board, now have the Conditions document done. On Friday the Board voted to support the conditions (with minor punctuation changes).
* The main pieces are financial; the other piece is focused on mission.
* There will be three review points in time: June 30, 2015; December 31, 2015 would be a review; and third and final review will be December 31, 2017. Cullinan wanted to have it further out than this, but the Governor wants to be in on all of this before he’s out of office.
* The emphasis is on a trend, rather than reaching a particular number.
* Sahr mentioned that Cullinan had made several comments in the press that she felt the results of the Vote of Confidence were due to sore feelings and bargaining, and he wondered if that was correct. Cullinan explained that she said she felt it was a whole confluence of things that had come together that caused tremendous uncertainties and unhappiness across campus, and bargaining was just one of them. This was an unprecedented year for uncertainty and unhappiness.
* Carter will forward the email from President Cullinan so that we will have a copy of the Conditions.

**University Studies Material:**

* University Studies will be submitting their end of the year report. They spent a lot of time this year just figuring out just where we’re going with University Studies and what was going to happen with Houses.
* There were only two courses this year that came to University Studies for approval. We expect to see more than this next year now that people feel more secure that University Studies will not be changing.

Cleland-Siple moved to wave the two-week rule in order to vote on approving the courses for University Studies. A second was made by Sahr. The motion passed with all in favor, none apposed, and no abstentions.

Nordquist moved to approve the courses for University Studies. A second was made by Sahr. The motion passed with all in favor, none apposed, and no abstentions.

**Academic Policies Material:**

The Academic Policies Committee has anonymously approved these policies and are bringing them to Senate for approval.

Missed Class Policy:

* Purslow expressed concern on Principle #10 that a student athlete is allowed to miss 15% of the classes when any other student does that in her class their grade drops a full letter, regardless of the reason. The argument against that concern is these student athletes are recruited to participate in these SOU sanctioned events. In the “Procedures” section it clarifies it’s the student’s responsibility to review the syllabus and note potential conflicts and bring them to the attention of their professor and request reasonable accommodations. The “Procedures” section clarifies how the faculty work with this Missed Class Policy for athletes.
* The principle behind this was that the coaches wouldn’t violate this as well as the student athletes to identify the conflicts in the syllabus.
* There currently is no policy on this right now and this policy was created to give faculty “a little more teeth” and puts more of the responsibility on the student athlete.
* This policy was adapted from NAIA Conference recommendations as well as looking at comparative universities that have these student athlete policies.
* Ettlich liked that this policy gives more protection to the student athlete from “getting stuck in the middle” between the coach and the faculty.
* Note Procedure 6 that says no faculty member is obligated to excuse a student athlete of excessive absences, and Procedure 7 suggests that the professor should advise the student athlete to take the class in a different term if there are too many conflicts.

Awarding Degrees with Financial Holds:

* We currently have a policy that we do not award the degree until the hold is removed. Though this is an incentive to get the student to pay down their balance at SOU, there are several drawbacks to this policy, which were listed in the document.
* The recommended change is to award the degree at time of completion, but their diploma and official transcripts won’t be released until the hold is removed. This will avoid all of the drawbacks listed in the document.

Incomplete Grade(s) at Time of Graduation

* The goal here, collectively, is to accurately record when a student has done all of their degree work requirements.
* To accurately record when the student completed all of their degree requirements, their degree should be conferred in the term the grade change was processed. This is to ensure a fair practice for all students when claiming their degree as of a particular date.

Degree Conferral Term:

* Think of this one and the previous two as working collectively.
* So the degree is not conferred after the last class is done; it’s conferred when all the coursework is done.
* Official transcripts from another institution that are needed for their SOU degree must be submitted within 60 days following their final term. Transcripts received after 60 days will move the conferral term and date to the term in which the transcript is received.

Maximum number of Majors and Minors:

* Currently there is no restriction on number of majors and minors a student may request at the time of degree awarding.
* Banner does not support more than two of each.
* We’re not preventing a person from getting a third major, it’s just that now they will need to pay for it in a post baccalaureate way.
* This is in alignment with the other OUS institutions.

Minimum Grade for BA and BS requirements:

* Anything below a C- does not show proficiency.
* This does not apply to the additional 48 credits that they need in each section, just the foreign language courses (BA) and the mathematics/designated courses (BS).

Satisfying DFL with One Course:

* Currently it says you need to take two Second Language courses.
* This proposal says that if a student places into a 102 level or higher Second Language course and gets a “C-“ or better in it, then they have met the requirements.

**Continue Discussion on Faculty nominations for Faculty rep on SOU Board:**

* We had originally planned on having 7 to 11 nominations, but the governor wants fewer than that.
* We want to get these names to the governor in the first week of June.
* There was a lengthy discussion on how to go about selecting/voting in order to get the names to send to the governor.

Purslow motioned that this be an election process and the eligibility requirements are APSOU eligible, at least 5 years service at SOU, and we recommend that they have higher governance service (Faculty Senate, UPB, or UPC) – but it is not required. A second was made by Norquist.

The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

Richards motioned that 3 would be the number of names to bring forward to the governor. A second was made by Richard May.

The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed, one abstention (Sahr).

**Action Items:**

Carpenter II Grant Awards

Ferguson moved that they be approved, with a second by Russell-Miller.

The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed, one abstention (Sahr).

Professor of Practice:

* Nordquist thought it was unclear what the duties were. Ettlich said the details on that was created by the Constitution Committee over a year ago and it’s buried somewhere in the Faculty Senate minutes.

Nordquist motioned to table the discussion until we could get that information, and a second was made by Sahr.

The motioned passed with all in favor except for one objection (Richards) and no abstentions.

**Final Announcements:**

* We will need another Senate Representative on UPB starting in June since Jody Waters term will be up. It’s a one-year term. Typically this is someone who is on Faculty Senate or was on it the year prior, but we can also appoint someone.
* Nobody “jumped-up” to volunteer for this position at the meeting. The plan is to “ask around” to see who is interested.
* Our next meeting is our last meeting for 2013-2014.

Adjourned 5:53 p.m.