**Faculty Senate Minutes**

**June 2, 2014**

**SU 313 4:07 - 5:32 p.m.**

**Present:** Deborah Brown, Dave Carter, Kate Cleland-Sipfle, Curtis Feist, Carol Ferguson, Gregg Gassman (for Amy Belcastro), Dennis Jablonski (for John King), Richard May, Pete Nordquist, Garth Pittman, Vicki Purslow, John Richards, Mary Russell-Miller, Kevin Sahr, Larry Shrewsbury, Jamie Vener, and Elizabeth Whitman.

**Absent:**, Jackie Apodaca, Amy Belcastro (Sab.), Todd Carney, Steve Jessup, John King (Sab.), Byron Marlowe, Kasey Mohammad, Robin Strangfeld, and Erin Wilder.

**Visitors:** Mary Cullinan, Jamie Ross, Sue Walsh, Deborah Rosenberg, Dennis Slattery, Sherry Ettlich, Bill Hughes, Dotty Ormes, and Brian Stonelake.

**Agenda**

The meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m.

**Announcements:**

No Announcements.

**ASSOU report:**

No report.

**IFS Report:**

Waters was unable to attend today. Carter will email to Faculty Senate any news from IFS.

**University Studies Final Report:**

* Ayers handed out a copy of the report.
* The report addressed:
	+ What the primary duties are for the University Studies Committee;
	+ What they plan to accomplish next year;
	+ What they accomplished this year;
	+ The issues and/or additional responsibilities that arose this year that influenced the work of the committee;
	+ The goals that are recommended for this committee to focus upon in the upcoming year (given what they have learned this year);
	+ And who is currently serving on this committee.

**Comments from President Cullinan:**

* Faculty Breakfast is June 10th at 7:30 AM.
* We’re moving forward on the Institutional Board, she received the nominations from SEIU today.
* Our speaker at Commencement this year is David Sarasohn, a journalist for the Oregonian, who has written passionately about how Oregon has stepped away from public higher education, and has written a book on that topic.
* Purslow asked Cullinan if she would confirm or deny for us if we our losing our Provost. Cullinan explained she cannot talk about personnel issues

**Comments from Provost Klein:**

Klein was absent.

**Sabbatical Form:**

* It has been streamlined and more verifiable.
* Ferguson asked if #3 under Notes (on page 9) was a new addition: “… faculty are required to present their findings at a division or all-campus forum.”
* Ettlich explained it used to be required long ago, then it was removed, but now there is concern that faculty should present, in *some* venue, on their sabbatical.
* Jablonski asked about the genesis of this revision, and if there was some reason to believe that faculty aren’t using their time wisely on their sabbaticals.
* Ettlich, who is on the task force, explained there was a lot of variability in the quality of sabbatical applications in terms of the information being provided. The task force gathered all of the expectations for sabbaticals from the Bylaws, CVA, etc. and got it into one form. This makes the expectations transparent and everybody will know what’s expected.
* Jablonski was concerned how the data from the scoring on sabbatical forms would be used.
* A few of the senators asked about the scoring being used on the form. Ettlich explained it helps clarify the quality of the application; and you’re not expected to get 100% on everything (Ettlich suggested the form could include “A good proposal is one that ranges from 60 – 80”). Also, the scoring is “an opinion.”
* At each level that the application moves on to, it will either get a “recommend against” or “recommend for”, but the final decision on being accepted or not doesn’t happen until it gets the President’s signature. Purslow was concerned that in some divisions /departments the application can get denied right away at the department (very first) level; that it’s inconsistent among the different divisions/departments.
* Richards felt the sabbatical application process should be a conversation between a faculty member and supportive members of their division/department; rather than putting scores on a form. Hughes explained those scores are not quantitative, they are qualitative, and though different scorers will “feel” differently with their scores (e.g. one gives a score of 55 when “feeling pretty good” about something, for someone else it’s a 70), but we look at the trend, and that is in effect a conversation. What Hughes likes about this scoring is that it gives us a concrete assessment tool, it’s not a statistical measurement; but something happens in someone’s head when they have to pay attention enough in order to assign a numeric value to something, even if it is only a symbolic representation.
* There was debate on whether the form should say “required” or “encouraged” to present their findings at a division or all-campus forum.

**Faculty nominations for Faculty Rep on SOU Institutional Board:**

* Vener gave us an update; we have 5 confirmed nominees (still waiting to hear from one nominee for confirmation): Jody Waters, Greg Jones, Ed Battistella, Amy Belcastro, and Dennis Slattery. They are waiting to hear from Michael Parker.
* The ballot will go out tomorrow, it will close in 5 days, and they will pick the top three names to be put forward.
* This is for the faculty representation, so there was concern whether or not Greg Jones is still considered faculty. Vener said they will remove Greg Jones from the list.

**Action Items:**

Campus Theme:

Richards motioned to adopt the theme of “Revolution” for next year’s Campus Theme. A second was made by Sahr.

All were in favor, none opposed, and one abstention (Feist).

Academic Policies Material for 7 Items:

Richards motioned to approve the 7 academic policies that were presented to us by the Academic Policies Committee. A second was made by Whitman.

All were in favor, none opposed, and one abstention (Feist).

Professor of Practice:

* Salary is $2000 less than an Assistant Professor. This was negotiated in the 2013-2015 CVA and would be subject to negotiation every time the CVA opens (as with all salaries).
* The assumption at the beginning was that they would move to 3-year extendable contracts upon promotion to Associate’s, similar to Instructors being promoted to Senior Instructor. But that depends on how Section 5 gets laid out in the Bylaws.

Purslow motioned that we approve the rank of “Professor of Practice” and charge the Constitution Committee to develop the language in Section 5 in the Bylaws to support that rank. A second was made by Russell-Miller.

The motion carried with 8 in favor, 3 against (Brown, Ferguson, Sahr), and 3 abstained (Whitman, Nordquist, Richards).

**Elections:**

We have 11 faculty senate ‘turnovers’, and we have 9 of them filled, and waiting to hear from the other two. We’re being flexible so that we don’t have two more positions turning into “at large” positions.

Our new Senators joined us at the table: Dennis Slattery (School of Business), Deborah Rosenberg (Performing Arts), Bill Hughes (Political Science), and Dotty Ormes (Library).

Larry Shrewsbury agreed to be Faculty Senate Chair, and a second was made by Sahr.

Dennis Slattery was nominated for Faculty Senate Vice Chair by Vener, and Slattery agreed.

John Richards agreed to be Faculty Senate Secretary, and a second was made by Ferguson.

All were in favor of Shrewsbury as Chair, Slattery as Vice Chair, and Richards as Secretary.

Currently the Constitution Committee consists of Pete Nordquist, Carol Ferguson, and Rich May. They agreed to continue in that committee. Ettlich has been helping them with their workload.

Committee on Committees needs two replacements for those who are leaving Faculty Senate. Deb Brown and Mary Russell-Miller agreed to be those replacements.

Kevin Sahr agreed to continue on as the webmaster. While he is on sabbatical Fall term Carter will be the webmaster.

We need at least two for Elections Committee. Carter and Ferguson agreed to be on the committee.

There are 3 at-large positions to be filled for Advisory Council. Hughes, Whitman, and we will ask Belcastro if she would like to do it with Feist filling in for her in the Fall while Belcastro is on sabbatical.

Carter will be the Senate Representative for UPB.

Adjourned 5:32 p.m.