**Faculty Senate Minutes**

**January 11, 2016**

Video: <https://sites.google.com/a/sou.edu/sou-faculty-senate-videos/january-11-2016>

**Present:** Amy Belcastro**,** David Bithell, Deborah Brown, Alison Burke, Curtis Feist, Carol Ferguson, Marianne Golding, Laura Jones, Rachel Jochem, Laurie Kurutz, Donna Lane, Dorothy Ormes, Erik Palmer, Rich May, Deborah Rosenberg, Larry Shrewsbury, Dennis Slattery, Ariel Tumbaga, Erin Wilder, and Elizabeth Whitman.

**Absent:**  Prakash Chenjeri, Mark Tveskov, and Vicki Purslow.

**Visitors:** Roy Saigo, Susan Walsh, Jody Waters, Lee Ayers, Emily Pfeiffer, Karen Stone, Chris Stanek, and Sherry Ettlich.

**The meeting was called to order at 4:03.**

**Announcements**:

* Rosenberg announced that the Schneider Museum will have an opening this Friday.
* Golding announced that the French Club will host a dinner on January 28. The cost for dinner is $3. Wine is $3. Tickets are available in the SU or from Golding.

**Approval of Minutes from November 16:**

* Ferguson motioned to approve minutes from November 16, 2015. The motion was seconded by Slattery. The vote passed with all in favor, none opposed. Jochem, Golding, and Belcastro abstained.

**Approval of Minutes from November 30**

* Rosenberg motioned to approve the minutes from November 30, 2015. Jones seconded. The motion passed with Jochem, Ferguson, Tumbaga, and Belcastro abstained.

**Advisory Council update:**

* Shrewsbury explained that FPC is working on evaluation of administrators.
* Deneui presented an idea from Student Success Initiative that will come to Senate when it is fleshed out.
* Slattery explained that his position on the new SOU Board is up, and he would like to have Faculty Senate put forward his name for the next term of service. This would be his last term of service because of term limits. He proposes that this not be opened back up to nominations as long as the person serving has done an acceptable job. Discussion ensued about the problems with the term limits and with re-nominating board members.
* Rosenberg motioned that Dennis Slattery's name be put forth to the Governor for the upcoming board seat. Jones seconded. The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed. Belcastro noted that she would prefer to have a 70 or 75% of respondents in favor for this vote to pass, but the general consensus was that a majority vote would be sufficient, as is required in all other Senate voting.

**Comments from President Saigo:**

* President Saigo introduced Julie Raefield as SOU's new Chief of Staff.
* President Saigo also noted that it is good to have Dennis Slattery back and healthy again.
* The Science Building renovations are coming along, but there have been many complaints about noise, smell, and other things.
* McNeal construction is going ahead. The foundation was wood, which is creating problems. Consequently, space has been leased from Ashland High School to host athletic events.
* President Saigo attended a meeting in Gold Hill with Senator Merkely. Issues of drug abuse, student debt, and other issues were discussed.
* SOU’s Women's basketball team--only undefeated women's team nationally at this level. President Saigo proposes a celebration to honor the team on Feb. 13.

**Comments from Provost Walsh:**

* Provost Walsh explained that SOU is part of an AASCU (Association of American State Colleges and Universities) initiative--40 institutions have been chosen to participate. USEM, House, and other first-year initiatives have already been underway here. This included a rigorous selection process and is a three-year program. A team from SOU will travel to Austen, TX, for a conference in February.
* A Conditions Report Update was presented to the HECC last month and received a good response. Provost Walsh will go up this week to discuss this further. President Saigo explained that we were asked to come back to update in a year.
* Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting will take place on January 21 at 1:30 in the DeBoer Room. This is an open meeting. A team will be presenting on recruitment, enrollment, and retention. A large overview of our plans.

**ASSOU Report:**

* Emily Pfeiffer reported that the board is interviewing for new representative.
* Recruiting for Northwestern Leadership Conference is underway.
* Jan 23 will be a Vote Conference.
* ASSOU is working on a Fair Housing Ordinance.

**Discussion Items**

**Filling seats for Ombuds Selection Committee, Tuition Advisory Council, and the Policy Council:**

* Shrewsbury explained that we need a few senators to serve on committees. Erin Wilder and Carol Ferguson explained that they need a person from Senate to help select folks to serve as Ombuds. These Ombuds help faculty with work/life issues. Discussion ensued about the duties of this position. Ferguson explained that serving in the capacity should count as service to the university.

Laura Jones volunteered to be the Senate rep and join the rest of the selection committee in vetting potential faculty for the newly created Ombuds office.

* Student Tuition Advisory Council needs a representative to serve. Slattery is willing to serve if it's not a conflict with his position on the SOU Board.
* Policy Council needs three representatives. Shrewsbury has volunteered. We need two more volunteers.

**Establishing a precedent on process for putting names forward for the faculty representative for the SOU Board when the Board member offers to run for the second (and final) term:**

* See discussion under AC Report above.

**Faculty Senate update for the SOU Board (on Jan 22):**

* The Board has requested an update from Faculty Senate. What items should be shared? Ferguson commented that this might be a good opportunity for Senate to consider objectives and goals. Julie Raefield explained that any materials necessary for future presentations to the board will require two-weeks' notice.

**Information Items:**

**Update on Academic Reorganization (Susan Walsh):**

* Once again, time is short for Provost Walsh's presentation. President Saigo suggests that we set aside the time at our next meeting and begin with the Provost's presentation to allow adequate time.

**The meeting was adjourned at 5:10.**