**Faculty Senate Minutes**

March 7, 2016

SU 313 4:00 – 5:30 pm

**Video:** <https://sites.google.com/a/sou.edu/sou-faculty-senate-videos/march-7-2016>

**Present:** Amy Belcastro**,** Deborah Brown, Alison Burke, Curtis Feist, Carol Ferguson, Marianne Golding, Laurie Kurutz, Donna Lane, Rich May, Dorothy Ormes, Erik Palmer, Vicki Purslow, Deborah Rosenberg, Larry Shrewsbury, Ariel Tumbaga, Erin Wilder, and Dennis Slattery.

**Absent:**  David Bithell, Dennis Jablonski, Prakash Chenjeri, Laura Jones, Rachel Jochem, and Mark Tveskov.

**Visitors:** Roy Saigo, Susan Walsh, Jody Waters, Lee Ayers, Torii Uyehara, Anne Connor, and Dan DeNeui.

**The meeting was called to order at 4:00p.m.**

**Approval of minutes from February 8:** Rosenberg motioned to approve the minutes from the February 8 meeting. Ormes seconded, which passed with all in favor, none opposed or abstaining.

**Discussion Items**

**What kind of Senate do we want to be?**

* Ferguson believes that we need to have a full Senate roster in order to have this conversation.
* Ferguson also provided a copy of the formal charge and responsibility of the Faculty Senate. See attached document to review the roles and responsibilities of Senate Members.
* Purslow has talked with faculty members who are critical of Senate’s role in recent years as a “rubber stamp” body or simply a group that hears announcements.
* Purslow would like a meeting during April to give plenty of time to discuss. This can be done in a “special meeting,” through vote, requesting the meeting.
* Purslow moved that we hold a special meeting in late April. The motion was seconded by Rosenburg. Discussion ensued, with Ormes requesting that the meeting not go beyond three hours. Palmer would like to see some sort of plan to facilitate or look for an outside facilitator. The vote passed with all in favor, none opposed. There were no abstentions. Palmer, Purslow, and Lane volunteered to serve on a steering committee to plan future meetings.
* Belcastro suggested that OSU might have recommendations for us since they have a strong, active Senate.
* Ormes says we should compile faculty feedback as well.

**Update on Presidential Search—Lyn Hennion:**

* The search committee for the new University President is comprised of 3 Faculty Members, 5 Board Members, 2 Students, 2 Staff Members, and 2 Community Members.
* The search is now in the hands of the hired search firm. They are compiling a pool. Final four will be made public and invited to campus.
* Palmer asked how the Senate could be involved in the search process. Hennion suggested that Senate help by meeting the candidates and making recommendations.
* Hennion urges Senate to be flexible during the following weeks since the hiring timeline is so short.
* Feist wants to see a person who is committed to being a faculty advocate.
* Purslow asks that the person be able to acknowledge the low morale and work to heal folks—everyone across campus is doing too much.
* Ormes wants to see a commitment to diversity, especially the unique character of SOU, Ashland, and the Southern Oregon region.
* Lane asks that a failed search be called if the right candidate does not come out of the process. Hennion explained that the search firm gives the second search free if the first search is considered failed.
* Belcastro voiced a faculty comment that they would like to see a stronger relationship between the SOU Board and the SOU faculty.

**Information Items**

**Carpenter I Grants (Anne Connor)**-

* Largest pool of applicants ever. $46,000 requested and $12,000 to be awarded. Connor urges faculty to apply for the Professional Development Grants, due April 1.
* Rosenberg moved to waive the two-week rule. Ormes seconded the motion, and the motion passed with all in favor, none opposed.
* Purslow moved to approve the Carpenter Grants brought forward. Ormes seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor, none opposed.

**University Studies new courses (Lee Ayers)**

* Ayers brought forth a number of new courses from the University Studies Committee.
* Ferguson clarified that these are classes that will be taught in spring term. Ayers confirmed that—if approved today, those courses can be listed for UStudies strands.
* Rosenberg moved to waive the two-week rule. Purslow seconded. The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed.
* Feist commended Ayers for the hard work of the University Studies committee.
* Ormes moved to approve the courses brought forward from UStudies. Belcastro seconded. The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed.

**New courses, new Social Science minor, and program name change from Curriculum Committee (Lee Ayers and Jody Waters)**

* Waters brought forth a new Social Science minor.
	+ Ormes asked about the Social Science minor. All proposed programs require a Library Statement. This doesn’t have that. The Library does not forsee any problems or lack of resources that would hold up this process.
	+ Ayers also noted that Emily Miller-Francisco serves on the Curriculum Committee, so she should have noted any issues.
	+ DeNeui mentioned that since there were no additional resources needed, he may have left off that requirement.
	+ Ferguson clarified that these courses are already being taught, online.
	+ DeNeui says yes, they must have been taught at least once in the past three years.
	+ Rosenberg moved to waive the two-week rule. Slattery seconded the motion. The motion passed with one opposed, no abstentions.
	+ Belcastro moved to approve the new minor in Social Science. Burke seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Purslow worries that she is torn because this minor feels “opportunistic.” It does help students who need minors and who are online students. Lane feels that adding more online options rather than adding a new minor altogether. Burke pointed out that it broadens the options for online students beyond just Psychology or Criminology. Belcastro also sees this as option for Early Childhood Development students as well.
	+ Motion passed with one opposed, none abstained.

**Comments from President Saigo**

* President Saigo emailed Liz Shelby about the Oregon Promise. 800 students from Jackson and Josephine Counties have applied, and we anticipate between 20-24 who will not attend SOU as a result.
* U of O will raise their tuition. Not sure how this will impact SOU. Encourage students to preregister for spring term.

**Comments from Provost Walsh**

* Walsh met with High School counselors.
* Seniors are turning down scholarship offers from 4-year institutions because they are sure they’ll be getting “free” community college. It is likely that some students will have to scramble in the Fall if they have relied on the Promise without qualifying.

**ASSOU Report**

Uyehara reports that a meeting will take place to discuss fair housing issues in Ashland.

* Student Fee has passed.
* ASSOU participated in a wood cut for Jackson County Fuel Commission.
* Lowest turnover of student Senators. Six applicants for one open seat on Student Senate.
* EPIC’s Floatopia will be held at Emigrant Lake
* Voter Registration coming up. Uyehara asks that faculty allow students to come into classrooms to register students to vote and then to educate them on the voting process, and then making sure that students follow through and vote.

**IFS (Donna Lane and Amy Belcastro)**

* Belcastro thanked everyone for giving feedback on the Accelerated Learning Initiative. Walsh clarified that much discussion is occurring around this issue. The HECC is forming a workgroup and the community colleges are having the same discussion at the same time. Legislators want to see accessibility and affordability.
* Feist noted that in the Math department, the Advanced Southern Credit is a really positive thing—high school teachers come to campus each year to stay connected.
* This is not the same. If the class is offered at the high school level but transcripted at the college level, we have the responsibility to govern it.

**Announcements**

* New display in honor of Women’s History Month. Voting is taking place, so encourage students to come over and vote.

**New Business (for next meeting)**

* Purslow proposed to amend the Senate Bylaws to allow the IFS representatives to continue as voting members of Senate.
* Purslow also wants to request a financial update from Craig Morris, especially about athletics.

**Adjourn—the meeting was adjourned at 5:38.**