**Faculty Senate Minutes**

**April 18, 2016**

**SU 313 4:00 – 5:30 pm**

**Video:** https://sites.google.com/a/sou.edu/sou-faculty-senate-videos/april-18-2016

**Present:** Rhett Bender, Deborah Brown, Alison Burke, Prakash Chenjeri, Carol Ferguson, Dennis Jablonski, Laura Jones, Laurie Kurutz, Donna Lane, Rich May, Dorothy Ormes, Erik Palmer, Steven Petrovic, Vicki Purslow, Deborah Rosenberg, Larry Shrewsbury, Ariel Tumbaga, and Erin Wilder.

**Absent:** Amy Belcastro, David Bithell, Marianne Golding, Dennis Slattery, and

Mark Tveskov.

**Visitors:** Roy Saigo, Susan Walsh, Sherry Ettlich, Lee Ayers, and Emily Pfeiffer.

**The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m.**

**Approval of Minutes from April 4**

Ferguson moved to approve the minutes from April 4, 2016. Rosenberg seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor, none opposed. Burke and Feist abstained.

**Discussion Items**

**Funding for Athletics’ playoff travel:**

Matt Sayre was not present. He will present this for the next Senate meeting.

 **Action Items**

**Proposal for revision to FPAR/FPAPs**

* Purslow reports that her department would like to remove the training items (FERPA and Title IX) from the reporting form. They are not directly related to the report, and folks don’t always know when they last had training.
* Purslow would also like to have the budget item area removed (or at least only required once).
* Ormes requests that the deadline be changed and that the goals would be structured in a different way.
	+ Waters explained that we can tell Activity Insight to report whatever we want it to. These issues will be remedied in the next reporting cycle. Additionally, Waters explains that Division Directors will have some flexibility with timing and deadlines.
* Ferguson moved to approve the change in FPAP and FPAR documents, moving away from the fillable forms to the use of Activity Insight for faculty activity reporting. Purslow offered a friendly amendment—the final categories of required information will be subject to Senate approval. Ferguson accepted Purslow’s amendment, and Feist seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor and none opposed.

**Items needing Senate approval from the Graduate Council**

* A lively discussion ensued about the proposed grade change in the graduate program. Please refer to the video link above for details.
* Ferguson moved that Senate does not have enough information to make this policy change.
* Ormes seconded the motion.
* Motion was amended to reflect that Senate does not approve the graduate council’s recommendation for a change in policy regarding awarding grades in graduate programs.
* After more discussion about the issue of grade inflation in graduate programs, the vote passed with all in favor, none opposed. There were no abstentions.
* On the matter of approving the request for additional representation on Graduate Council, Purslow moved to support the proposal to increase the membership on Grad council from 6 to 7 and to accept the name change from Graduate Studies Committee to Graduate Council.
* The vote passed with all in favor; Feist, Palmer, and Tumbaga abstained.

**On the matter of removing the restriction on credit load for graduate students**.

* Purslow moved to table the motion until graduate council can provide more information. Motion was tabled pending more information.
* MBA Concentrations—Senators had many questions, so the discussion was tabled pending more
* Purslow and Rosenberg moved to table the discussion pending more information at next Senate meeting. Motion was amended, and the motion passed with all in favor, Jablonski opposed, and Feist abstained.

**Information Items**

**Student Success Committee update**

Vicki Purslow reported that the new Student Success Committee is meeting and active. An inactive Senate Committee is now necessary, the Academic Advising Committee must be activated. The Committee on Committees will report at next Senate meeting.

**Faculty Senate planning retreat**

Erik Palmer and Vicki Purslow are working to reimagine how SOU’s Faculty Senate will function.

* See attached slides
* How might FS be more productive and effective?
* They propose a Senate Retreat to use “Design Thinking,” which is based on artifacts, prototypes, and iteration.
* Widely used in business and mission-driven organizations.
* See DSCHOOL. STANFORD.EDU
* First steps are to take a thoughtful look as Senate and collect information and data from faculty.
* Change culture of communication on campus and make SOU a better place
* Timeline will be to collect data, synthesize data, and make changes in Fall 2016.
* Purslow reports that May 4, from 3:30-5:30 was the best option for faculty when polled.

**Bylaws Update**

Larry Shrewsbury reported that he has passed along some changes to Jason Catz, SOU’s attorney, and he will report at next Senate meeting.

* Ferguson pointed out that the acceptance of the bylaws is a slow process.

**Comments from President Saigo**

* President Saigo reports that a Math Tournament was held on SOU last week, led by our Faculty Senate President, Larry Shrewsbury, and 350 students competed.
* Last week, SOU was named again as a Tree Campus and recognized as a Bee Campus as well.
* This week is Earth Week and Arbor Day.
* Our new theme, “You’re Home,” extends to welcoming students as family, not just as students.
* Ettlich gave the Trustees a tour of the new Science Building.
* The President will be speaking about diversity and inclusion at Lewis and Clark next week.
* The first week of May, President Saigo and Provost Walsch will travel to Guanajato, Mexico, to keep the program, including scholarships, active.

**Comments from Provost Walsh**

* Bachelor’s Degree in Music has been officially approved by the HECC.

**ASSOU Report**

* Pfeiffer reported that the Board of Trustees approved the student fees and tuition for next year.
* Sat, Torii Uyehara will host the luau this weekend.
* 750 voters registered on campus so far. Goal is 800.

**Announcements**

* Commencement Student Speaker nominations are closing soon. Send to Associate Provost.

**New Business (for next meeting)**

* There were no new business items

**The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.**