**Faculty Senate Minutes**

**May 2, 2016**

**SU 313 4:00 – 5:30 pm**

**Video:** <https://sites.google.com/a/sou.edu/sou-faculty-senate-videos/may-2-2016>

**Present:** Rhett Bender, Deb Brown, Allison Burke, Prakash Chenjeri, Cody Christopherson, Curtis Feist, Marianne Golding, Carol Ferguson, Dennis Jablonski, Laura Jones, Donna Lane, Richard May, Erik Palmer, Steven Petrovic, Vicki Purslow, Dotty Ormes, Dennis Slattery, and Erin Wilder.

**Absent:** Deborah Rosenberg, Mark Tveskov, Ariel Tumbaga, and Laurie Kurutz.

**Guests:** Matt Sayre, Echo Fields, John King, Joan McBee, Katrina Simpson, Dustin Walcher, Emily Miller Francisco, David Coburn, Brian Stonelake, and Lee Ayres.

**Approval of Minutes from April 18**

* Ferguson moved to approve the minutes from April 18. Ormes seconded that motion with all in favor, none opposed. There were no abstentions.

**Discussion Items**

**Funding for Athletics’ playoff travel**

* Matt Sayre presented an update on the funding status of the athletic program. Please see attached handout for details.
* Sayre gave background information that explained the need for a different financial plan.
* Loss of prior funding sources has resulted in a push for more fundraising efforts from students and programs.
* Unprecedented success in playoff competitions has led to higher costs for programs (especially Football), due to the distance required for travel.
* Sayre fielded questions from Senators.
* The plan is to create a $400,000 reserve to fund future playoff travel costs.
* Sayre reiterates that Athletics wants to “stop the bleeding,” not take away from other academic programs.

 **Action Items**

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

Item 1: Removing the cap on graduate credits

* Waters presented on behalf of Ordonez. In response to the question about whether or not a higher credit load results in a lower gpa, the data show that there is no significant correlation between the number of credits and gpa. In fact, students in the middle credit range actually saw the largest drop in gpa.
* Higher credit loads are standard in some programs, especially summer programs, including Education.
* Waters explained that many programs move as cohorts, so overloading credits is not probable in many cases and not possible in other cases.
* Lane moved that the cap be removed on graduate credit loads. Ormes seconded the motion. The motion passed, with all in favor and none opposed. There were no abstentions.

Item 2: Adding new Concentrations to the MBA.

* McBee explained that a recent article by the EBA explained that students with specific concentrations in “niche” areas found more success in their careers.
* This is primarily a marketing tool--the courses already exist, and no new resources are required.
* Chenjeri moved to accept the motion to approve the new Concentrations in the MBA program (MBA for the Arts and Accounting, Finance Information Systems, Human Resources, and Marketing). Golding seconded, and the motion passed with all but one (Ferguson) in favor. There were no abstentions.

Item 3: New Courses

* Waters explained that all courses have been vetted through the Graduate Council.
* Feist moved to approve the courses brought forward from the Graduate Council. Ormes seconded. The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed. Purslow abstained.

 **Information Items**

**University Studies new courses (Brian Stonelake)**

* NAS F Strand course
* FR or COMM 350 I Strand
* Both were unanimously approved through University Studies.
* Purslow moved to waive the two-week rule, and Golding seconded. The vote passed with all but one (Burke) in favor. There were no abstentions.
* Golding moved to accept the UStudies courses. Jones seconded. The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed. Ferguson and Burke abstained.

**Policies Committee (cross-listing processes and a few other items to present) – Echo Fields, Katrina Simpson, Jody Waters**

**Priority Registration for Success at Southern students:**

* Fields explained that the committee has been working to move the grading options from a general university policy to a department or program option. If a practicum is supervised by an SOU faculty member, the grade option is valid. If a practicum is supervised by a member of the business community, a pass/no pass option is valid.
* Success at Southern (Jane Reeder) requested that their students should receive priority registration (one week after registration begins).

**Cross Listing Issues:**

* The Policy Committee is taking up the issue of cross listing. Their goal is to address the need for cross listing for certain programs and departments. The effects of cross listing are widespread and create problems for the registrar, programs, and other areas.
* Simpson explained that the hope is to make cross listing a true collaboration between the involved programs and divisions.
* Waters thanked Fields for her hard work getting this policy through committee.
* Jablonski thanked the entire Policy Committee for their informative presentation.

**Bylaws Update (Larry Shrewsbury)**

* Larry will send out a draft of the policy (it’s 29 pages). Purslow encourages folks to read this carefully.
* UPB is still reviewing sections 4 and 5. They are waiting for other committees to report.
* Purslow commented that she is appalled that the Bylaws approved last June are still not through committees and signed.

**IFS Update**

* Lane explained that Senate Bill 418 went through (the Oregon Promise). This has serious repercussions for secondary institutions.
* Health records will remain confidential.
* Minimum wage passed and will likely have a negative impact on university enrollment.

Report from President Saigo: President Saigo was not in attendance.

Report from Provost Walsh: Provost Walsh was not in attendance.

**ASSOU Report--Dave Coburn**

Over 800 students registered to vote this year. ASSOU will be asking to come in to classes one more time this term for voter education.

**Announcements**

* Palmer and Purslow have organized a Senate retreat for Wednesday (3:30) at Grizzly Peaks Winery. Please attend.
* It’s their intention to begin the process. There will be further opportunities in the future.
* Chenjeri announced that the final Campus Theme (Exploring Reality) will be held 7:00 pm on Thursday, April 28 in SU 319.

**New Business (for next meeting) – note: we only have two more meetings left: May 16 and May 23.**

* Ferguson asks that we get a full Bylaws update for next meeting.

**The meeting was adjourned at 5:40.**