Senate Draft Minutes

6 June 2016

SU 319

4:00 – 5:30 pm

Video: <https://sites.google.com/a/sou.edu/sou-faculty-senate-videos/june-6-2016>

**Present:** Deborah Brown, Rhett Bender, Alison Burke, Prakash Chenjeri, Curtis Feist, Carol Ferguson, Marianne Golding, Dennis Jablonski, Laurie Kurutz, Rich May, Dorothy Ormes, Erik Palmer, Steven Petrovic, Vicki Purslow, Deborah Rosenberg, Larry Shrewsbury, Ariel Tumbaga, Mark Tveskov, and Erin Wilder.

**Absent:** Amy Belcastro, David Bithell, Laura Jones, Donna Lane, Doug Smith, and Dennis Slattery.

**Guests:** Brad Christ, Karen Stone, Chris Oswald, Wesley Leonard, Andrew Gay, Bill Gholson, Scott Rex, Ed Battestella, Greg Jones, Anne Connor, Jody Waters, Brian Fedorek, Dale Vidmar, Brian Stonelake, Torii Uyehara, Colin Davis, and Lee Ayers.

**ASSOU Report:**

* The ASSOU report was moved to the beginning of the meeting to allow students to go to their final exams.
* Uyehara introduced the new President and Vice President for ASSOU.

**Approval of Minutes from May 16**

* Ferguson moved to approve the minutes from the May 16 meeting. Tumbaga seconded. Motion passed with all in favor and none opposed. Tveskov abstained.

**Discussion Items**

**New University Studies Courses (Brian Stonelake)**

* Ayers explained the new courses coming forward.
  + SC110 with lab approved for Explorations
  + ENG 295 Grammar Style and Writing
  + French course was submitted as a J strand and will have to be submitted as an I strand.
  + ENG 447 J strand
  + All four courses have been approved unanimously by University Studies.
* Ayers brought forth three courses from University Studies for Senate approval.
* LIST THEM HERE: NAS 231, HS , SC 110 and 100L, ENG 295, Language class J Strand, Eng 447 as J Strand.
  + Purslow presented Senate with a letter from APSOU. *Please see the attached letter.*
  + Ayers explained that these courses have gone through Curriculum Committee, and she will check to confirm that they went through Senate for approval.
  + Gay pointed out that this course was included as an informational item on Feb 8 and an action item on Feb 22.

**University Studies Final Report: Lee Ayers**

* Ayers gave the University Studies’ final report (please see attached slides).
* Palmer asked about a perceived issue with the H strand itself. Has UStudies addressed this yet? Ayers acknowledged that the committee is aware of the potential problem, and she welcomes guidance from Senate in the fall.
* Petrovic brought up the issue of perhaps allowing more courses meet the general University Studies requirements.
* Ferguson asked for clarification. Will the UStudies form the appeals process? If not, who will?
* Ferguson also wants to make sure that UStudies people are not feel that they are wasting their time evaluating courses that then get approved at the administrative level.
* Provost Walsh expressed her disappointment in the APSOU’s using the House model being approved during the summer as another example of administration overstepping their boundaries.
* Feist moved to approve the two-week rule. Ormes seconded the motion, which passed three opposed, one abstension. Ferguson Purslow golding ---Burke abstained.
* COMM 350 and French 450--Ormes asked for clarification on these. Ayers
* Gay moved to acknowledge the clerical error and move forward to approve the courses. Rosenburg seconded.
  + - Purslow asked why the SC 110 was submitted under an SC prefix rather than other (PH, etc.).
    - The motion passed with 12 in favor, Purslow and Ferguson opposed. Wilder, Golding, and Burke abstained.
    - Vidmar explained the position of the UStudies Committee. He explained that the committee does feel that their process was overturned by the Provost.
    - Walsh responded, explaining that as she made this decision, she consulted with the Associate Provost, the Director of the Division of Undergraduate Studies, and the faculty member and his CV. Walsh explained further that the lack of an appeals process is part of the problem.
    - Palmer also clarified that this is perhaps two issues. One is the NAS 331 course, and the other is the formation of the appeals process.
    - Ayers explained that the guidance from the Senate is the more appropriate.
    - Purslow asked if Advisory Council could take up the task of forming the appeals process.
    - Oswald brought up the issue of separating a decision about a course from the person who is applying for approval of that course, just as is done when the course is considered by the Curriculum Committee as well as the University Studies Committee. Walsh agreed with Oswald and explained that her desire to look at the faculty member’s CV was to consider claims from the committee that the course did not include enough Science to warrant inclusion as an H strand course.
    - Tveskov---do faculty member have an opportunity to revise and resubmit for approval?
    - Vidmar explained that this is a commonplace occurrence.
    - Feist moved that the Provost’s decision to approve NAS 331 is only effective for the 2016-17 catalog year, at which time the decision will be reconsidered by Senate.
    - Jablonski suggests a friendly amendment to extend the period to a two-year approval rather than a one-year.
    - Burke seconded the motion. Feist did not accept Jablonski’s amendment, so this will be for one year. Any student using the 2016-17 catalog will earn H strand credit for this course.
    - Discussion ensued about postponing the decision versus making it now.
    - Vidmar clarified that this matter should be referred back to University Studies rather than to the Senate.
    - Tveskov worries that a process is not in place.
    - After much discussion, the motion passed with 10 in favor, 3 opposed; 4 Senators abstained.
    - Ayers suggested a review process of all strand courses. This is supposed to occur every five years.

**Action Items**

**University Seminar Promotion and Tenure Expectations (Deborah Brown)**

* Brown brought forth the revised and updated University Seminar P and T document. Golding moved to waive the two-week rule, and Petrovick seconded. Motion passed with all in favor and one abstention (Burke). Petrovik moved to approve the new P and T document, and Golding seconded. Motion passed with Chenjeri opposed; Purslow, Ferguson and May abstained.

**Approval of 2016 Distinguished Teaching Awards selections (Anne Connor)**

* Connor explained the process of selecting the outstanding
* Ferguson moved to waive the two-week rule, and Ormes seconded.
* Motion passed with all in favor, none opposed. Golding abstained.
* Purslow moved to approve the awards on recommendation of the committee, and Ormes seconded. Motion passed with all in favor, none opposed. Rosenberg abstained.

**Minor changes for the Teaching and Service Awards (Hala Schepmann)**

* Schepmann explained that the committee made minor improvement to the process of nominating and approving candidates.
* Rosenberg moved to waive the two-week rule. Ferguson seconded. The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed.
* Rosenberg moved to accept the proposed changes, and Ormes seconded. The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed. There were no abstentions.

**Information Items**

**Policy Council update (Brad Christ and Larry Shrewsbury)**

* Communication guidelines; OAR revisions need to be done prior to accreditation, posted on website: <https://inside.sou.edu/policies/index.html>
* [Shrewsbury explained that OARs are turning into University Policies. He will continue to work on this over the summer.](https://inside.sou.edu/policies/index.html)

**Bylaws Update (Larry Shrewsbury)**

Shrewsbury will continue working on bylaws revision to get these posted to the website soon.

**Comments from Provost Walsh**

* Jablonski asked if Walsh has comments about the Presidential search. She feels that the committee did a great job with the process. She felt the range and diversity of the candidates is positive. The committee did good work.
* Jablonski asked about timeframe--decision may be made this week, sooner better than later. President Saigo’s contract will expire on July 31. Transition time will occur during July. He has offered to help the new President acclimate in the new role. Walsh assured Senate that there will be a process for transition.

**Seating of the New Senators:**

**Elections: Secretary, Webmaster, Senate Rep on UPB, Committee on Committees, Constitution Committee, Elections Committee, Advisory Council, Hearing Panel and Committee, Budget Committee**

* Due to time constraints, new Senators will be officially seated in the fall.
* We need an Advisory Council member, and Feist volunteered.

**Announcements**

* Ferguson wants to make sure that we investigate the formation of the new “college” that is claiming to have a Memorandum of Understanding with the university.
* How did this come about? Who was the authority? Palmer asked if it may have been misquoted.
* Purslow adds that we should be concerned about working with this institute.

**The meeting was adjourned at 5:55.**