Faculty Senate Fall 2008 Friday, September 12 Approved Minutes

Faculty Senate met Friday, September 12, 2008, at 12:30 pm in Hamilton Hall 127. After establishing a quorum, president Brent Shoulders called the meeting to order. Representatives Brent Shoulders, Matthew Carter, Sharon Brantner, Jerry Mihelic, Daren Stephens, Aaron Preator, Curtis Bensch, Russell Guthrie, Russel Thatcher, and Linda Shoulders were present.

There was no reading of minutes from the previous meeting because the secretary, Jana Peterson, was not in attendance due to illness.

Brent Shoulders conducted the election for president. Aaron Preator and Brad Duren were nominated. Preator was elected president and conducted the elections for remaining officers. Jerry Mihelic was acclaimed vice president and Linda Shoulders was acclaimed secretary.

Old Business

Faculty Picnic: Faculty Senate discussed not having the picnic since it is already so late in the semester. It was moved and seconded to not have a faculty picnic and to postpone the subject until the April Faculty Senate meeting (Brantner, Guthrie).

New Business

Graduation Survey: Some of the questions on the survey seemed to be based on personality contest, such as "Who was your favorite instructor?" and "Who was your least favorite instructor?" Some faculty members felt those questions were not really appropriate for an evaluation, and that the evaluation needs to have a specific objective. What do we really want to learn from the survey to help OPSU in the future? It was suggested that students be required to fill out the survey before they can apply for graduation.

Matthew Carter asked if Faculty Senate could hold future meetings in Carter Hall, but not everyone wanted to and the issue was dropped.

Arranged Classes: Russel Thatcher asked Faculty Senate to look into charging students a \$50 per credit hour fee when they take a class by arrangement. This would allow the instructors to receive some reimbursement for their time, since most instructors are not paid for a class taught by arrangement.

Fees: Brent Shoulders asked Faculty Senate to think about adding a \$1 per credit hour fee to go towards campus improvements. He wanted opinions on the idea and opinions on how the money might be managed. Student Senate is also discussing the idea. Jerry Mihelic asked that for the next meeting, Faculty Senate discuss the Sodexho contract and look at the specifics of the contract.

Faculty Senate Fall 2008 Approved Minutes October 9, 2008 Meeting

Faculty Senate met on October 9, 2008 at 12:00 p.m. After establishing quorum, President Aaron Preator called the meeting to order. Representatives present were Sharon Brantner, Matt Carter, Aaron Preator, Daren Stephens, Russell Thatcher, Russell Guthrie, Dan Teske, Jerry Mihelic, Brad Duren, Patrick Maille, and Linda Shoulders. Guests present were Evlyn Schmidt and Rhonda Donaldson.

Minutes from previous meeting were read and approved (Guthrie/Stephens).

Old Business

Fees for Arranged Courses

Representatives discussed pursuing course fees for arranged courses. We need to make sure the fee goes to the instructor, and we need to research how other universities deal with this issue. We need to know how many instructors are affected by this issue, and we need to set a standard for this issue.

Preator asked for someone to research this issue with other schools. Russell Thatcher volunteered to conduct the research and to approach Dr. Manning about the issue.

Campus Improvement Fee

Many people are for having a campus improvement fee, but it is still being discussed. There has been no definite answer from Larry Peters as to earmarking the fee specifically for campus improvements. Faculty Senate decided to take the next step and write a draft or a proposal to take to Student Senate.

Graduation Survey

Sharon Brantner said the deans have been asked to furnish input concerning the graduation survey. Instructors need to let their deans know what type of questions they would like on the survey. Faculty Senate recommends that each representative discuss the issue in departmental meetings.

New Business

Rank and Tenure Committee

Two members at large were chosen for Rank and Tenure Committee. Jerry Mihelic nominated Russell Guthrie and Russell Thatcher, and they were approved by all.

Letter to Dr. Bryant

Aaron Preator asked that Faculty Senate write a letter of thanks to Dr. Bryant for the 5% salary increase (msc Thatcher/Duren).

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Library Committee Update

Evlyn Schmidt discussed in detail the AT&T Grant: Successfully Completing College: Developing Integrated Information Literacy Skills Planning Project

Other New Business

Russell Guthrie brought to the table the issue of E.S.I.P. OPSU does not get a retirement benefit that all other schools in the state get (E.S.I.P). As a four year and Comprehensive University, we are excluded from this benefit. Guthrie wants Faculty Senate to ask why we are excluded from a state benefit, and if there is anything to be done about it. Because Diane Murphey has been doing research on this issue, Aaron Preator will meet with her to gather more information.

Sharon Brantner brought up the issue of the "Please Excuse" e-mails from coaches and sponsors. Coaches, sponsors, athletes, and participants need to realize that students who miss class for a university sponsored event must still have their work completed on time. It was suggested that we send a letter to all faculty and staff stating that students who miss class for a university sponsored event are still responsible for having work turned in on time. This rule is stated in the handbook, but students still do not do it.

Russel Guthrie reminded us instructors who have concurrent enrollment students in their classes need to let the high school counselors know when these students miss class.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00pm (msc Guthrie/Duren).

Faculty Senate Spring 2009 Approved Minutes January 16, 2009 Meeting

Faculty Senate met on January 16, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. After establishing quorum, Vice President Jerry Mihelic called the meeting to order. Representatives present were Brad Duren, Sharon Brantner, Matt Carter, Jerry Mihelic, Jana Peterson, Russell Guthrie, and Linda Shoulders.

Minutes from previous meeting were read and approved as written and corrected (Guthrie/Duren).

Old Business

Campus Improvement Fee

The proposal for a \$1.00 per credit hour fee for a campus beautification fund was denied.

Fees for Arranged Courses

Russell Thatcher spoke with instructors from other universities and most do not teach arranged classes. He will speak with Dr. Manning and make a report at the next meeting.

Graduation Survey

The issue has not yet been discussed in all departments. We recommend that all representatives speak with their deans about the graduation survey.

E.S.I.P

No new information. Jerry will ask Aaron if he has anything to report.

No New Business

Next meeting set for Friday, February 13, 2009.

Motion to adjourn (Carter/Duren).