

**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
Friday, February 24, 2006  
(Approved March 24, 2006)

Faculty Senate met Friday, **February 24, 2006** at 12:30 P.M. in Hamilton Hall 127. After establishing a quorum, president Kathleen Turner called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm. Representatives John Townsend, Aaron Preator (proxy for Daren Stephens), Steve Martin, Sharon Brantner (proxy for David Miller), Russel Thatcher, Loyet Shafer, Kathleen Turner, Brent Shoulders (proxy for David Elder), Russell Guthrie, Shawna Lyle, Amy Sheldon, and Dee Seaman were present. No voting representatives were absent without sending an alternate. Library faculty member, Sandie Marshall, was present.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2005 meeting as read (Shafer, Townsend).

**Old Business**

Raises for 2006-07 – Polling of representatives revealed that the majority of faculty members within their school would prefer a percentage increase should there be a raise for next school year. Turner will relay findings to President Bryant.

4-Day Week – Faculty Senate representatives discussed how the 4-day week was working within their school, if applicable. Most schools/departments employing the 4-day week feel that it adequately meets the needs of both the school/department and the students. Other schools/departments believe a 4-day week is not and probably will not be sufficient to cover lab times, 4- or 5-hour classes, and other items pertinent to their school/department.

**New Business**

Faculty-Student Relationship Policy – Representatives looked at the OPSU Staff Handbook and two other universities' policies regarding staff-student consensual sexual relationships. A discussion ensued. Turner appointed a committee consisting of Martin, Shafer, and Sheldon to draft a policy regarding staff-student consensual sexual relationships. Faculty Senate will review the draft at the March meeting.

Noble Center Fees – After a lengthy discussion, Faculty Senate representatives voted to recommend to administration a resolution stating that immediate family members of all non-student OPSU employees shall be allowed to utilize the Noble Center free of charge upon presenting a university-issued identification card. The OPSU employee will pay the cost of making the identification card (Thatcher, Guthrie). Resolution passed with a 9-2 vote.

Workday Specification – Representatives discussed whether the sentence pertaining to the length of faculty members' workday should remain in the faculty handbook. A committee consisting of Townsend, Shoulders, and Guthrie will research other public universities' policies and present findings at the March meeting.

Academic Year – Other institutions have a 15-week semester, while OPSU has a 16-week semester. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

**Other**

Athletic Department Update – A recent, major infractions case was charged and resolved. An additional probation of 3 years was incurred.

Student Evaluations – Faculty felt that some of the questions on the Fall 2005 Student Evaluation instrument were not relevant and that wording should be changed. Representatives are to ask colleagues to look at their evaluations and circle the problem areas. Turner will advise Dr. Bryant of concerns. It was suggested that Kirsten Neukam come to address Faculty Senate.

Student Fees – A concern was voiced that student fees are not being used as they should be. More discussion will take place regarding the matter at the next meeting.

**Adjournment** – The next meeting will be announced at a later date. Motion to adjourn was made, seconded and carried (Townsend, Brantner). The meeting adjourned at 1:55 pm.

Shawna Lyle, Secretary



**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
Friday, March 24, 2006  
(unapproved)

Faculty Senate met Friday, **March 24, 2006** at 12:30 P.M. in Hamilton Hall 318. After establishing a quorum, president Kathleen Turner called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm. Representatives John Townsend, Daren Stephens, Steve Martin, David Miller, Loyet Shafer, Kathleen Turner, Bryon Test (proxy for David Elder), Russell Guthrie, Shawna Lyle, and Dee Seaman were present. Russel Thatcher and Amy Sheldon were absent. Library faculty member, Sandie Marshall, was present.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2006 meeting as amended (Seaman, Guthrie).

**Old Business**

Office Hours Policy – The committee of Townsend, Shoulders, and Guthrie distributed a handout summarizing peer universities' policies regarding workday specifications and/or office hours requirements. The current OPSU policy outlined in the Faculty handbook was discussed at length. Guthrie moved that the phrase “until 4 pm” be omitted from section 2.9 of the handbook (Guthrie, Shafer). Townsend then moved to amend Guthrie’s motion so that the entire sentence from section 2.9 regarding workday specification should be removed from the Faculty handbook. The proposition for amendment died for lack of a second. Turner called for a vote on Guthrie’s original motion. Motion failed due to a 4-6 vote.

Sexual Relationship Policy – Martin gave a draft of the policy to representatives. He stressed that what Faculty Senate provides to administration will not be the final policy, only a recommended policy. The university attorneys will have to write the final policy. Representatives suggested that the committee of Martin, Shafer, and Sheldon find a way to tie the suggested policy to the existing Faculty Handbook and to include a “past relationship” disclosure statement.

Student Evaluation Instrument –The irrelevant questions from the fall 2005 student evaluation instrument were discussed. Shafer shared input from the School of Education. Shafer will number the questions and distribute copies to representatives so that a meaningful discussion about the evaluation instrument can occur in April.

**New Business**

\* Student Fees – Certain departments, such as Art, and the Library charge special student fees. However, these departments have not been receiving the fee money, rather the money is put into the general fund. Test shared how the Art department is remedying the situation.

“Course Fee” for Arranged Courses – It was suggested that an additional course fee be charged to students who take an arranged course. The fee would then be given to the instructor of the arranged course. Representatives believe the fee would be applied to the general fund instead of granted to the instructor.

Commendation of Student Senate – Miller suggested that the OPSU Student Senate should be praised for their work this year. Be it resolved, “The OPSU Faculty Senate commends the OPSU Student Senate for their active participation and support of the OPSU student body and its governance over the past academic year” (Townsend, Guthrie). The resolution will be presented to Student Senate at an upcoming meeting.

**Other**

**Adjournment** – The next meeting will be Friday, April 21, 2006 at 12:30 pm. Motion to adjourn was made, seconded and carried (Guthrie, Miller). The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Shawna Lyle, Secretary