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September 30, 2013
4:00 PM
University Faculty Senate
Shawnee State University

Call to Order

UFS President Andrew Feight called the meeting to order.

Roll Taking

Secretary Janet Holtman called the roll.


Absent: Jason Witherall.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the last meeting were approved by acclamation.

UFS Officer Reports

President's Report: UFS President Andrew Feight reported on the Ohio Faculty Council and issues related to the current funding formula, including the relevance for SSU and other open enrollment institutions. President Feight mentioned that large, selective institutions such as Ohio State University have also noted issues with the current formula.

President Feight remarked briefly on two specific agenda items: the CPS Dean’s search and proposed amendments to the constitution. Both were offered as items for discussion.

After his report, the President introduced Vice President of Finance Elinda Boyles, who offered a brief summary and explanation of current university budget issues.
Vice President's Report: Vice-President Michael Barnhart reported briefly on the progress being made on constitutional amendments. He stated that the proposed amendments will be sent out for review as a link to Google Docs two weeks prior to the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report: UFS Treasurer Jim Reneau reported on the UFS budget and the procedure for distributing funds related to the Quality Matters program. The report was approved by acclamation.

Administration Reports

Provost Report: University Provost David Todt reported on policy revisions for admissions, primarily those related to associate-degree level entry as well as the possible benefits this might have on our graduation numbers. According to the Provost, this policy will soon go to EPCC (possibly in the upcoming week).

The Provost also spoke about SSU’s current budgetary concerns and distributed a general fund budget document. This report was further broken down by Vice President of Finance Elinda Boyles, who explained the format, categories, and implications. Her explanation included information about pending cutbacks in the category of compensation (including those to adjunct positions and overload lines and possible further cutbacks to filled positions, depending on next year's retention and enrollment numbers).

Dean of College of Professional Studies Report: Paul Madden reported on admissions policies to the health sciences programs and discussed briefly advising for the purposes of retention. He further reported on the current accreditation processes for Business, Nursing, Radiologic Technology, EMT, Respiratory Therapy, and Teacher Education, especially noting that SSU's EMT program is poised to become one of the few accredited programs in the state.

Dean of College of Arts and Sciences: Dean Jeff Bauer reported on program reviews and Arts and Sciences Chairs’ reports. Dean Bauer also briefly discussed the importance of recruitment in helping raise student retention.

Announcements from the Floor

None.
Committee Reports

Executive Committee: President Feight reported at more length on the actions of the Executive Committee related to recommendations for the AQUIP Action Team and the CPS Dean's search, including a summary of the outcome of the recent meeting between the UFS Executive Committee and University President Rita Morris. President Feight reported that the Committee's recommendations were well received, and the CPS Dean's search will be an external search at the national level. The President also reported on recommendations for the CPS Dean's Search Committee, which were read into the record as follows: Carl Hilgarth, Lee Ann Denning, Marla Thoroughman, Steven Rader, and Ken Carlson.

The list of recommendations for the Shared Governance Committees was also entered into the record (attached), as well as a list of members on standing committees (attached).

President Feight further stated that the archives of the UFS will be managed in the future by the UFS Secretary by means of a file cabinet and that committee chairs have been tasked to provide written policies and procedures.

Election Committee: President Feight reported that the committee had carried out a special election for a Teacher Education representative on the Graduate Council, with Doug Sturgeon being elected to the open seat.

Resource Committee: No report.

Enrollment Management & Student Life Committee: No report.

Continuous Improvement Committee: No report.

Distinguished Lecture Series: President Feight offered a reminder that this report was provided during the previous meeting by Committee Chair Roberta Milliken.

Graduate Council: Chair Krista Maxson reported on the revision of the graduate handbook and stated that the Council hoped to revise UFS policy so that the Graduate Council would report directly to the Senate on Graduate curriculum and policy recommendations, so as to eliminate the current step of presenting proposals to the EPCC before they are forwarded to the Senate. The changes would include a separate 5-day open hearing process for Graduate curriculum and policy proposals, mirroring the process currently used by EPCC.
Educational Policy & Curriculum Committee: Chair Michael Barnhart reported that his committee was considering the adoption of a digital signature system of sign-offs for UFS/EPCC proposal forms, in an effort to improve the functioning of the committee’s and the UFS’s business.

General Education Advisory Committee: Chair Phil Blau discussed the work of the AQUIP Action Team, which is leading the efforts of a multiyear review and revision of the university’s General Education Plan.

Honors Council: Honors Program Director Rhoni Maxwell-Rader reported enrollment and curriculum growth. There are currently 124 students enrolled in the Honors Program at Shawnee State, with 61 in the new fall cohort. Courses will soon be provided within the Gaming Program (and otherwise outside the GEP). Derek Jones was mentioned as a new member on the council.

Distance Learning Committee: No report.

Faculty Development: President Feight read a written annual report, submitted by outgoing committee chair, Amr Al-Azm. The committee reviewed and revised the rules for the Distinguished Teaching Award, reviewed the year’s nominations, and recommended Levanya Vemsani for the DTA. In the spring, the committee also recommended that the Provost approve Levanya Vemsani’s application for a sabbatical.

Faculty Assessment Committee: No Report

Course Evaluation Ad Hoc Committee: Chair Darrell Rudmann reported on the committee’s piloting of an on-line course evaluation system, which the committee conducted this past spring. The committee reported favorably on the pilot, recommending its continued use, along with proposing that the UFS should review and revise the current evaluation’s questions.

New Business

A. Motion to table the Resolution in Support of the Efforts of the AQUIP Action Team until the next UFS meeting. The motion was introduced by Nick Meriwether, seconded by Jim Miller, and unanimously approved.

B. EPCC Items were introduced by the President and passed by acclamation as follows:
   1. Natural Sciences
a. Minor course changes – PHYS 2201, PHYS 2211
b. Minor course changes – CHEM 4441, CHEM 4447
c. Enhancement – Bachelor of Science in Chemistry
d. Enhancement – Chemistry minor

Adjourned 5:35 PM.