

Minutes
23 October 2023
4:00 PM
University Faculty Senate
Shawnee State University

1. Call to Order

UFS President Mariah Woodward called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

2. Roll Taking

Secretary Sarah Ivers recorded the attendance as follows:

Gene Burns, Thomas Bunting, Jennifer Scott, Ruby Gray, Andy Napper, Sarah Clausing, Ryan Walker, Adam Miller, Bastien LeCouffe, Sandra Beam, Thomas Piontek, and officers (Jim Reneau, Dovel Myers, Mariah Woodward, Drew Feight, and Sarah Ivers)

Absent: Mikel Stone and Sandi Allen.

3. Approval of Minutes

No changes requested, seconded Thomas Bunting. Approved unanimously.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved Item 7.A. to 11. New Business (Mariah Woodward). Movement and approval seconded by Jim Reneau. Approved unanimously.

5. Announcements and Remarks from the Senate President Mariah Woodward

- Ad Hoc Committee has been formed for Program Metrics: Andy Napper, Matt Cram, Dovel Myers, and Jim Reneau.
- J1 Issue with Updating Courses:
 - If you change a course, it changes that course throughout the history of the course instead of changing it just moving forward. This could be an issue for programs - especially for return students, etc.
 - To work around this, you need to create a new course to avoid changing catalog history.
 - *Resulted in senator-administration discussion. Faculty should not need to do extra work, especially since the J1 software has numbers attached to courses within its system. Andy Napper, Drew Feight, and Jen Scott expressed concerns and Provost Ahuja suggested that J1 be contacted directly for correction.*
 - *Provost Ahuja: "agree with overall sentiment, this sounds crazy"*

6. Treasurer's Report: Jim Reneau

No change. Motioned for approval seconded by Sarah Clausing. Passed unanimously.

7. Administrative Reports:

Erik Braun, Interim President –

- General Comments:

- Need to find solutions to the sorts of J1 issues described above. Asked faculty to identify problems and kick them back to administration for addressing. Suggested that the software may need reevaluation at some point, to review “where the software meets the people”. Unlikely that it will be a quick change.
- Thanked those that participated in recent formal and informal meetings.
- Council meeting will happen next week.
- Senators and Executive Committee have an open door to President’s office.

- **Wiley Contract Discussion:**
 - Need to make a recommendation to the BOT in December of 2023 (possibly February 2024) about what SSU wants (move on/modify/etc. to work towards an exit strategy).
 - Cannot exit the contract without a plan ready to go at the moment of being free of the contractual obligation.
 - Wiley “made sense at the time, it doesn’t now.”
 - This needs to move with some urgency given out contractual timeline.

- **Reorganization of Colleges on Campus**
 - Development of College of Health and Human Services and College of School of Business and (ideally, School) of Engineering.
 - Changes are aimed at accessing funding from federal and state level initiatives, will help with budgetary moves happening at the state level
 - “position ourselves where funding is ripe and rich” – in Health right now (at both Fed and State level)
 - Serious migration plans have existed since July – goal is not a lot of program development (a little expansion), but to use the money to redistribute among CAS and other Colleges (goal is to increase funding by 8 – 10% overall).
 - The Timeline, Funding, and BOT investment all need to align. Will be holding coordinating meetings soon.
 - Administration wants this to happen no later than July 1, 2024 (possibly sooner).
 - Requested feedback via Deans, Faculty.

- **Comments from Senate Floor:**
 - Drew Feight: expressed concerns over the Version 10 of Senate Bill 83 (in the House next week), there is will for it to pass. Senate leadership has modified it enough to get it through the House. (Interim President shared sentiment/contributed to above).

Sunil Ahuja, Provost –

- **Reiterated the Items covered by Interim President Braun**
- **Jennifer Pauley:**
 - **Retention/Completion Task Force –**
 - Retention target for FF was 68% (Fall of 1st year to Fall of 2nd year), moved from 65% last year to 70% this year
 - Completion was 32% last year, target for this year was 35%. Reached 34.4% (Bachelorette in 6 years). In 2018, it was 20.8% (good progress over time)
 - this year the work will focus on sophomores and juniors

- Repeated a survey of Freshman this year from last year, included more experienced students in it. Should begin analyzing that soon.
- **Registration Fair:** November 14th at 10:00 am – 2:00 pm – stated that there is a good turnout for students and that students respond well to it
- **J1 Academic Affairs:**
 - 3 focal points per year
 - Last year: advising worksheets, priority registration cycles, and smaller issues
 - This year: majors specific GEP courses, priority registration, and smaller issues
 - *Please report issues to Jennifer Pauley and Registrar*

8. Announcements from the Senate Floor

None.

9. Committee and Director Reports

Mariah Woodward: OFC meeting on 10/20:

1. Focused on the need for policy development for CCP so that students are better prepared. Some discussion about hours allowed for CCP took place.
 - a. Underprepared students do not benefit institutions financially.

10. Unfinished Business

None

11. New Business

5 Proposals were missing from printed Agenda, including:

- *BSNS AYA Teaching Licensure degrees (Life Sciences and Physical Sciences Concentration)*
- *BUMK 3200 – Sales Management*
- *COMM 2232 – Multimedia and Narrative Journalism*
- *COMM 2289 – Feature Writing*
- *Certificate in Web Programming*

- Drew Feight motioned to modify the agenda to include the above listed proposals. Seconded by Thomas Piontek. All voted in favor.
- The entirety of Item 11, minus the Item previously identified as 7.A. were motioned to be bundled by Dovel Myers. Ruby Gray seconded. Bundle approved unanimously. Dovel Myers moved the bundle be passed, seconded by Thomas Piontek. Curricular bundle approved unanimously.
- **Shared Governance Document Discussion:**
 - Concerns expressed regarding delay between provision of updated form and form showcasing changes.
 - Provost Ahuja stated that the document updated policies to reflect current practice and included needed clean-up. Expressed that the changes reflected conversations with Faculty and Executive Committee.
 - Unclear if the addition of Faculty to Presidential Searches in the document will change BOT policy.

- ExComm took opportunity to add long standing practice to have faculty back on the search for President.
- Andy Napper questioned ARMC face-to-face and/or Online- agreed to a friendly amendment to document
- Vacancy office of Provost- only refers to Provost Office
- Jim Reneau questioned how will it be affected by the split of colleges? Document will require major revisions; would it be representational or senatorial?
- Mention of College of Plastics and Engineering
- Jim Reneau called for a vote of amending shared governance with changes, republish and have for 5-day hearing. Division of Academic and Student Affairs
 - Adam Miller seconded. All voted in favor.
- **Barry Lucas:**
 - Requested that Faculty consider serving on the SEA Advisory Board

12. Adjournment

- Dovel Myers motioned for adjournment. Seconded by Drew Feight. All voted in favor.