

Minutes
25 September 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:

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

*Sandra Beam and Adam Miller arrived at the meeting at Item 5.

3. Approval of Minutes

No changes requested, seconded Gene Burns. Approved, one abstention.

4. Approval of Agenda

Approval seconded by Thomas Piontek. Approved unanimously.

5. Announcements and Remarks from the Senate President Mariah Woodward

- Reminded Faculty of E-Campus Conversation Meetings on W: 11 – 12 pm, and T: 2 – 3 pm, regarding Wiley (previously emailed to all faculty)
- Executive Committee meeting was held to discuss Shared Governance issues and Curriculog corrections needed to improve this process. Erik Larson and Adam Miller have been reviewing these problems.
 - forms used create additional work that is controversial, etc.

6. Treasurer's Report: Jim Reneau

No change. Motioned for approval by Sarah Clausing. Seconded by Sandi Allen. Passed unanimously.

7. Administrative Reports:

Erik Braun, Interim President – Absent

Sunil Ahuja, Provost –

- **BOT Meetings:**
 - Met twice over the summer and held a retreat
 - Faculty should receive a summary of the BOT meetings with actions items from September 15th via email
 - Retreat was held August 11:
 - Discussion of adding two additional colleges to campus:

- College of Health and Human Services
 - Intention would be to align focus on health care related programs, would include the School of Nursing, Allied Health, Rehabilitation programs, and a center for Rural and Community Health
 - such an organization would attract more funding
 - College of Business and Engineering
 - Engineering would become its own School
 - Education is moving to CAS
 - *emphasized that no faculty would be at risk for removal, no change in teaching responsibilities (all still in the discussion phase, except Education)*
 - *essentially this is a name change issue*
 - **Wiley Relationship** -
 - Erik Larson and Jennifer Pauley met with Departmental Chairs over the summer
 - Plan is to bring forward options at the December BOT meeting
 - current contract is up in 2025 with a 2-year tail
 - costs SSU approximately \$1.5M annually, little evidence that university is benefiting from the current contract
 - with the contract end approaching, there is opportunity to renegotiate or move in a different direction
 - **Retention/Completion Task Force** – updates will be shared in BOT summary email
 - Retention climbed from 65% to 70% in one year
 - \$56,000 in net revenue realized
 - Completion will be focused on more heavily in the future

Questions for Provost Ahuja:

- Drew Feight: *requested that Wiley plan submitted to BOT 12/1 be a recommendation and not a set plan prior to it being shared with faculty*
 - *asked about timeline for college reorganizations – Answer: sooner is better because of funding opportunities, but will share recommendations with Faculty Senate prior to action*
- Dovel Myers: *requested the provost’s opinion on Wiley – Answer: it is not working well for SSU*
- Jim Reneau: *asked about the status of the college reorganization and if the CBA process will be followed – Answer: assurance that faculty will be part of all discussions and actions*
- Sarah Clausing: *Will numbers regarding online attendance, finances, etc. be presented at the Wiley meetings? Answer: Not likely, the meeting is for opinions and discussions based in experiences*
 - *Current distribution of funds: 52% SSU: 48% Wiley*
- Andy Napper: *Why not just ask for funding for CPS as it stands? Answer: funding opportunities are better if separated out (potentially)*
 - *Also asked about the imbalance amongst the faculty this will create if there are three colleges – Answer: yes (needs to be addressed)*

Matthew Crawford – Academic Program Performance Metrics Proposal

- brought completed metrics document and shared with faculty (please see attached, has also been shared via email)
- raw data is given for the first 6 metrics
- data spans AY 17-18 through AY 21 -22
 - worked to provide what was requested in the form, not all may be useful

- if there are questions, please email Matthew Crawford
- Mariah Woodward made a motion to form an **ad hoc committee** to review the metrics provided and the performance document
 - Gene Burns seconded – all in favor
 - call for committee members and chair will be sent via email (Andy Napper likely to play a role)

James (Jim) Farmer – Chief Enrollment Officer

- **Introduced Enrollment Division**
 - discussed the enrollment office realignment, based on data
 - general:
 - degree checklists do list developmental hours
 - the petition to graduate form requests that Chairs check this math
 - Do faculty want the enrollment division to take the “petition to graduate” form check out of faculty hands?
 - currently, Chairs get the final say on the faculty side, new proposal would be to let faculty know only if there were errors or areas of concern
 - overall goal is to stop billing, registration, etc. errors
 - Faculty recommended that the Registrar should check, but that the process is reversed from how it was completed previously
 - previously, students were informed before graduation via a letter – faculty want to return to this
 - also need procedure to align with BOT policy that specifies that the Registrar grants graduation while the Faculty recommend graduation

8. Announcements from the Senate Floor

None.

9. Committee and Director Reports

Mariah Woodward: OFC meeting on 9/22:

1. no one (across the state) is happy with the online companies (such as Wiley)
 2. discussion took place on the need for faculty mental health services in addition to those provided to students
- *will share recruitment and retention data via email*

10. Unfinished Business

None

11. New Business

11.A – 11.FF moved to be bundled by Dovel Myers. Drew Feight seconded. Bundle approved unanimously. Thomas Piontek moved the bundle be passed, seconded by Thomas Bunting. Curricular bundle approved unanimously.

12. Adjournment

UFS went into executive session.

Adjournment motioned by _____, seconded by _____.
Approved unanimously and meeting was adjourned.