

Senate Steering Committee
Minutes
October 5, 2006
3:00 - 5:00 P.M.
226 Tigert

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 PM

The minutes of the September 14, 2006 minutes were approved.

Attendees:

Rick Yost
Anita Spring
Barbara Wingo
Danaya Wright
Bernie Machen
Kim Tanzer
Mary Ann Burg
Rebecca Pauly
Peggy Carr
Pradeep Kumar

Chris Snodgrass
Frank Bova
Sandra Chance
Janie Fouke
Amelia Hugus

Guests:

John Leavey
Tim Taylor
Curt Hannah

Reports:

▪ **Chair's Report**

Danaya Wright, Chair

Dr. Wright deferred the chair's report until after the general business has been completed.

▪ **President's Report**

Bernie Machen, President

Dr. Machen reported that he will work with the Welfare Council to review the questions of the past climate surveys in order to determine which questions need to be kept, changed, added or removed for the upcoming climate survey. The survey will be administered in January or February 2007. The survey was originally postponed because the faculty wanted to include questions on shared governance and career flexibility. Dr. Machen would like the Senate to develop a process for updating the work plan as necessary. Dr. Machen will be talking to Kyle Cavanaugh about the DRO proposal and the grievance procedure timeline proposals.

President's Open Floor Discussion:

Bernie Machen, President

There was not an open floor discussion with the President.

Council Reports:

▪ **Budgeting Council**

Frank Bova, Chair

Dr. Bova reported that the budget council met with Dean Sullivan to discuss the CLAS situation. The council would like to ensure that whatever policies are established by CLAS are implemented. The CLAS budget was last balanced in 2002-2003.

▪ **Research Council**

Mary Ann Burg, Chair

The research council met and discussed the effort reporting system. The council will review the policies and procedures regarding the creation and sunseting of centers and institutes at

the next meeting. The council will also review issues regarding funded research and scholarship.

▪ **Academic Infrastructure Council** **Peggy Carr, Chair**

The infrastructure council held a joint meeting with the university library committee to discuss the library task force. The council would like Dean Harrison to present a report of the committee's progress at the upcoming Senate meeting about the task force. The council will follow up with IFAS regarding deferred maintenance and meet with the sustainability committee.

▪ **Faculty Welfare Council** **Rebecca Pauly, Chair**

Dr. Pauly distributed highlights of the tenure and promotion survey. The council is concerned that committee members seemed unaware of the process despite available workshops. The council would like to publish deadlines as well as a timeline for when decisions about tenure and promotion should be available. The council will also review the faculty climate survey.

▪ **Academic Policy Council** **Anita Spring, Chair**

The policy council will further review minus grades at the upcoming meeting. Eleven out of 16 colleges support minus grades, two do not support minus grades and four are undecided. The council hopes to have a recommendation to bring to the Senate as an information item in November. The council will work on determining a process for continued revisions to the strategic work plan. The council will also review the honor code and make recommendations for revisions to acknowledge electronic cheating.

Information Items:

▪ **Role of Steering Committee in Facilitating Senate Processes**

Kim Tanzer, Past Chair

Professor Tanzer distributed a document containing information about senate processes relating to filling vacancies and appointing ad-hoc committees.

▪ **Nominating Committee Structure and Honorary Degrees Recommendations**

John Leavey, Committee on Committees Chair

Dr. Leavey presented the COC's recommendations regarding the Honorary Degrees committee which is to split the committee into one Senate and one Presidential committee. The Senate committee would deal only with Honorary Degrees and the presidential committee would handle all of the other tasks. This issue will be discussed again at the next meeting. He also reported on the committee's recommendation that the nominating committee be increased in size from four to six elected faculty members.

▪ **AFTPRSC Grievance Recommendations and DRO job description**

Curt Hannah, AFTPRSC member

Dr. Hannah presented two items from the AFTPRSC. The first is moving forward with the DRO recommendations and the second is about the grievance timeline. These issues will not move forward until November after the Steering committee has a response from Dr. Machen and Kyle Cavanaugh as to their preferences regarding these items.

▪ **Name Change: Department of Decision and Information Sciences to the Department of Information Systems and Operations Management from the Curriculum Committee**

Sheila Dickison, Curriculum Committee Chair

Dr. Dickison presented a name change request. The item will be presented at the October Senate meeting as an information item.

▪ **Compensation Committee Language**

Tim Taylor, Constitution Committee Chair

Dr. Taylor presented proposed compensation committee language based on the COC's recommendations. Barbara Wingo suggested changing the ex officio terminology to representative. This item will be an information item in November.

The following issues were not discussed. The steering committee will meet on October 12, 2006 to discuss the following items.

- **CLAS Resolution**
- **Library Closing for Games**

Danaya Wright, Chair

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The steering committee approved a proposal to move the November Senate meeting to November 16th to avoid the Veteran's day holiday weekend.

Action Items:

Approval of Senate Agenda for the October 19, 2006 meeting

Danaya Wright, Chair

Approval of the Senate agenda is deferred until a special steering committee meeting on October 12, 2006.

Adjourned at 5:05 PM