

Senate Steering Committee
Minutes
February 7, 2008
3:00-5:00 P.M.
226 Tigert

Attendees:	Carol Kem
Rick Yost	Al Wysocki
John Leavey	Saeed Khan
Barbara Wingo	Guests:
Rebecca Pauly	Ruth Lowery
Amelia Bell	Judy Butterfield
Chris Snodgrass	Daniel Wubah
Jerry Culter	Henry Frierson
Ellis Greiner	Dave Denslow
Danaya Wright	Judy Russell
Carol Murphy	Joe Aufmuth
Bernie Machen	Elizabeth Bolton
Janie Fouke	

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 PM

The minutes of the January 10, 2008 meeting were approved.

Reports:

▪ **Chair's Report**

Rick Yost, Chair

Rick Yost reported that nominations for committees have ended and nominations for councils have opened. Yost asked council chairs to help in recruiting council nominees. The nomination period for chair elect will open this month. Yost clarified that requests for information from the Senate to the colleges should not be restricted. Yost also reminded council chairs that agenda items should be brought to the Senate as information in March if they need to be voted on this academic year.

▪ **President's Report**

Bernie Machen, President

Bernie Machen reported on the university budget. The budget cut projections for the next academic year are \$25 million. The university will work to identify ongoing programmatic cuts to meet the \$25 million deficit. Machen will report to the Steering Committee after the legislative session to present plans for handling the budget cuts. The administration is looking at a salary program for faculty and staff next year. The tuition increase for undergraduate tuition has not been decided by the legislature yet.

Information Items:

• **Graduate Council Proposal** **Henry Frierson, Dean of the Graduate School**
Master of Health Science in Physical Therapy (MHS) Process Graduate Degree Program
This item will be presented as an information item in February.

• **Honorary Degrees Committee Recommendation**

David Denslow, Honorary Degrees Committee Chair

This item will be presented as an information item in February. David Denslow will present the committee's revised committee procedures.

• **IFAS Vehicle Usage Resolution** **Elizabeth Bolton**, IFAS Senator
IFAS Senators presented a resolution on the vehicle usage policy. The Steering committee directed the issues brought up in the resolution to the infrastructure policy council.

- **Library Reorganization Plan** **Judy Russell**, Dean of University Libraries and **Joe Aufmuth**, Library Faculty Assembly chair, **Ruth Lowery**, Chair of the University Library Committee

The library presenters distributed the current and proposed library structure. The issue was directed to the University Library Committee. The ULC will work with the APC and Infrastructure council as appropriate.

- **Committee on Committees Preservation of Historic Buildings and Sites**
Committee membership revision proposal

John Leavey, Committee on Committees Chair
This item will be presented as an information item in February.

- **Nominating committee update** **Carol Kem**, Nominating Committee Chair
Carol Kem updated the steering committee on the status of nominations.

- **Welfare council recommendations** **Rebecca Pauly**, Welfare Council Chair
Proclamation of faculty support for efforts to expand childcare
Chair orientations
Faculty Recognition

The Steering committee discussed proposals by the Welfare council to require chairs to take a chair orientation class, develop a faculty recognition program and ask the senate to approve a proclamation of faculty support for efforts to expand childcare.

- **Constitution Committee Proposed Regulations**

The constitution committee will present a report on proposed regulation as an information item at the February Senate meeting.

Council Reports:

- **Academic Policy Council** **Carol Murphy**, Chair
- **Academic Infrastructure Council** **Jerry Cutler**, Chair
- **Research and Scholarship Council** **Saeed Khan**, Chair
- **Welfare Council** **Rebecca Pauly**, Chair
- **Budget Council** **Allen Wysocki**, Chair

Action Item

- **Approve Senate Agenda for February 21, 2008** **Rick Yost**, Chair

The Senate agenda was approved with the removal of the IFAS vehicle usage resolution and the addition of an Honorary Degrees committee action item.

The meeting adjourned at: