Minutes of the Faculty Senate  
Sept.4, 2007  
4:00 p.m.  
Torian Auditorium, Jordan Hall  
Senators Present: Franklin, Gentry, Metts, O’Brien, Han, Spicer, Schroeder, Reddick, Jordan, Ide, Geiger, Yousuf, Chukwukere, Jones, Zhao, Snyder, Alemayehu, Hahn, Morgan, Warren, Park

I. Call to Order- Dr. Yarbrough called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.
II. Approval of Agenda- The agenda was approved without changes.
III. Minutes- The minutes of the August 8, 2007 meeting were approved without changes.
IV. Correspondence- E-mail from Dr. Chambers (Faculty Handbook) Dr. Chambers spoke concerning his e-mail. The e-mail indicates that the faculty has a right to question and dissent. A concern is that the Handbook doesn’t fully represent faculty rights. Dr. Chambers was invited to propose amendments to the Faculty Handbook.
V. Old Business
A. Letter from Dr. Chambers- This was covered under correspondence. (see above)
B. Archives for Faculty Senate. We are still looking for a space for the Senate office. The Wiley-Wilcox gym has offices. A suggestion was made to have the office in the library since there is space and an archivist there. It is important to have a central place to house Senate documents and keep track of actions taken by the Senate. Minutes of Senate meetings should be sent to the appropriate person to keep track of what is current policy. The Senate should decide who will send documents to the Archives. Dr. Yarbrough said the Vice Chair of the Senate would send documents to the Archives. The Senate office used to be in Herty 201 and will be checked to see if there are any documents there. Senate resolutions should be housed in the Archives. The materials must first be gathered and then reviewed by the Faculty Affairs Committee and the Vice Chair of the Senate to determine the authenticity of the Senate resolutions that have been passed.
C. Teaching load for math faculty- It is possible that some faculty in several departments may currently be teaching 15 hours without receiving an overload. Faculty should not teach overloads without compensation. Dr. Yarbrough will have Dr. Gates check to see which faculty members are teaching more than 12 credit hours without compensation.
VI. New Business- A. Faculty salary and submission of grades- A notice was sent out to faculty that salary will be held until grades are submitted. Dr. Yarbrough suggested that, if grades are not submitted, it should be part of the evaluation process for those faculty who are not submitting their grades in a timely manner. During the summer, and spring, 2007 semester, some faculty had submitted grades and NA’s (never attended) but were reported as not having done so. This was due to some glitches in the system.
B. Faculty work load- CTLAS faculty had written a letter to the VPAA and asked for a consistent application of handbook policy- 12 hours of teaching for undergraduate courses and 9 hours for graduate courses Under this topic, a question arose regarding
when professors who are teaching an overload would be paid. Some fall overload courses have not been paid until the following May. Others have been paid in December for fall overloads. Should the overload compensation be separate from regular pay? Perhaps Faculty Affairs could make a recommendation regarding when overloads should be paid.

C. Online student evaluation of teaching effectiveness- Dr. Lin sent an e-mail saying that some schools are doing online student evaluations. One issue with online evaluations is that a student may not be attending class regularly but may still do an online evaluation. Also, if the evaluations are done online, how do we know who is actually doing the evaluation? Some Senators felt that the evaluations should be done all at one time in class. This matter should also go to Faculty Affairs.

VII-Committee Reports

A. Faculty Affairs- Dr. Hahn said he is trying to determine who is actually on the committee. That is why there has not yet been a meeting on substantive issues. The members of the Faculty Affairs Committee are elected by units. The elections are in the works.

B. Committee on Committees- This committee will meet next Tuesday and will send out one final request to determine interest in serving on committees.

VIII- Announcements- At the last Senate meeting in August, Dr. Myers asked if she can serve on Senate committees while serving as Dean of CLASS. She cannot serve on any Senate committees as long as she is the Dean.

Dr. Yarbrough said that he would like to have a general education class to teach students about personal finance. Faculty responded that there has been a financial workshop in Student Affairs. There is a course in personal finance that is part of the business minor. There is no prerequisite for this course. The core curriculum committee could possibly take up this matter.

Dr. Yarbrough would like to place an emphasis on grant proposals from faculty. Grants bring in additional students and equipment.

Dr. Yarbrough would like SSU to do more e learning and distance learning.

SSU will be refurbishing Indigo Point soon. Hill Hall is moving forward and should be ready by December or January.

The enrollment is 3,100 for the fall, 2007 semester.

Dr. Yarbrough wants to emphasize beautification of the campus.

The Financial Vice President search is in the final stages. It should be wrapped up in two or three weeks.

The Vice President for Academic Affairs search is being narrowed down.

The Indigo Point/University Village will be managed by one single entity.

Dr. Yarbrough will try to have plans of the new classroom building put on the SSU website.

Dr. Yarbrough was asked if he planned to reopen the Jasmin gate. He replied that he did not plan to reopen it due to campus security.

IX- Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.