Minutes

University of Central Arkansas Faculty Senate

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

12:45 p.m. – Room 315: Wingo Hall

**Attendance:**

College of Business: Jim Downey (2014), Kaye McKinzie (2015), Don Bradley (2016)

College of Education: Shoudong Feng (2014), aa-Alicia Cotabish (2015), Jud Copeland (2016)

College of Fine Arts and Communication: Lanette Grate (2014), Garry Craig Powell (2015), Christian Carichner (2016)

College of Health and Behavioral Sciences: Melissa Shock (2014), K.C. Poole (2015), Alexandra Marshall (2016)

College of Liberal Arts: aa-Clayton Crockett (2014), Jacob Held (2015), Chris Craun (2016)

College of Natural Science and Mathematics: Charles Watson (2014), Rahul Mehta (2015), Ben Rowley (2016)

At Large Senators: Brian Bolter (2014), Doug Isanhart (2014), Debbie Bratton (2015), Art Lichtenstein (2015), Kim Eskola (2016), Amber Wilson (2016)

Part-Time: Deb Forssman Hill (2014)

1. Call to Order
2. Comments: President Courtway
   1. Board Retreat last Wednesday and Thursday. Don attended for faculty. Also in attendance were the Executive staff, Board of Trustees, Lindsey Osborne (Staff Senate President), Adam Price (SGA President). The Board was updated on financial situation of the university. The provost gave an academic update. Shelley Mehl gave an update from The Foundation. Updates were also given on Donaghey Corridor Project and there was discussion of increasing college advisors.
   2. Budget workshop will be held on Friday, April 25th. Open working meeting of The Board to work on next year’s budget. No decisions/votes on this date.
   3. The last Board of Trustees meeting will be in May 30th. The Board will decide budget at this time. Looking closely at COLA adjustment.
3. Comments: Provost Runge
   1. Dean Searches: Dr. Stephanie Bellar will be the new Graduate Dean.
   2. College of Health and Behavioral Sciences dean search is in negotiations with candidate.
   3. College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics search committee has just given the Provost their recommendation.
   4. Fall 2014 Admissions: up 150 from last fall on this same date.
   5. Articulation agreements with 2 year schools are continuing and good progress is being made.
   6. A delegation went to South America visiting Brazil and Argentina looking to make university and governmental partnerships. Met with about a dozen or so institutions. A delegation from Brazil will come here in May 2014. A delegation from Argentina will come here for a language immersion program in July 2914.
   7. College of Business Dean—provost was approached by the College of Business faculty and expressed their desire for Dr. Michael Hargis to remain as their permanent dean. Provost set up meetings with the leadership of the college to gauge their feelings. The results of these meetings were positive, so the Provost moved forward. He met with the four departments in the College of Business about this and the faculty were all very receptive and positive. Provost will continue talking with the President about this and it is an ongoing process.
   8. Clarification of timelines on the information coming out of the Faculty Handbook committee. Some colleges were frustrated with the amount of time they had to review the information and changes. Approximately one month has been allowed for feedback and this can be given to faculty senate representatives. There was also an opportunity in November 2013 for chairs and deans to provide feedback and review. This has been a good process.
   9. Higher Learning Commission conference is this weekend. UCA will have a delegation there.
   10. Question Senator Powell. Will there be searches for the Deans of other colleges next year? Provost-That will depend on how the current searches and processes go.
   11. Question Senator Carichner.-Regarding the salary of Assistant Professor Gilbert Baker, where that money came from, and how this will affect future faculty lines in the department
       1. Provost-There were no stipulated terms in his original contract. Provost did not negotiate salary, it was based on several factors. These include length of service, comparison to other faculty members in department, and equitability. Will have to do some checking on where the money comes from. It is not a new money request.
       2. Question Senator Bolter-What is the appeals process for this? Provost-There is no appeals process.
   12. Question Senator Rowley-When did the recommendation from the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics dean search committee come down? Provost-I got it yesterday.
   13. Question Senator Rowley-Who were members of delegation to South America? Provost-Myself, Laura Barsano, Jane Ann Williams and Laura Young
   14. Comment Senator Bradley-The situation with Baker shows a lack of integrity and the faculty are concerned about this.
4. Consideration of Minutes – March 11, 2014
   1. Motion to approve by Senator Copeland , second by Senator Powell.
   2. Passed unanimously.
5. Report from Board of Trustees Retreat – Senator Bradley
   1. One issue that came up was spending more money on the president’s home. Bradley reports that he told them this would not be well received by the Faculty Senate. The president did not ask for this, it was another group (president’s home advisory committee— Board member Sheila Vaught serves on this committee). Bradley told The Board to proceed with caution and that this would not be well received by the Senate. This is just an informational item at this point and is only being discussed. No action yet. Provost-clarified that this is interior design type of stuff. Not adding new construction.
   2. Bradley detailed his discussion with The Board about retention of students. Wanting advisors in the different colleges and academic areas to help students succeed. Provost has requested 6 college level advisors already through SBAC (Strategic Budget Advisory Committee). Bradley expressed is wish to the Board to possibly get 10 this year and following years until we get to 30 subject specific faculty advisors. The discussion about this will continue.
   3. Lots of discussion about building projects and state laws require that UCA set aside specific amounts of money for maintenance and upkeep. Just keep in mind that money put into this is not being used for salaries, instruction, technology, etc. Provost-With regards to Lewis Science Center, the maintenance and upkeep funds were figured into the facilities fee increase.
   4. Question Senator Eskola-What else will advisors do? Provost-advise during peak times, work with admissions on recruiting, other retention projects within their college.
   5. Senator McKinzie- If we get those positions, where will they go? Provost--It was a generic request with no specific college or location intended. That will be decided later.
6. Report from Committee on Committees – Senator Bradley
   1. Committees have been divided among committee on committee members and they looking to update the contents and solve some of the bigger problems.
   2. Trying to get website updated and everything in order, which is a challenge.
   3. Currently there is confusion between what is in Faculty Handbook and what is on website. Propose for next meeting, leave the list of committees in the handbook and have the Faculty Senate website be the official document containing the descriptions and who is on the committee (to prevent having different information in different places). This will be voted on at the next faculty senate meeting Thursday, 4/24/2013.
   4. New Faculty Senate will have meeting Tuesday, 4/29/2014 at 11am in Wingo 315. Executive committee will be elected. Will also try to get Faculty Senate to meet in the summer. Also planning to attempt a retreat for senators before school starts.
7. Consideration of Recommendations from Executive Committee Regarding use of “Coke” Money
   1. Please see attachment provided by the Executive Committee.
   2. Motion to accept to the recommendation by Senator Powell, second by Senator Craun.
   3. Question Senator Bolter-What is happening with the $4000 for a retreat, is it only for the exec staff? Senator Bradley-part of that money will be used to bring in an expert speaker to speak on concurrent credit issues. This is a retreat for the entire faculty senate, not just the exec staff.
   4. Questions and discussion from Senators Feng, Craun, Lichtenstien, Wilson, Eskola, Watson, Bratton, and Rowley.
   5. In favor 3, Against 18, Abstain 0
   6. Motion Fails
8. Report from Faculty Handbook Committee Re: Chapter 3 Revisions – Dr. Kevin Browne, Chair Faculty Handbook Committee
   1. Please see attachment provided.
   2. Dr. Browne asked if anyone had any questions
   3. Senator Copeland-Chapter 3, IV, A, concerning terminal degrees, could someone with an MLS (Master’s in Library Science, terminal degree) be promoted to full professor? Dr. Browne conceded that the MLS for librarians was a special case and that the next handbook committee should look at clarifying this to be the case for promotion to full professor. Provost commented that terminal degrees are determined by the particular field, but sometimes can be tricky.
   4. Senator McKinzie had some clarifications to offer, which had been sent to Dr. Browne and the Handbook Committee previously (all approved of the changes).
      1. 3, III A 2--Change “The tenured faculty must meet en bloc . . . “ to “The tenured faculty of the appropriate academic unit must meet en bloc . . . “
      2. 3, VII C, second to last paragraph--Change “faculty member” to “candidate”
      3. Friendly amendment proposed by Senator McKinzie, second by Senator Bolter.
   5. Senator Poole-what defines a terminal degree? Provost—this would be up to the individual department
   6. Motion to adopt and approved the recommendation with friendly amendments offered by Senator McKinzie by Senator Bradley second by Senator Downey.
   7. Further discussion Senator Bratton—Does this allow for the Senior Lecturer position to be a tenurable rank? Provost-that will be dealt with next year.
   8. In favor 19, Against 2, Abstain 0.
9. Report: Faculty Affairs Committee – On-Line Courses – Senator Craun
   1. Please see attachment provided.
   2. One of our biggest goals was to allow for freedom and flexibility at the department level.
   3. With regards to the proposed committee in the submitted report, we neglected to place someone from the IDC on that committee, feels that was an oversight and an IDC person should be added as a friendly amendment.
   4. This proposed committee will be forwarded to the Chair of Committee on Committees.
   5. Comment Senator Rowley—let’s make sure that our new IT director has a copy of this and that his is informed and kept in the loop.
   6. Comment Senator Copeland—had some trouble getting responses from the Athletic Department, so hoping someone will contact him back.
   7. Motion to accept the report Senator Bolter, second by Senator Bradley.
   8. Passes unanimously
10. Report: Faculty Affairs Committee – Part-Time Faculty – Senator Poole
    1. Will be presented at the next meeting.
11. Faculty Concerns
    1. Announcement on Elections: Lisa Christman and Lisa Ray were elected to Faculty At-Large Positions.
    2. Thanks to Senator Wilson for all of the hard work put in to conducting the online elections.
    3. Senator Poole-*Regarding UCA building projects that will be taking place in the fall 2014, Dr. Gayle Seymour and Senator Poole have submitted a grant requesting funding for renovations to McCastlain Hall from the Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Center. Their grant request will be reviewed May 7, 2014. Renovations could include larger restrooms, larger elevator, better food service facilities, and audio and visual technology in the Fireplace Room and the East Commons. ANCRC will review nineteen projects that have been submitted from various universities around the State. Grants will be awarded on May 7.*
    4. Next meeting is Thursday, April 24, 2014 at 12:45pm in Wingo 315.
12. Adjournment
    1. Motion to adjourn by Senator Rowley, seconded by Senator Wilson.