Minutes

University of Central Arkansas Faculty Senate

Thursday, April 23rd, 2015

12:45 p.m. – Room 315: Wingo Hall

**Attendance:**

College of Business: Kaye McKinzie (2015), Don Bradley (2016), Doug Voss (2017)

College of Education: Shoudong Feng (2015), Jud Copeland (2016), Kevin Stoltz (2017)

College of Fine Arts and Communication: Garry Craig Powell (2015), Jane Dahlenburg (2016), VACANT (2017)

College of Health and Behavioral Sciences: K.C. Poole (2015), Duston Morris (2016), Mitchum Parker (2017)

College of Liberal Arts: Jacob Held (2015), Chris Craun (2016), John Parrack (2017) a

College of Natural Science and Mathematics: Rahul Mehta (2015), Ben Rowley (2016), Lori Isom (2017)

At Large Senators: Debbie Bratton (2015) aa, Art Lichtenstein (2015), Kim Eskola (2016), Amber Wilson (2016) , Lisa Christman (2017), Lisa Ray (2017) aa

Part-Time Senator: Deb Forssman Hill (2015)

1. Call to Order –Senator Bradley
2. Comments: Faculty Senate President Bradley

a. This is President Bradley’s last meeting as president of faculty senate. Senator distributes certificates of appreciation to Senator Held (as Senate Secretary); Senator Wilson (as Parliamentarian); Senator Rowley (as Vice-President/ President-Elect); Provost Runge; and President Courtway

b. Unfinished business: 1) the Honors College situation, 2) Personal issue: try to get honors college in each college, 3) We’ve made great progress on concurrent enrollment but there is much left to do.

c. We accomplished a great deal this year. (See Newsletter, Appendix A)

d. Minutes from athletic committee (Appendix B)

1. Comments: President Courtway
   1. Thank you for your service and commitment to UCA. To the exec committee, I’ve learned a lot from our discussions. Thank you, Dr. Bradley for your service. For three decades he’s been deeply committed and pursued all his endeavors with great diligence and integrity.
   2. Budget workshop is tomorrow at 9:00 am. We’re looking at a budget with no tuition increase. We’re looking at a 1% COLA and a $250,000 pool for merit-equity, which means over three years that pot has been over one million dollars. We need to put all of this in perspective given the economic situation of higher education in the state and nation wide.
   3. Questions:
      1. Senator Copeland: Will Donaghey be widened at all?
         1. Courtway: We oppose widening Donaghey. That is our main street and we don’t want that to become too big, fast, or difficult to traverse. There is talk of a roundabout at College and Donaghey. Bruce and Donaghey is a more difficult decision. But it would be hard to get pedestrians through and so wouldn’t’ be ideal for that intersection.
2. Comments: Provost Runge
   1. Handouts (See appendixes C-E)
   2. Load analysis: This information should be used to inform our discussions about load across campus.
      1. Senator Copeland: Will this be done yearly?
         1. Provost Runge: We’ll be having that discussion. We should keep up on this, perhaps every two years.
      2. Senator Morris: But this report is based on how departments report credit hour, so the data may reflect a difference in reporting not necessarily load.
      3. Senator Isom: If I look at CoB data under reassign time, every category averages 3, except tenured. So what do they do that they always get reassign time. Why doesn’t everyone else get it, because we are also research active and maintain high, rigorous departmental and professional standards?
      4. Senator Christman: Does this include overloads? (Yes)
      5. Provost Runge: Music is missing because they haven’t been able to get their numbers reconcilable with institutional research. Teaching loads have been assigned in non-uniform ways. The same goes for the Honors College.
      6. Senator Craun: On the methodology, when this was compiled did each department turn in their data and then get responses?
         1. Provost Runge: Yes, multiple times. Chairs were heavily involved.
      7. Provost Runge: Use this data thoughtfully. We can use it productively to better understand our situation and move forward.
   3. Questions
3. Consideration of Minutes – April 14th, 2015
   1. Senator Copeland moves, Second from Senator Parker
   2. Discussion (fix “agenda” to “minutes”)
   3. Vote: Passes unanimously
4. Faculty Senate and Coca-Cola Proposal
   1. Senator Powell: There is a missing proposal. Lynn Burley’s proposal on supporting teaching conferences and student research is not included.
      1. Senator Held: This seems to be the result of simple oversight given that we asked all proposals to be resubmitted and Lynn Burley is no longer a senator so it fell through the cracks.
   2. Provost Runge: University counsel maintains the parking resolution is a benefit so it cannot be considered. No one time bonus for faculty. Can allow chairs, can allow IDC, can allow picnic benches.
   3. Motion for Ergonomic chairs, proposal 2, Senator McKinzie, Second by Senator Voss.
      1. Discussion: Senator McKinzie: We could use all the money on these chairs. Senator Held: Don’t faculty already get chairs and can’t departments cover this expense? Why do we need to fund chairs? Senator Eskola: It would be a nice benefit people could opt in for. Senator Christman: Who determines who gets a chair? We can’t get everyone a chair. Senator Eskola: Maybe it could be voluntary? And we do that until we’re out. Senator Lichtenstein: how much money are we talking about? ($34,000). We’ve been talking about this money for far too long. We should be able to do this and be done with it. Senator Craun: If we did this, and it was voluntary would we get into problems of distribution? Do we have procedures to keep this money separate and that it is only for chairs? (Money is in a rollover account. Internal accounting will account for it.) Senator Parker: Choose a single chair, have a deadline, first come first served and we’re done. Senator Isom: I don’t mind the idea of a new chair but there are other good ideas here and we can’t do both. Friendly amendment, reduce amount to $22,000. Accepted by Senator McKinzie, second by Senator Voss. Senator Morris offers friendly amendment to reduce further by $12,000 Senator McKinzie rejects the friendly amendment.
      2. Call the question: Vote: unanimous to call the question.
      3. Vote on proposal 2, ergonomic chairs funded at $22,000
         1. Yay: 12, Nay: 4, Abstentions 3. Motion passes.
   4. Motion for $12,000 for picnic tables, Senator Parker moves, second by Senator Craun
      1. Discussion: Senator Stoltz, can we also have benches? Senator Parker: Senator Eskola and I have talked about other designs as well. We just want places to sit. Senator Poole: We should have a standard on style so we don’t end up with a mish-mash. Senator McKinzie: With this $12,000 do we give it to physical plant? How is the decision made in terms of style? Senator Wilson: A committee, headed by Senator Stoltz could make those determinations. Friendly amendment that the committee also determine design.
      2. Vote: All in favor with one nay. Motion passes.
5. Report from Faculty Affairs I Committee
   1. No report
6. Report from Faculty Affairs II Committee
   1. Visited with concurrent enrollment group and was pleased to hear that they were aware of and sensitive to concerns others, including this committee, have raised.
7. Report from Academic Affairs Committee
   1. No report
8. Announcements
   1. Senator Wilson: Thanks for allowing me to serve as parliamentarian and “Thanks” to all those people who serve on campus committees, especially Chair of Faculty Salary Review committee, Liz Diprince
   2. Senator Rowley: 1) Sent link for constituents to sign up for committee on which they are willing to serve. 2) At next week’s meeting we will be voting for executive committee, so please consider potentially serving yourself or nominating someone else to serve. Please talk to me if you have any interest in those positions.
9. Faculty Concerns (***The concerns below reflect the position of the faculty member who submitted them. All concerns are anonymous. They are included verbatim if sent ahead of time or electronically. (Verbatim comments are italicized.) Comments are paraphrased if presented by a faculty senate member without being accompanied by a written version. The comments below do not necessarily reflect the opinion of any faculty senate member, department, college, or university official. The comments herein presented are unedited. The faculty senate or its agents cannot attest to the veracity of claims made under the “Faculty Concerns” section of the Faculty Senate minutes.***)
   1. Presented by Senator Powell: The renovated HPER is wonderful. But today the music was back, it was loud, it was horrible, and the staff said they could not turn it down or off. They’d been instructed to keep it on and to keep it loud. Can we do something about the music? It detracts from one’s HPER experience.
   2. Presented by Senator Christman: with respect to the HPER, we’ve been told there is no longer a family membership for the pool, that we can’t bring anyone under 18 to the pool. We need that reinstated.
   3. Presented by Senator Feng: We should poll the faculty on important decisions like promotion and tenure time limits.
   4. Presented by Senator Poole: What did we determine about the letter presented by Senator Craun regarding discrimination? (It will wait until Fall and can be addressed then, faculty should have a chance to weigh in.)
   5. Senator Parker: On the HPER we should converse with SGA. I’m also leaving this year, but I am hoping next year’s senate will address issues like: Buildings being used without informing those departments in those buildings.
   6. Presented by Senator Isom: Inquiry about if we can look into the use of student collected fees and whether they are being used as they ought to be.
10. Passing of the gavel from Senator Bradley to Senator Rowley
11. Adjournment

New Faculty Senate Meeting Tuesday April 28th at 11:00 a.m. Wingo 315.