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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, January 17, 2006

FHSU Faculty Senate

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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes for Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 3:34 p.m. by President Win Jordan.

1. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting

- 1a. December 5, 2005 minutes were unanimously approved.

2. Announcements and Information Items (no action required)

2a. Pam Shaffer on Writing Center

1. Pam Shaffer discussed the activities of the Writing Center. The following was discussed:
 - a. The Writing Center is made up of a cooperative effort between the English department and the Library.
 - b. Procedures of the tutoring process presented.
 - c. Tutors do not re-write essay or written assignment for the students.
 - d. Assessment of effective communication skills.
 - e. Pam Shaffer encouraged faculty to send strong writers from other departments to apply to be writing tutors.
 - f. Some discussion prompted by Assistant Provost Crawford on the benefits of helping international students at the Writing Center.
 - g. Some discussion prompted by Senator Fahey on the teaching of APA format as well as MLA format.

2b. Information from Kansas Board of Regents: President Jordan

1. President Jordan distributed a summary of his information to the Faculty Senate. The following items were presented:
 - a. Considerable discussion about the nursing shortage in Kansas.
 - b. The setting of performance agreements occupied a significant portion of the discussion. The KBOR recommends shifting to 3-year cycles with stretch goals and phasing this process in over three years by bringing one-third of the institutions in to the scheme each year.

2c. COFSP Meeting

1. The Council of Faculty Senate Presidents discussed a series of topics, and President Jordan highlighted the following:
 - a. ESU wants to tighten up its procedures for academic misconduct.
 - b. Regents are formulating a policy that will stop the tenure clock for adoption or pregnancy. COFSP put forth a few suggestions; these suggestions include endorsing the policy of "clock stoppage" and recommending that "clock stoppage" for extenuating circumstances needs to be requested and then reviewed on a case-by case basis.
 - c. KSU approved its professional award.
 - d. WSU students want a "Dead Week" for the 15th week of classes. President Jordan suggested that this type of pre-final exam week might be something FHSU considers.
 - e. COFSP had breakfast with the Regents, with discussion centering on problems with the overall declining educational level throughout the system from kindergarten through higher education. They also discussed the difficulty of attracting and retaining faculty with the level of salaries available.

2d. Report from President's Cabinet

1. President Jordan provided a list of items discussed. But did not elaborate on them, asking senators to contact him for details.
 - a. Packaging Financial Aid.
 - b. Tuition and Fees at State Universities.
 - c. Deferred Maintenance/Annual Maintenance Plan.
 - d. Virtual College Budget and SCH.
 - e. AQIP and Kansas Board of Regents Goals.

2e. Council on Institutional Effectiveness

1. President Jordan outlined the following:
 - a. The Council reviewed the input from the AQIP forums held in November and December.
 - b. Discussed preparations for the February 1-4 meeting in Chicago.

3. Reports from Committees

3a. Executive Committee: Win Jordan

1. Expressed a new procedure for handling changes to course descriptions. Would like Faculty Senate to avoid word-smithing at the meetings. Changes and suggestions for changes should be submitted to Academic Affairs for consideration.
2. President Jordan reported that he sent a sympathy card to President Hammond in regards to his mother passing away. President Hammond has expressed his appreciation.
3. President Jordan agreed to invite Pam Shaffer to Faculty Senate to discuss Writing Center.
4. Discussed the advisability of having a Legislative Showcase; this was to be taken up with the senate.

3b. Academic Affairs: Martha Holmes

1. The following courses were presented for a vote: **Art 650, Professional Development in Graphic Design, Art 651, Digital Media I, and Art 652, Digital Media II.**
2. All three classes passed by a unanimous vote.

3c. Student Affairs: Robert Howell

1. Brief discussion about the student who did not get a job due to “Affordable Success” slogan of FHSU. Some concerns about whether or not we should change the slogan

3d. University Affairs: Loretta Dorn

1. This committee passed two recommendations, but these resolutions need to go to the Executive Committee before coming to Faculty Senate.
2. One other issue of concern: temporary faculty who have been at FHSU for some time; what is their status?

3e. By-Laws and Standing Rules: Daniel Kulmala

1. Discussed the problems with re-defining the term “teaching faculty.”
2. Hope to have a working definition for the next Executive Committee meeting.
3. Faculty vote to eliminate the June Faculty Senate meeting: 123 in favor; 7 against. The resolution passes.

3f. Marketing and Strategic Academic Partnerships: Tim Crowley

1. No report.

4. Reports from Special Committees and Other Representatives

4a. AQIP: Chris Crawford

1. Assistant Provost Crawford distributed the following document: FHSU Strategic Issues Identified through AQIP Systems Appraisal and Feedback Forums.
2. He outlined the following from that document:
 - a. Currently restarting the AQIP cycle.
 - b. What are the strategic opportunities for FHSU?
 - c. Discussed a brief history of AQIP.
 - d. Outlined the three priority strategic issues: measurement and institutional data, student recruitment and retention, and assessment and accreditation.
 - e. The following strategic issues can be accomplished through departments: resource management and enhancement, scholarship, communication, strategic planning, and stakeholder needs.

5. Old Business

5a. No Old Business discussed.

6. New Business

6a. Legislative Showcase Day: This topic produced some discussion and the following was considered:

1. Senator Drabkin wondered whether or not this activity would be worth it.

2. Senator Levy questioned what FHSU wants the legislature to know about us.
3. President Jordan indicated that such decisions would be up to the deans of each college. The deans would also make the decisions on who should go for each college.
4. Senator Stark expressed concern about a backlash from the legislature; in other words, wouldn't the legislature wonder why the faculty had taken a day off from teaching?
5. President Jordan said that probably no more than twelve or so faculty members would attend such an event.
6. SGA President Kiley Eisenhower expressed student government's support for this activity.
7. A poll was taken at the meeting to see how many present would support a Legislative Showcase Day. The poll yielded a 26 to 5 vote in favor of such an activity.

7. Adjournment of Regular Faculty Senate Meeting

7a. Meeting was adjourned at 4:26 p.m.