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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, September 5, 2006

FHSU Faculty Senate

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The meeting came to order at 3:35 p.m. on September 5, 2006.

1. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings
   Loretta Dorn motioned to accept the May 2, 2006 minutes; Brett Zollinger seconded. The faculty senate unanimously approved the minutes.

2. Announcements and Information Items introduced by president Rich Lisichenko:
   * Board of Regents meeting was discussed, including tuition rates increases and decreases, as well as negotiations regarding insurance providers TIAA-CREF and ING, as well as mention that Lincoln National and SBG are frozen. Senators and their constituents were advised to direct any questions to the payroll office.
   * COFSP meeting: The issue of digital transcripts being shared among Kansas regents institutions was discussed.
   * Strategic Planning Committee: Performance indicators were assessed in relation to stated university objectives.
   * President’s Cabinet: Some of the topics discussed in relation to this were: scholarship awards paid out, qualified admission annual report, mobile teaching and learning policy statement, mobile learning initiatives, recording the last day of attendance and how to feasibly record the last day of attendance for virtual students. Dr. Larry Gould from the Provost’s Office related the importance of recording the last day of attendance because FHSU will have to pay back money to the federal government for not maintaining this information, and we need to comply to continue receiving financial assistance for our students. The regents will be visiting campus in late October 29th and 30th.

3. Reports from Committees – announced the names of committees and their chairs. Some committees had set meeting times and dates that they announced; others were in the process of setting meeting dates, times and places for their committee meetings. The following is a list of committees and their respective chairs:
   - Executive Committee: Rich Lisichenko
   - Academic Affairs: Martha Holmes
   - Student Affairs: Robert Howell
   - University Affairs: Loretta Dorn
   - By-Laws and Standing Rules: Win Jordan
   - University Marketing and Strategic Academic Partnerships: Dosse Toulaboe

4. Reports From Special Committees and Other Representatives – Nothing to report.

5. Old Business – Nothing to report.

6. New Business
   * Faculty senators introduced themselves.
   * President Lisichenko discussed goals he had in mind for academic year 2006-2007 and invited senators to address goals or concerns they would like to see addressed also. Goals addressed by President Lisichenko were:
     1. Should we keep the TEVAL instrument for course evaluations by students? What is a fair instrument? It was mentioned that the faculty senate already had a resolution about a year ago in May on this issue, which led to a discussion on the process of how a resolution gets to the Provost’s office for consideration. It was determined that many resolutions, perhaps not the previous one in question, never reached Larry Gould’s desk.
A discussion was introduced by Senator Drabkin about timely delivery of resolutions by the faculty senate executive committee. Another point was that the current use of the TEVAL instrument by FHSU may be a copyright infringement and that it was not a “norm referenced instrument” in that FHSU had never gotten the software to use with it. Whatever instrument we use must be a norm referenced instrument.

2. Best practices for mobile computing/teaching: what works and what doesn’t? What is done in each department. Pragmatic solutions are needed.

3. Senior Lecturer position at .9 FTE.: Is there a need for this position? Can this position advance? Can faculty advance to this position?

Some goals/issues mentioned by senators for possible address, progress and/or resolution were:

4. Internationalization efforts: What can we do to help student exposure?

5. Tenure concerns: a) Will “team player” and “good attitude” be future components of tenure review? Senators discussed legalities to speculative inclusion of this criteria and at what level it would even be implemented. b) The Research Environment Committee has been looking at possibly broadening the definition of “scholarship.”


7. Continuation of goals and issues from previous academic year (2005-2006), such as live task forces still in effect and the resolution on mid-semester grades. The “Writing Across the Curriculum” is still a live task force in effect. The resolution concerning mid-semester grades (and other undelivered resolutions from 2005-2006 academic year) will be delivered to the Provost’s Office by the Executive Committee).

8. Utilization of faculty development funds was mentioned.

9. Miscellaneous: a) Should we have a January meeting? (Discussed by not resolved). b) Should we move faculty senate meetings to another building due to the noise of construction in the Memorial Union? Senators agreed and President Lisichenko said he’d try to find another location; he said he would notify the senators of the new meeting location.

7. Adjournment of Regular Faculty Senate Meeting

Sue Jacobs moved to adjourn the meeting; Loretta Dorn seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by the faculty senate. Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:40p.m.