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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, September 4, 2007

FHSU Faculty Senate

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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes for Regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 4, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 3:36 p.m. by President Dan Kulmala.

1. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting

- 1a. Motion by Senator Holmes to approve, and seconded by Senator Koerner. May 7, 2007 minutes were unanimously approved.
- 1b. Approval of May attendance, as amended. Motion by Senator Sanders. Seconded by Senator Holmes. Amended attendance sheet unanimously approved.

2. Announcements and Information Items (no action required)

- 2a. New Faculty Senate Secretary
 - Since Andrea Cooper accepted a position in Taos, NM, Faculty Senate needs a new secretary.
 - It was decided that we would give members time to nominate someone and vote upon nominees at the next meeting.
 - In the meantime, Vice President Kenneth Trantham performed the duties of secretary.
- 2b. Information from Kansas Board of Regents
 - Briefly discussed President Robinson's emphasis on learner outcomes and the need to teach the academic skills inherent in a university education.
 - This academic initiative will form a significant part of future KBOR objectives
- 2c. Report from President's Cabinet
 - No report at this time. Will meet September 5, 2007.
- 2d. Report of the Committee to Review and Rethink the Structure of the University
 - A series of questions were asked of Assistant Provost Crawford and Provost Gould
 - Will departments have a period of review?
 - Have any final decisions been made?
 - Crawford indicated that no decisions have been made.
 - Want faculty to have a say about the future of FHSU. Want process open to all.
 - Will most likely have forums for an open discussion.
 - Senator Drabkin made the motion that the Executive Committee should review the proposal and assign components of it to the appropriate committees. Committees should report with recommendations to the faculty senate by the October and November meetings. Motion seconded by Senator Holmes. Passed unanimously. [intention that we have it to report by the October meeting to be considered by the President in December. Fred Britten agreed that the target was October and November.]
- 2e. Committee Assignments: Dan Kulmala
 - Committee assignments were distributed.
 - Emphasis was placed on having members from every college on each committee
 - Faculty senators are to review the committees and contact President Kulmala should they desire to be on another committee.
 - Interim chairs are to contact members of the committee to discuss and vote upon who will be the committee's chair.
- 2f. CLA Results: Chris Crawford
 - Chris Crawford Reported on recent institutional assessment. Very good value add at FHSU, scoring in the upper 90% of its peer institutions.
 - Brief presentation given, showing the results of this assessment device.
 - President Hammond will give a press release on Thursday, September 6, 2007 to discuss the results.

3. Reports from Committees

- 3a. Executive Committee: Dan Kulmala
 - No report

- 3b. Academic Affairs: Martha Holmes
 - No report
- 3b. Student Affairs: Jeff Burnett
 - No report
- 3c. University Affairs: Jerry Wilson
 - No report.
- 3d. By-Laws and Standing Rules: Win Jordan
 - No report
- 3e. Marketing and Strategic Academic Partnerships: Dosse Toulaboe
 - No report

4. Reports from Liaisons and Other Representatives

- 4a. Writing Across the Curriculum: Dan Kulmala
 - President Kulmala discussed the current activities of this initiative.
 - Will complete the Needs Analysis.
 - Requesting copies of writing assignments faculty give their students—only the assignments, not the students' responses to the assignments.

5. Old Business

- 5a. Teacher Evaluations
 - Need to present to Faculty Senate options for a teaching evaluation instrument to pilot.
 - Would like to introduce two possibilities by the November meeting
 - Some raised questions about the teaching evaluation produced about three or four years ago.
 - President Kulmala indicated that he would review decisions of the past to see what was resolved and decided upon concerning that instrument.

6. New Business

- 6a. Report of the Committee to Review and Rethink the Structure of the University
 - Reiterated plans by which to assign faculty senators to the proposal.

7. Adjournment of Regular Faculty Senate Meeting

- 7a. Meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.