

3-9-1999

## Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, March 9, 1999

FHSU Faculty Senate

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FHSU Faculty Senate Minutes  
Meeting of 3/9/99

President Debra Scheffel called the meeting to order at 3:35pm.

Please see the attached copy of the Faculty Senate Roster for the record of attendance.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved by a voice vote.

**Announcements**

President Scheffel reported that the legislators want to hear from faculty regarding the BOR's faculty salary initiative. She suggested that faculty senators write to legislators in support of the BOR's faculty salary initiative, if they felt comfortable doing so. She also suggested that senators speak to the faculty in their departments about writing to legislators as well. This is why names, addresses and phone numbers of legislators have been sent out to all faculty via email.

Members of the Faculty Senate will visit with legislators in Topeka later in the week.

Senator Joe Aistrup has created a data base of alumni as part of a campaign to urge alumni to contact their legislators about the faculty salary initiative. The campaign to contact alumni is not being conducted at state expense.

The Social Work Program has received accreditation by the National Council on Social Work Education.

Dave Schmidt, Interim Director of the Computing and Telecommunications Center, reported on the activities of ITPAC, the Instructional Technology Policy Advisory Committee. \$15,000 will be available toward the purchase of A/V equipment for checkout. The committee thought that laptops, an LCD projector, and a cart should be bought. The committee would like input on what other equipment should be purchased and on where the equipment should be located.

Dave Schmidt also announced that more licenses for PC's had been purchases for two statistical packages, SPSS and SACS.

ITPAC is also involved in network capacity planning. Action plans approved for next year include an expenditure of about one million dollars in instructional technology equipment. The network capacity will have to be expanded to keep pace with the increasing demand.

ITPAC is planning to conduct surveys pertaining to the use of technology on campus. One will survey on and off campus students. Another will survey satisfaction with the mediated classrooms.

## Standing Committee Reports

Senator Martha Holmes, chair of the **Academic Affairs Committee**, presented three courses for senate approval. GSCI 290, "Cartography: Theory and Applications" and GSCI 360, "Intermediate Geographic Information Systems" were both approved by a voice vote. SOC 560, "Comparative Cultures and Societies" was also approved by a voice vote.

Senator Marty Shapiro, chair of the **University Affairs Committee**, presented a revised version of the Faculty Senate Intellectual Property Policy initially approved by the senate last year. He noted that the changes mostly consisted in changes in terminology, such as using the term "Virtual College".

Senator Tom Guss questioned the stipulation that a minimum of 25% of the income the university receives from patents, licensing fees, etc. through products developed by faculty members goes to the faculty member. He thought that it should be at least 51%. Senator Joe Aistrup noted that 25% of the income generated is a minimum and that the percentage the faculty member receives is negotiable. In practice it is usually at least 50%. Senator Guss moved that the minimum percentage be 51%. The motion did not pass. The vote was 9-19, with one abstention.

Senator Fred Britten asked to see what the exact changes to the policy were. Senators Marty Shapiro and Joe Aistrup pointed out what the changes were. Senator Britten asked if the UAC was asking the senate to approve the changes it had made to the policy. He then suggested that the senate vote on whether it approves the changes or not and not enter into a general discussion of the policy. The changes to the intellectual property policy were approved by a voice vote.

Senator Rich Hughen, chair of the **By-laws and Standing Rules Committee**, reminded senators that nominations were needed for next year's senate officers.

Senator John Durham reported on the budget and the expenditures of the **Executive Committee**.

## Old Business

Senator John Durham presented Senate Resolution 9899:42 on conduct in the collective bargaining debate. Senator Tom Guss voiced approval for the resolution with a reservation about point 4 because the AAUP currently does not enjoy unrestricted use of university-sponsored means of communication. The resolution was approved by a voice vote with one vote against and one abstention. The resolution reads as follows:

The Fort Hays State Faculty Senate, taking note that there is presently on campus a vigorous debate concerning the possibility of collective bargaining by

faculty, recommends to all parties to the debate that they observe the following principles:

1. The mission of the University, especially as to the students, is never to be sacrificed.
2. All parties should avoid extreme rhetoric and false or inflammatory statements.
3. No form of threat or intimidation or coercion (direct or indirect) should be used by any party for any reason.
4. The parties should commit themselves to sharing fully and promptly all factual information at their disposal.
5. Debate and discussion relating to collective bargaining, like any debate or discussion in a university, while courteous and respectful, should be entirely unrestricted as to content.

Senator Tom Guss distributed copies of the letter he received from the Joe Barron, chief counsel of the BOR, on 12/18/98. He put forward a motion to condemn the letter because the policy it contains, which forbids the use of university resources by the AAUP, violates academic freedom. Senator Dan Delisi observed that since the AAUP can get its information out without much difficulty through means other than those available through the university that it not press the issue. He suggested that the AAUP choose its battles and fight the more important battles that will undoubtedly come up in the future. The motion did not pass. The vote was 11-14 with 4 abstentions.

#### **New Business**

Senator Tom Guss brought forward a motion to reconsider the summer salary issue. He proposes that if faculty compensation is going to be limited to 80% of 1/9 of a faculty members salary, that the administration be required to cut back its summer budget by 20%. In response to a question by Senator John Ratzlaff, Provost Larry Gould noted that it is possible to have a contract issued just for service. Senator John Durham noted that since contracts are about to be issued for summer school, that the motion be tabled. The motion to table the resolution was approved by a voice vote. The motion was sent to the UAC for consideration in the fall.

Senator John Durham introduced a resolution on university governance. He proposed that a committee or taskforce be established to investigate the possibility of changes in the structure of university governance. Among other things, he wants the committee to investigate the feasibility of forming a senate for unclassified staff who are not represented by the Faculty

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Senate. His motion also charges the taskforce to investigate how other university constituencies could provide input on issues of university governance. The senate moved to refer the motion to the UAC.

**Liaison Reports**

Senator Martha Holmes reported that the **General Education Committee** met and discussed with Ron Sandstrom and Mike Hasset about whether they could devise a test for incoming students to assess their computing skills. This would provide students a way to test out of the introductory computer courses that are part of the General Education Program.

The Senate adjourned at 4:45pm.