

11-4-2019

Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, November 4, 2019

FHSU Faculty Senate

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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate
November 4, 2019
Location: Black & Gold Room, MU, 3:30pm - 5:00pm

Minutes

Senators were to have read before the meeting the following documents:

- Minutes from 8 October 2019
- FHSU CORE Policies and Procedures
- University Affairs Report (Course Evaluations)
- Student Success Days Policy
 - Access to FS documents can be found through the shared Faculty Senate Folder:
goo.gl/1Np8Fp

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 3:34pm

2. **Approval of Agenda:**

- Bill Stark moves to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Kendal Carswell.
- Approved.

3. **Approval of October Minutes:**

- Bill Stark moves to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Skip Ward.
- Approved.

4. **Announcements and Information Items**

a. **Guest announcements, provided by Provost Arensdorf and Brad Will**

i. **Provost Arensdorf,**

- Effective fall of 2020: All first time, freshman must enroll in ENG 101 and ENG 102 their first year until successfully completed.
- Winter Commencement will be Friday, December 13th at 1:00pm. Anticipate 300-400 students.
- Pancakes with the President the morning of commencement (9:00am-11:00am) in Robbins Center. Please join and encourage your department to join.
- Strategic Planning update forthcoming. Watch out for an email from President Mason.
- Fall tenure panel was a success (~38 people participated). Planning for another event in the spring based on feedback from fall event.
- Please review your cabinet notes and encourage department to do the same.

ii. **Brad Will, General Education Committee**

- No announcements; Brad present to answer questions about General Education CORE Policies and Procedures (see below).

b. Report from Faculty Senate President

- i. KBOR: No October meeting; November meeting will be held at PSU.
- ii. COFSP's: Kansas Credit for Prior Learning Guidelines review.
- iii. Jay Golden named new President at WSU.
- iv. Please remind your faculty to vote on the ByLaws. Voting ends on Nov 5, 2019. 99 responses so far.
- v. **Possible** change with regard to the Inclement Weather Policy originating from Staff Senate. When/If classes are cancelled, campus will close.
- vi. Watch for Move to Market emails in early December along with Workday notification requiring action (for those receiving an adjustment). They will be similar to those of last year describing how we are impacted. The dollars are committed to the 2nd year of the 4-year plan.
- vii. No Smoking/Vaping Policy: Enforcement is the responsibility of all faculty, staff, and administration.
- viii. Visit with Dennis King regarding VC drop in enrollments.
- ix. January 17, 9:00-11:00 AM: Winter Convocation (Distinguished and Outstanding Service Awards; Draft of International Reorganization Structure)
- x. Students will be required to complete ENG 101 and 102 as freshman (see Provost Arensdorf's remarks above for more details).
- xi. [NSSE Survey Results](#) (found in BB and in shared folder)
 1. Collaborative Learning: Low compared to our peers
 2. Student Faculty Interactions: Low compared to peers
 3. Participation in internships, coop's, study abroad, learning communities, etc.: Low compared to peers

NSSE possible explanations: Bigger online component compared to peers and number of hours our students spend at "jobs" compared to peers. Patterns in these results have been similar over the past many years so the question has been raised as to whether or not this is a "student" issue or "institutional." President Mason has asked Sangki to dig a little more into results (student work hours, etc.).

5. **Consent Agenda:** No consent agenda provided.

6. Reports from Committees:

- a. **Academic Affairs:** Helen Miles reported on the progress made by Academic Affairs (AA) to approve the FHSU CORE Policies and Procedures. The General Education Committee (GEC) addressed the concerns presented by AA and returned an edited document to our committee; AA Committee moves to approve the CORE Policies and Procedures document.
 - i. **Discussion:** Senators wish to express their sincere thanks and gratitude to Brad Will and the GEC. Jeni McRay requested some information on when we can start submitting courses for approval. Brad responded that if the document is approved, then they will start accepting course proposals for review. However, the GEC is still waiting to setup the faculty advisory committees (this will be needed before classes can be reviewed). For more

details on the faculty advisory committee, please see the CORE Policies Document. **Motion was approved.**

- b. **University Affairs:** Tony Gabel provided a report about the selection of course evaluation questions. He requests that we share with our departments and encourage feedback. He also would like senators to remind departments that that these questions are norm referenced, so the feedback from departments should not be in reference to revising the questions. About 125 faculty responded to the survey sent out for selecting the evaluation questions. University Affairs (UA) found that many of the same questions were selected by faculty and the committee. Ten core questions were selected for on-campus students (and an additional three items were selected for online classes). Tony requests feedback by November 18th so that we can vote on the questions at our December meeting.
 - i. **Discussion:** Lexey Bartlett asked for some clarification about the number of questions for the on-campus evaluation. Tony indicated that there will be ten total questions (provided on the document) for on-campus classes. Tony also indicated that custom questions can be added by faculty. Paul Nienkamp asked if there will be a university standard for tenure/promotion/merit (T/P/M) in relation to certain questions on the evaluation. Tony indicated that he would expect that the ten core questions would be used, but he does not know at this point how the customized/additional questions will be viewed in relation to T/P/M. Janett Naylor-Tincknell added that the customized questions can only be seen by the faculty member, so this would not be something to include for T/P/M unless instructed by Department Chair.
- c. **Strategic Planning and Improvements:** Kevin reminded us that voting on Bylaws ends tomorrow (11/5), so please encourage your department to vote.
- d. **Partnerships and Technology:** Jason Harper reported that the committee is still waiting on the Ministry of Education at SIAS to meet with them. He also indicated that the committee discussed inviting Cindy Elliot to come talk to FS about our International Partnerships (if desired). Jason also recommends sending communication to partnerships through Outlook (or Microsoft Teams) due to government surveillance.
 - i. **Discussion:** Kevin polled senators for thoughts on inviting Cindy to attend one of our meetings. General consensus was to invite her if/when we have questions and/or need more information.
- e. **Student Affairs:** Lexey Bartlett reported that Student Affairs (SA) has been working with Student Government Association (SGA) to revise the Student Success Days Policy. SGA also has been working with Virtual Student Senate to ensure that the policy reflects the interests of all students as much as possible.
 - i. **Discussion:** Mary Jo Gubitoso asked if the policy pertains to both graduate and undergraduate students. Lexey noted that it would (unless a course is classified as an exception). Christopher Olds asked if there is any additional information that can be shared with senate on the scope of this problem (is a policy needed?). Lexey indicated that every other regents school has a policy. FHSU is the exception, so it is important that we create one. Chris followed up with a question about the name of the policy

(why Success Days?). Lexey indicated that the name stems from requesting only two days with no new assignments/material and not an entire week. She also said that SA and SGA may not be opposed to a name change, but they do want a policy of best practices that will promote student success. Bill Stark supports keeping the names as is. Tom Schafer requested evidence that giving students these two days will actually help performance. Lexey responded that there is no real data (that she knows of) that can show before/after policy implementation regarding improved success/performance but that she would do some more digging on this if requested by senate. Ivalah Allen asked how the two days will influence last week of school performances for Music & Theatre that will occur during the success days. Lexey suggested that if it is an extracurricular activity it would not be relevant to this policy, but if the performance is graded, then it would need to be less than 10% of a student's final course grade. However, Lexey also mentioned that these performance could be considered an exception (or a semester long project). Helen Miles asked how this would impact athletic competition. Lexey indicated that the policy put forth is only in reference to academics, not to extracurricular activities. Janett Naylor-Tincknell wanted to know how the policy will be enforced and what the consequences will be for violating the policy. Lexey responded that there may not be formal consequences in place but pointed out that there are many university policies that might not be enforced (e.g., all faculty being asked to attend graduation). Her thought was that Deans and Chairs would enforce this policy when reviewing syllabi. Sarbari Mitra asked for clarification about how the policy applies to the Mathematics - in her department it might be hard not to allow students to complete make-up exams/assignments because this is generally done on the Thursday and Friday before finals week. Lexey indicated that this might be considered an exception to the policy if there is no new material covered and the exams/assignments are strictly make-up for students. Jeni McRay requested clarification on what SA and SGA would like from senate at this point regarding the policy. Lexey (on behalf of SA and SGA) would like senate to vote on this policy. The goal is to get feedback and improve as needed, but the committee would like a vote given that SA approved the policy unanimously. Skip Ward indicated that he took the policy to his department and the consensus was "no." Ginger Loggins said this was similar to her department, but that few faculty in her department were able to give specific feedback about what they did not like. Jeni McRay indicated that her department does not want to dismiss that students feel like there is an issue, but her department would like to see more details in terms of the exceptions, who is going to enforce it, etc. Kevin entertained a motion to postpone a vote on the policy until our December meeting to allow more time to bring feedback to SA. If there is feedback, please send this directly to Lexey. Motion to wait until December was made by Skip Ward and seconded by Tom Schafer.

Approved. (1 opposed).

7. New Business

- a. Rob Byer and/or guest: Drop Policies Relating to Student Misconduct
 - i. What happens when a student fails a class due to academic misconduct?
The student may commit academic misconduct and then drop/withdraw from the class and enroll again. Other institutions have policies that indicate if a student fails because of academic misconduct, the grade is kept on the transcript and not replaced with a W (if they withdraw/drop).
 - ii. **Discussion:** Bill Stark supports having a policy. Janett Naylor-Tincknell indicated that there might be a larger problem with respect to not adequately tracking student misconduct overall. Perhaps departments need to do a better job of monitoring this. Shane Schartz asked how a policy like this might impact course evaluations. Kevin assigned Rob (and David) to work with Student Affairs to compile information and draft a policy.

8. Adjournment

- Motion from Tony Gabel, seconded by Janett Naylor-Tincknell. Approved.
- Meeting adjourned at 4:44pm.