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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, December 3, 2019

FHSU Faculty Senate

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

Minutes

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

- [November 2019 FS Minutes](#)
- [Univ Affairs: Motion to Approve eXplorance Blue evaluation questions](#)
- [SGA Success Days Proposal - final version](#)
- [SGA Success Days Q/A document from Political Science](#)
 - Access to documents can be found through the shared Faculty Senate Folder:
goo.gl/1Np8Fp

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 3:32pm

2. **Approval of Agenda:**

- Tony Gabel moves to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Rob Byer.
- Approved.

3. **Approval of [November Minutes](#):**

- Point of clarification: Under “Partnerships and Technology” Kevin Splichal clarified that Cindy Elliot may be invited to a Faculty Senate meeting after information is released regarding the International Reorganization Structure (draft to be presented at Winter Convocation, January 17th, 2020).
- Candace Mehaffey-Kultgen moves to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Tony Gabel.
- Approved.

4. **Announcements and Information Items**

a. **Guest announcements,**

i. **Provided by Provost Arensdorf,**

- She has met with most departments (and will visit three remaining departments in December and January). Provost Arensdorf would like to thank all departments for taking time to meet.
- An email was sent on November 13th containing updates on year one implementation of the Strategic Plan. Additional updates will be sent next semester.
- Promotion Panel is scheduled for February 13th, 2020 from 3:00pm-4:30pm (room to be announced).
- Winter Commencement will take place on December 13th. Over 400 students plan to participate in the ceremony.
- Please make plans to attend Pancakes with the President on December 13th from 9:00am-11:00am in the Robins Center. This event is free, but anyone who would like to attend should RSVP (reservations are required). To make a reservation either contact

the Alumni Center (ext. 4430) or visit

www.goforthaysstate.com/2019gradbreakfast

- The Ministry of Education at SIAS was expected to visit this fall, however, this visit will be postponed until April or May of 2020.

b. Report from Faculty Senate President

- i. KBOR - Approved naming of Schmidt Foundation Center for Art and Design.
- ii. COFSP's - Kansas Credit for Prior Learning Guidelines reviewed. Some institutions asking for spousal and dependent tuition assistance. Some institutions are hiring consultants to look at dropping enrollments. HR policy on the appointing of interim positions and emergency positions. KSU has such a policy. KU beginning a strategic plan process. WSU looking at faculty workload.
- iii. Faculty Senate ByLaws approved on Nov 5, 2019. 110-Yes, 7-No. The updated ByLaws can be found on our website.
- iv. 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. President Mason's email dated, November 18, 2019 explains the process.
- v. January 17, 9:00-11:00 AM: Winter Convocation (Distinguished and Outstanding Service Awards) (Draft of International Reorganization Structure)
- vi. Gen Ed Committee: Call has gone out to deans for Faculty Advisory nominations which are appropriate to CORE Outcomes and academic colleges. A "Call for Course Proposals" email has gone out to chairs. Questions about this process should be directed to chairs first.
 1. Course proposals will be submitted using the Lotus Notes "significant course change process".
 2. Once in LN, Brad Will forwards the course proposal to the appropriate Faculty Advisory group.
 3. The Faculty Advisory group then reviews the course, makes suggestions, and forwards a letter of review back to Brad Will and the Gen Ed Committee.
 4. Once approved by the Gen Ed Committee, the course continues through the appropriate approvers in Lotus Notes.
- vii. Student Success Days proposal (SGA, FS, Provost's Academic Council, SLT). See notes below for more details.
- viii. Standing Rule Number Eight: Faculty Senate President and past Presidents convened to discuss nominees for future President, VP, and Secretary. This meeting generally occurs in March, but the meeting occurred early due to circumstances that required immediate discussion.
- ix. Torch Award: Seeking one Senator from each college
 1. Tony Gabel (Robbins College of Business and Entrepreneurship), Janet Stramel (College of Education), Tom Schafer (Werth College of Science, Technology, and Mathematics), Rob Byer (College of

Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences), and Susan Dumler
(College of Health and Behavioral Sciences)

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

6. **Reports from Committees:**

- a. **Academic Affairs:** Kevin provided report on behalf of Helen Miles and Loretta Dorn
 - i. FHSU CORE Policies and Procedures was unanimous approved at our last meeting (November 4th).
 - ii. The committee hopes to meet finals week to consider course approval needs that may already be submitted to Lotus Notes. The committee also will consider a standard format for syllabi in regards to courses that will be considered for the General Education program.
- b. **University Affairs:** Report provided by Tony Gabel
 - i. Faculty Morale and Merit Resolution timeline extended; this has become a focus for the committee now that the course evaluation questions have been selected. The committee should have more information to report in the spring.
 - ii. [eXplorance Blue Survey Questions](#)
 - Motion to approve presented by the committee. **Approved.**
- c. **Strategic Planning and Improvements:** No report provided
- d. **Partnerships and Technology:** No report provided
 - i. Website updated with ByLaws
 - ii. SIAS negotiations – please see Provost Arensdorf’s update above
- e. **Student Affairs:** Report provided by Lexey Bartlett
 - i. The Student Affairs (SA) committee met recently to discuss the Drop Policies Relating to Student Misconduct. The committee plans to meet again in the spring to discuss this more.
 - ii. [Student Success Days Proposal](#)
 - SA committee made some minor revisions based on feedback received from departments (e.g., revised some sentences for clarity; moved “Partner Institution” to the “Exception Category”).
 - Move to substitute the revised document for approval. Motion from the SA committee was approved unanimously.
 - iii. [Political Science Q/A to Success Days Proposal](#)
 - **Discussion:** Christopher Olds asked for clarification regarding the committee’s response to question 5. Christopher also expressed concern with the limited knowledge of policies created by other institutions and the lack of empirical/systematic evidence provided to show a need for the policy. Gary Brinker also expressed a concern with a lack of evidence to support the policy and asked to what extent SGA knows that a policy like this is what FHSU students want. Brad DeMers discussed the survey that was sent to students and that the policy was created based on ~1,000 student responses. Glenn Growe polled faculty in his department (Econ.), and the general consensus was not in favor of the policy. Justin Greenleaf

added that SGA has pushed this issue for several years and that he believes SGA (with help from the SA committee) has addressed concerns presented by Faculty Senate.

- Voting took place by paper ballot. **Votes included: Yes (n=24); No (n=12). Motion passed.**

7. **New Business**

- a. **Discussion:** Shane Schartz expressed concern about course evaluations that are based (in part) on students who have been reported to Starfish, by students who have failed classes and retake the class with the same instructor, and by students who stop participating in a class but still do an evaluation. Shane would welcome a discussion (and perhaps a resolution) about how to protect faculty from these types of situations. Amy Schmierbach indicated that we might be able to use the crosstabs function offered by the new course evaluation platform (eXplorance Blue) to address some of these concerns (e.g., are students who failed the class responding negatively on the course evaluation?). Candace Mehaffey-Kultgen indicated support for a potential resolution addressing this issue. Amy suggested that perhaps this is not a course evaluation issue; this is more of an issue of using course evaluations as the main source of criteria for teaching (in regards to Tenure/Promotion/Merit, TMP). Kevin added that if this is the case (i.e., more of a problem with the overuse of course evaluations for T/M/P), then a discussion of department criteria (among departments) would be more relevant.

8. **Adjournment**

- Motion from Tony Gabel, seconded by Bill Stark. **Approved.**
- Meeting adjourned at 4:21pm
- Next meeting January 21st, 2020