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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Agenda, November 7, 2006

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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate
Agenda for Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 7th
(3:30pm, Memorial Union, Pioneer Room)

Meeting began at 3:37p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings

- 1a. October 2, 2006 minutes and sign-in roster— *tabled until December meeting.*

2. Announcements and Information Items (no action required): Dan Kulmala

2a. Board of Regents meeting

- Report on Assessment of Learner Outcomes (CLA) – *discussed the four items being looking at, which are problem solving, critical thinking, analytical thinking and writing.*
- Technical Education Reform – *Mr. Gould discussed the possibility of regents taking over technical colleges and issues of governance versus funding. Called Technical Education Reform, there is a recommendation in HLC accreditation that all technical schools and colleges merge with community colleges. The Board of Regents recommended to the legislature that mergers and acquisitions be allowed and that they begin discussing this. It was pointed out that organizational climate is an issue that should be important for faculty. There is also a political implication in that “honors” courses might be allowed for high-school students at community/technical colleges but not at our university. Senator Drabkin also asked what our responsibility is for overseeing community/technical school design might be. For example, would Fort Hays have to oversee their course design?*

2b. COPs

- KU’s guaranteed tuition proposal – *discussion held over KU’s proposal to offer a guaranteed tuition program. There is much debate in general over this. Some students who chose this would get a certain rate each year while other students who did not choose it would have their tuition increase each year.*

2c. COFSP meeting

- Survey to review negative factors related to recruitment and retention – *is trying to determine why some faculty left us, or why they turned down a job that was offered to them, in an effort to address those issues and try to make Hays and FHSU more attractive.*
- Concerns about assessment and teaching effectiveness – *They are continuing to try to come up with an assessment tool that’s useful and effective.*
- CLA (Collegiate Learning Assessment) – *more information will be available at the next faculty senate meeting.*

2c. Strategic Planning Committee

- Strategic Planning Committee will meet November 8 – *more information will be available at the next meeting.*

2d. President’s Cabinet – *Travel policy has implications for faculty, but is not meant to be a burden; it is meant to add a layer of liability risk reduction for Fort Hays. There was also a proposal to increase the domestic application fee \$5.00 (from \$30 to \$35) for the application to graduate school.*

3. Reports from Committees

3a. Executive Committee: Dan Kulmala – *Senator Kulmala calls for volunteer departments to do student evaluations for Fall 2006 semester. The executive committee will put the instrument together at the next executive committee meeting.*

3b. Academic Affairs: Martha Holmes

- Two INT courses – *two non-general education courses were discussed. They were as follows:*
 1. *INT 122: approved with two opposed and the rest of faculty senate approving.*
 2. *INT 652: unanimously approved*
- *Senator Holmes announced that there are guidelines for approval of new courses and that some changes have been made. These are in rules 4.9 (which mostly addresses virtual courses by encouraging new faculty to take the blackboard tutorial), 5.3 (requiring faculty proposing online courses to address how interactivity is maintained between the student and the faculty member), and 5.5 (regarding already submitted virtual courses must submit a one page explanation of adaptations to online delivery). The faculty senate voted unanimously to approve these changes.*
- *Information items were announced:*
 1. *Math 250 (Statistics) will have a final on one day (Saturday), and the department requested feedback from faculty senate*
 2. *Academic Audit concerns to think about – When making a student handbook for the department, be sure it agrees with the University policies in the University Handbook. Also, in some departments there's a problem getting virtual students enrolled in general education classes, so they are asking that departments use caution in enrolling on campus students in virtual sections of courses.*

3c. Student Affairs: Robert Howell – *The “Who’s Who” application has been sent out. Also, an issue for the Executive Committee which is on the agenda for December’s faculty senate meeting is midterm grades.*

3d. University Affairs: Loretta Dorn – *They have discussed Student Government Association’s resolution regarding midterm grades. They have some questions they need answered before they can bring a recommendation to the faculty senate. They are also getting more information on long term designated employees and then will bring back to the faculty senate with information. Finally, regarding internationalization, they brought a concern about faculty training on foreign students in the classroom. Discussion was held on these items, such as whether there were any examples of training that might be useful and whether these trainings would be mandatory or voluntary.*

3e. By-Laws and Standing Rules: Dan Kulmala presented this information on behalf of Win Jordan.

- Series of resolutions upon which to consider and vote—see attachments
 1. *Article III: Representation – was unanimously approved by the committee. Faculty senate discussed the definition. Two abstained from approving, but the rest of the faculty senate approved so it will go to the all Fort Hays Faculty for a vote.*
 2. *Article V: Meetings – unanimous vote to abolish January faculty senate meetings. It will go to all Fort Hays faculty for a vote.*
 3. *Article IV: Officers – no vote needed since only fixing a typo (from “presidentelect” to “president-elect”).*
 4. *Article VIII: Ratification and Amendment – voted unanimously to include electronic ballot. The vote will go to all Fort Hays faculty.*

5. *Standing Rule #1: regarding a vote to delete the standing rule to invite the SGA President to appoint a non-voting representative to each of the Faculty Senate Committees. Discussion was held. A vote was taken: 5 voted to approve the deletion; 28 voted against deleting it; 1 person abstained. The proposal won't go to all of Fort Hays faculty for a vote.*
6. *Standing Rule #6: regarding committee secretaries to keep a record of committee meetings. input only (no vote) was requested. Faculty senators were requested to send their inquiries and feedback to Senator Jordan.*
7. *Standing Rule #7: tabled until next meeting.*

3f. University Marketing and Strategic Academic Partnerships: Stephen Schleicher – *nothing to report.*

4. Reports from Special Committees and Other Representatives

4a. Writing Across the Curriculum: Writing Intensive Courses - *This will now go to Academic Affairs and then to faculty senate. The members of faculty senate are encouraged to view the materials provided for later discussion.*

5. Old Business

5a. Course/teaching evaluation instrument resolution

- *Need volunteer departments – discussed under item #3a.*

5b. MOA Resolution

- *Tenure Review Reminder – this was tabled until the next meeting. It was recommended by the Executive Committee and will be passed on to University Affairs before it is brought to the faculty senate for a vote.*

6. New Business

6a. President Hammond

- *Retirement program changes - discussed*

6b. John Ross

- *Learning Commons – regarding strategic planning of the library, faculty senate were encouraged to send any comment or suggestions to Mr. Ross. Also, the library will be open longer during finals week. They were thinking about making this a tradition and also thought about getting sponsors from around town to donate free food, etc. to entice students to visit the library during finals week. There were other ideas to gain student involvement the library throughout the year. As for the student commons, a proposal was presented in which the present resources would be combined with resources at the library (computer assistance housed in the library is meant to increase traffic into the library). Other ideas included having a digital commons and having more tutors for specific courses. The proposal called for more space and study areas as well as presentation areas for special lectures, etc. The goal is to create self-directed, lifelong learners. Some issues discussed were the difficulty in combining all CTC applications with the library functions and whether there should be Kelly Center tutors available within the library. The Executive Committee will discuss a possible resolution in support of the learning commons proposal.*

6c. Brad Will

- *Printing Services – Mr. Will wants to pass a resolution supporting the quality work that the printing services does. Senator Trout expressed support for the resolution from the graduate school, and said that the grad school would be willing to pay for the plaque. Mr. Will motioned for the resolution and Senator Sadler seconded the motion. All faculty senate members voted in favor of the motion.*

7. Adjournment of Regular Faculty Senate Meeting – *The meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote at 5:32 p.m.*

Minutes submitted by: Andria Cooper, Faculty Senate Secretary.