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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Agenda, December 4, 2006

FHSU Faculty Senate

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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate
Agenda for Regular Meeting on Monday, December 4th
(3:30pm, McCartney Hall, Room 301)

Meeting began at 3:35p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings

1a. October 2, 2006 minutes and sign-in roster – *Senator Jordan motioned to approve the October 2, 2006 minutes with modifications to errors that were pointed out. Senator Stanton seconded the motion. The faculty senate unanimously approved.*

1b. November 7, 2006 minutes and sign-in roster – *Senator Jordan motioned to approve the October 2, 2006 minutes with modifications to errors that were pointed out. Senator Sanders seconded. The faculty senate unanimously approved.*

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

2a. Board of Regents meeting

- *Deferred Maintenance – faculty senate asked to send any feedback they have to Dan Kulmala.*
- *Qualified Admissions – The University of Kansas has increased their admissions standards while other regent schools are staying as they are.*
- *Performance Agreements and Learner Outcomes – this is to document what we say we are accomplishing.*
- *Student Retention – was discussed; thoughts were raised regarding formation of a task force or initiative.*
- *Digital Transcripts – “Docufied” is a name of a service that will allow the use of digital transcripts. It was pointed out that it eases the process for students. Discussion followed.*

2c. COFSP meeting

- *Survey to review negative factors related to recruitment and retention – the survey has been sent.*
- *Survey for tenure-track faculty: Retention issue – So far, the most significant issues seem to be salary and workload.*
- *Teaching Summit – At the University of Kansas, they have a voluntary teaching summit every year where faculty can get together and collaborate and discuss teaching methods, etc. More and more teachers go every year. The idea to look into possibly doing this at FHSU was discussed.*

2c. Strategic Planning Committee

- *Strategic Planning Committee - They will meet December 5.*

2d. President’s Cabinet – *Provost Gould said there was nothing to report.*

3. Reports from Committees

3a. Executive Committee: Dan Kulmala – *Senator Kulmala said the next meeting is December 15th.*

3b. Academic Affairs: Martha Holmes – *presented four courses for approval. They were Marketing and Management 617, Physics 660, History 377 and History 378. Discussion was held on each. The faculty senate then unanimously approved all of these courses.*

3c. Student Affairs: Robert Howell – *the “Who’s Who” application was discussed.*

3d. University Affairs: - *They are currently looking at midterm grade issues and comparing with other universities to see what they are doing. Provost Gould brought to the faculty senate's attention that his office currently has two contradictory resolutions in his office right now. One is from the Student Government Association that expresses a desire for midterm grades. The other is from the Faculty Senate that expresses a desire to abandon midterm grades. A discussion was held regarding the status of the issue. Also, some alternatives were explored, such as having midterm grades reported for only "D" or "U" grades, or sending academic warning cards to students who the instructor feels is not doing satisfactorily. The bottom line seems to be that students are more concerned with timely feedback and accurate grades that are reported. Assuming that items are turned back to students in a timely manner, students could probably figure their own grades. The matter is still being explored.*

3e. By-Laws and Standing Rules: Win Jordan

- Results of votes at this point – *Most votes regarding bylaws are in approval so far. Nothing else to report.*

3f. University Marketing and Strategic Academic Partnerships: Stephen Schleicher – *No report.*

4. Reports from Special Committees and Other Representatives

4a. Writing Across the Curriculum

- Writing Intensive Courses: Pilot courses – *Faculty Senate will be given more information in the next meeting (most likely the February 2007 meeting).*

5. Old Business

5a. Course/teaching evaluation instrument resolution

- Need to finish final form for distribution to pilot departments – *We may not be able to pilot the new evaluations until the Spring 2007 semester. We may also need the scantron sheets for the evaluations.*

6. New Business

Senator Koerner wanted to know: of the approximately 230 tenured positions at FHSU, how many are administrative positions? Discussion followed regarding why there was a drop in tenured faculty if there was one and whether there were as many tenured positions as claimed.

7. Adjournment of Regular Faculty Senate Meeting

Senator Cooper motioned to adjourn the meeting. Senator Zollinger seconded the motion. The faculty senate unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Andria Cooper, Faculty Senate Secretary.