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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, March 3, 2008

FHSU Faculty Senate

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FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
Minutes for Regular Meeting on Monday, March 3, 2008

The meeting was called to order in McCartney 301 at 3:37 p.m. by President Kulmala.

1. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting

- a. The February 5, 2008 minutes were unanimously approved with no change to the meeting's sign-in roster.

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

- a. Board of Regents meeting
 - No report
- b. COFSP meeting
 - A document is being developed regarding the definition of Liberal Arts. Dan will explain more at the next meeting if anything comes of it.
- c. President's Cabinet
 - No report

3. Reports from Committees

- a. Executive Committee: Dan Kulmala
 - CourseEval: Pilot the database this semester. We are continuing to evaluate CourseEval 3 with three more departments to be included. We will disseminate more information regarding the database in late March. We have expanded the number of members on the Teacher Evaluation Committee.
 - Dare to Dream Initiatives. We will vote on Design Element 6 today. We will vote on Design Element 3 at the next meeting.
 - General Education Program Review. It might be to our benefit to come forward to suggest direction for the General Education program so we can take a proactive stance. The Executive Committee will discuss the topic and bring something forward at the next meeting.
- b. Academic Affairs: Martha Holmes.
 - Martha noted that the application for a new course in the Accounting Department, "Fraud Examination," was approved unanimously by the committee and it is not a General Education course. It was approved by the Faculty Senate. (See handout.)
 - Design Element 6—see attachment. Martha read the document from Academic Affairs, "Design Element 6-Foreign Language Requirement. The Academic Affairs Committee recommends, 1) No change in current requirements, 2) That the Provost convene a task force to explore opportunities to use existing courses in the humanities and social sciences (especially General Education courses) to promote increased global engagement in the student body, 3) That advisors recommend that more students study a foreign language." There was some discussion about whether or not additional foreign language should be required,

including Linn Ann Huntington noting that her Department mostly voted in favor of the additional requirement, and Jeff Burnett noting his conclusion from the Student Affairs committee that students were not in favor of adding more requirements. Does the taking of ten credit hours in a foreign language make students able to speak the language? Would study in another country be more effective? Dr. Gould recommended that we look at the University's internationalization web site. The recommendation passed with one opposed vote.

c. Student Affairs: Jeff Burnett

- Jeff reported that there are concerns about allocations and fees, and that Chelsey Gillogly is doing a fine job.

d. University Affairs: Jerry Wilson

- Definition of Scholarship— see attachment. Jerry reported that there were two proposals from the Research Environment Committee. Proposal A was approved by the Faculty Senate, but not Proposal B. This is a substitute motion. The motion was opened for discussion. One member noted that his previous concerns had been addressed. There was discussion about research published in a Fort Hays State University document. It would depend on whether or not an off-campus editor was consulted regarding the quality of the document and research. In some cases, a faculty member's work would have to have someone outside the campus validate it. When we publish or present at a conference on campus, it is good practice to have someone outside review the work. The word "peer" means a lot of different things, being a broad term that depends on the discipline. Steve Tramel called the question. The motion passed with one opposed. The Provost thanked everyone for the hard work in bringing the University up to date regarding the definition. The next steps are to go to AAUP, then the Board of Regents. Dan or Ken will let the Faculty Senate know when the definition will be put into place.

e. By-Laws and Standing Rules: Win Jordan

- No report

f. University Marketing and Strategic Academic Partnerships: Josephine Squires

- No report. The committee has not met since last report.

4. Reports from Special Committees and Other Representatives

a. Writing Across the Curriculum: Dan Kulmala

- There is an almost 70 page document that should be ready for a vote at the next meeting.

5. Old Business

6. New Business

7. Adjournment of Regular Faculty Senate Meeting. There was a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.