

Faculty Senate
Minutes*
Wednesday, December 4, 2013
3:00 p.m.
Classroom Building 118

**Corrected at Faculty Senate Meeting, January 15, 2014*

I. Call to order

Sen. Moretti called the meeting to order at 3:02p.m.

Attending:

Daniel Althoff	William Fridley
Martin Bressler	Layne Heitz
Dennis Brewster	George Jacox
Han-sheng Chun	Alistair Maeer
Riley Coker	John Mischo
Diane Dixon	Chris Moretti
Blythe Duell	Hal Poovey
Brett Elliott	Krista Ramirez
Steven Emge	Jacob Wallace

Not attending:

Kay Daigle
 Tristan Eggener
 Jennifer Hicks
 Rhonda Richards
 Robert Stevens
 Jerry Stout

II. Approval of minutes from the meeting on November 20, 2013

Sen. Dixon made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the November 20 meeting

Sen. Brewster seconded the Motion.

The Motion passed: 16 in favor – none opposed – 1 (one) abstention.

III. Committee Reports

A. Budget Committee: No report.

B. Personnel Policies Committee: No report.

C. University Affairs Committee: Met and discussed resuming Brown Bag Lunches. Tentative dates for February 3rd and 4th.

D. Executive Committee: Has not met. Meeting scheduled for Friday, December 6.

E. Planning Policies: No report.

F. Committee on Committees: No report.

G. Budget Committee: No report.

IV. Old Business

Dr. Tim Smith presented information concerning the practice of Academic Withdrawals and a request to implement it more widely.

The information on Academic Withdrawals led to the following Motion:

The Faculty Senate recommends that those students who have completed less than 50% of the required materials at the time of the “Last Day to Drop a Class with an Automatic W” date in a given course can be assigned an AW for that course.

In addition the Faculty Senate recommends that:

- A syllabus statement on academic withdrawals be required for a faculty member to request AW’s in a given course.
- The process for assigning academic withdrawals in the Office of Academic Affairs be streamlined.

The motion was made by Sen. Mischo and seconded by Sen. Bressler. The motion passed with 17 in favor, none against, and none abstaining.

Sen. Moretti presented data and a request from the Registrar’s Office on changing the criteria used for assigning honors standing at graduation (cum laude, magna cum laude, and summa cum laude). After his presentation and discussion, the following Motion was completed:

After considering and debating a proposal from Associate Dean of Academic Records/Registrar Kristie Luke, the Faculty Senate recommends that the following changes be made to the requirements and process for awarding honor graduate designations, effective Summer 2014:

1) That the GPA scale for honors designations be moved to specific Cumulative GPA scores rather than percentages, and that the process includes an additional review once final grades are posted and before degrees are conferred. If a student’s GPA drops below the minimum GPA for an honor, their honor would be changed or removed. If a student’s GPA increases to the required level, they would be awarded the honor status.

2) That the GPA ranges for each honors designation be set as follows:

Cum Laude: 3.70-3.79

Magna Cum Laude: 3.80-3.89

Summa Cum Laude: 3.90-4.00

3) That the minimum number of Southeastern hours required for honors be kept at 40 hours.

The motion was moved by Sen. Bressler and seconded by Sen. Jacox. The motion passed with 16 in favor, none against, and none abstaining.

V. **New Business**

Sen. Fridley reported that his experience on two current Tenure and Promotion committees raised his concerns about the correct implementation of the newly-revised Tenure and Promotion process. It is recommended that the Chair of the Faculty Senate email Vice President McMillan to address those concerns.

VI. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Althoff

Daniel Althoff

Recorder