

FACULTY SENATE

February 13, 2008

UC – 215

Attendance: Wayne Jones, Mike Morris, Margaret Avard, Ed Hobbs, Paula Allen, Larry Prather, John Allen Hendricks, Shannon McCraw, Michael Kallum, Vicki Hudson, Lawrence Silver, Muhammad Betz, Ken Elder, Jane Elder, Lucretia Scoufos, Judy Williams, Dell McLain, Diane Dixon, Chris Moretti, Charles Matthews, Patrick Reardon, and Bruce Johnson.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:04 pm.

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes from the January meeting were approved.

Special Guest:

Vice President Ross Walkup visited with the Faculty to address the 10/12-month salary selection process. Walkup announced that Charlie Babb and Colin Reed (Regents Office Legal Counsel) had been asked to review the selection process and now the following procedures will be in place.

1. Written Election (Choosing 10 or 12 month)
The University will target June 30th for declaration of 10 or 12 months. Those failing to meet the declaration date will have the university default (10 months) applied.
2. Once declared the decision is irrevocable within the 10-month contract period.

Walkup said that further clarification is needed when an employee is hired after the beginning of the fall semester. Walkup further explained that because of increased employer record keeping responsibilities “only a number of recognized vendors on payroll system” will be available to faculty. He clarified that there is a “big selection” of approved vendors and that faculty would maintain the ability to adjust and redistribute their 4% in the investment vehicles.

Dr. Linda Kallum asked the Faculty Senate for consideration in altering the Distance Learning Committee membership. Kallum explained because more graduate courses are being offered on-line a graduate faculty member is requested. Additionally, Kallum asked that titles be updated to more accurately the current academic structure. (Prather – Elder; unanimous).

Committee Reports

Executive Committee:

Wayne Jones announced the Executive Committee would bring a proposal concerning representation issues to the Faculty Senate for examination in March.

Committee on Committees: No Report

Planning: Margaret Avard announced that the Faculty-Staff Banquet would be held April 8th and that the Faculty Senate Awards notifications had been distributed. She thanked Dennis Miles for his work in distributing the notifications to faculty. Margaret noted that voting would take place from March 3 -9, 2008 and that the Faculty Senate would break any ties in March.

Personnel: Margaret Avard explained the committee had met to discuss tenure and promotion concerns. She explained tenure and promotion data had been requested from Dr. McMillan, yet no information had been presented.

University Affairs: No Report

Budget: The Budget Committee Final Report for AY 06-07 was distributed. Several items were noted including salary for Professors (9.1% below peer group) and Assistant Professor (0.6 above peer group). A spreadsheet documenting the total salaries by department and rank for AY 03-04 and 06-07 was also distributed to the Faculty Senate. Some faculty surmised that the change in the 4% allocation might be used to demonstrate a "closing of the gap" between Southeastern and peer institutions. It was also announced that openbooks.ok.gov was a source to determine state employee salaries.

Old Business: The question concerning the frequency of assessment and program review reports was raised. It was determined that RUSO requires entry and mid-level assessment reporting yearly. Wayne Jones announced that he and Ken Chinn are scheduled to meet with Larry Minks (VPAA) to discuss the burden of yearly assessment reporting.

New Business: Wayne Jones raised the issue of hosting a joint reception for Dr. Minks. The purpose of the reception is for faculty to have the opportunity to meet Dr. Minks as he joins the university. The proposed date is February 29th. (Hudson – McLain; 21 – 1; motion carries).

Adjournment: This meeting was adjourned at 4:17 pm. (Matthews – Reardon; unanimous).

Respectfully submitted: Dr. Shannon McCraw, Faculty Senate Recorder