

FACULTY SENATE
February 14, 2007
UC 215

Attendance: Dan Benco, Ed Hobbs, Chris Moretti, Dennis Miles, Diane Dixon, Wayne Dixon, Margaret Avard, Michael Kallam, Matt Nonnenman, Wayne Jones, Lucretia Scoufos, David Barnes, Patrick Reardon, Charles Matthews, William L. Fridley, Andrew Tiger, Theresa Hrcir, Brett Elliott and John Allen Hendricks.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes from the 12/13/06 meeting were approved as presented. (Dan Benco/Wayne Jones=approved)

Senate Address by President Jesse Snowden: Dr. Snowden presented a power point presentation titled, *Improving Our Future by Degrees*, which was originally presented at the HEACO Legislative Breakfast by Chancellor Glen D. Johnson.

Report from Dr. Theresa Hrcir on Reserved Parking: Theresa Hrcir presented the faculty senate with a proposed policy for reserved parking. The report was in response to questions that arose during the President's Resource Council Meeting. It addressed three concerns: 1) parking for peer Oklahoma institutions, 2) fee structure, and 3) parking for visitors. Hrcir requested a show of support from the faculty senate for the proposal. Accordingly, a motion was made by Wayne Jones and seconded by Lucretia Scoufos to support the Facilities Goal Team's parking proposal as presented. [*Vote:* 17 approved, 1 against, 1 abstention].

Committee Reports:

- **Executive Committee** – No report.
- **Committee on Committees** – No report.
- **Personnel Policies Committee** – William Fridley requested that the faculty senate endorse a statement he had drafted that opposed a proposed post-tenure policy within the School of Educational and Behavioral Sciences. Specifically, it stated: “The Faculty Senate opposes any post-tenure review policy that eviscerates, weakens, or is inconsistent with the concept and practice of *tenure*.” (Brett Elliott/David Barnes = [*Vote:* 17 for, 0 against, 1 abstention]).
- **Planning Committee** – Ed Hobbs presented a report regarding Faculty Senate Awards. The report included: 1) an announcement that the nomination period was closed, 2) Input was requested as to “whether or not an individual who is not teaching at least a 50% load should be a candidate for these awards just not perhaps the teaching,” 3) whether the 50% requirement be posted on the faculty senate web site, and 4) a request that the charge to review the Report of the Comprehensive Evaluation Visit from the Higher Learning Commission be “discharged.”
- **University Affairs Committee** – Andrew Tiger reported that the committee is exploring the issue of academic dishonesty.

- **Budget Affairs Committee** – Patrick Reardon reported that the committee examined the following charges:

- **I. Develop and administer the annual budget survey.**

Ross Walkup has requested a change in the format of the survey. However, attempts to arrange a meeting with him to discuss the proposed changes have not been productive.. The committee decided to continue efforts to meet with him before going forward with the survey.

- **II. Ascertain how SOSU faculty salaries compare to our peer institutions.**

The committee discussed this issue at length and decided, among other things, to find out which of our peer institutions use a salary card and if possible, to gather information regarding faculty salary structure at those schools. The committee discussed whether to gather data on other compensation such as TIAA-CREF, etc., and as a whole appeared to support the idea. There was quite a bit of discussion regarding what schools we should consider as our peer institutions. There were at least two schools of thought. One was to consider some or all of the Oklahoma regionals. One such group of 6 schools was used by the Budget Committee in AY2005-2006 in a comparison of faculty salary raises. Another idea proposed the use of the Carnegie Foundation peer group classification which groups Southeastern with schools in a wider geographic region including Arkansas, Kansas, Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Comparison with junior colleges was also discussed. Many members of the committee professed a desire to explore this issue further at a later meeting.

- **III. Examine whether administrative raises are comparable to those of faculty (on-going).**

Meaningful data concerning administrative raises has been hard to obtain. However, some progress has been made on this charge. Efforts to obtain more useful data are ongoing.

- **IV. Elicit travel budget info on various entities on campus (e.g. departments, administration, etc.)**

Some of the data on travel budgets appears to be contradictory and/or has been hard to obtain. Efforts to arrange a meeting with Dr. McMillan to resolve this issue are ongoing.

Adjournment: Lucretia Scoufos made a motion that all old business and all new business be postponed until the next faculty senate meeting. The motion was seconded by Wayne Jones. The motion was approved. The senate adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Submitted by: John Allen Hendricks, Secretary