FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
September 16, 2009
SU-213

Attendance: Ken Chinn, Wayne Jones, Gleny Beach, Diane Dixon, Judy Williams, Rachel Tudor, Virginia Parrish, Kay Daigle, John Van Bebber, Christopher Moretti, Muhammad Betz, Bruce Johnson, Shannon McCraw, Susan Webb, Blythe Duell, Jane Elder, Karl Frinkle, William Fridley, Aaron Adair, John Topuz, George Jacox, Michael Kallam

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

Approval of the Minutes: Move to approve Diane Dixon, 2nd Wayne Jones, approved unanimously

NEW BUSINESS

I.   **Insurance Report**

Insurance Ad Hoc Committee Panel Introductions: Dr. Larry Minks, Interim President; Charles Matthews, Math; Dan Moore, Information Technology; Cathy Conway, Human Resources; Ross Walkup, Vice President Academic Affairs

Insurance Report:
Dr. Minks
        In response to the rate increase of Health Choice of 12% for employees and 18% for dependants this Ad Hoc Committee held meetings once a month to review numerous offers with lower rate increases, varying co-pay, and prescription benefits. The Committee's recommendation for lowest overall with a premium savings of over $400,000 was Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BCBS)

Dr. Matthews (with additions by Cathy Conway):
        Changes were a result of the collaborative efforts of the Faculty Senates of all the regional institutions. Each Institution has its own Ad Hoc Committee. The consultant firm of Gallagher was hired to conduct independent research of insurance plans. All the regional institutions voted unanimously to go to BCBS. The plan is similar to Health Choice:

- Almost all benefits are identical
- Major difference is lower premiums
- Co-pay is the same (Health Choice doubled)
- Network sites are available across the nation (i.e. Wilson N Jones, TMC, SE Med., and Mayo Clinic)
    o   No guarantee for every provider to be on BCBS
    o   If a doctor does not take BCBS, bring the doctor's name to BCBS and they will contact the doctor
    o   Major negative for BCBS: there is a $2,000,000 lifetime maximum beginning Jan. 1, 2010
    o   If member is taking a very expensive prescription they may be asked to go on a step program (try a lesser expensive RX. Expensive RXs can be filled before April 1st with no problem—after that, a step program would be requested
- No pre-existing clause for all who sign before January 1, 2010
- Dental: Blue Cross (helped to get lower rate on health coverage)
- Vision: no change
- New: member can self refer to specialist
- No longer have to get pre-authorization for MRI if recommended by a doctor (Health Choice required pre-approval anyway)
- COBRA change to Healthsmart
- After Medicare age: Supplemental Insurance –Plan 65, Medicare for RX
- Special questions: email HR at hr@se.edu --they will send the question to BCBS and a response will be on their website for all to see.

II.   Proposal recommended to change membership on the Faculty Appellate Committee to replace Ken Chinn since he is now Faculty Senate Chair. Unanimous agreement that Diane Dixon replace Ken Chinn.

III.   Proposal, Ken Chinn: Senators are asked to send proposals to Dr. Chinn before the scheduled meeting. That proposal will be sent to the entire Faculty Senate so that senators can come to the meeting prepared to make informed discussion and decisions

IV.   Survey of Senate Committee Interests passed out; senators asked to fill out and return so that the Executive Committee could make appointments to committees.

V.   Election of Officers:
    Chair: Ken Chinn
    Chair Elect: Diane Dixon
    Recorder: Gleny Beach (nomination by Diane Dixon, vote affirmative by acclamation)
    Treasurer: Bruce Johnson (nomination by Wayne Jones, vote affirmative by acclamation)
    Archivist: Muhammad Betz (nomination by Bruce Johnson, vote affirmative by acclamation)
    Parliamentarian: Shannon McCraw (nomination by Gleny Beach, vote affirmative by acclamation)

Meet at 3:00 2nd Wednesday of every month

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn, Wayne Jones, 2nd Diane Dixon. Meeting was adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Dr. Gleny Beach, Faculty Senate Recorder