

Faculty Senate meeting
May 3, 2017 Cabe Room

Senators Present: Holly Morado, Tammie Townsend, Dever Norman, Ingo Schranz, Penny Welchel, Emelie Beltzer, Bill Sutley, Jamie Lipton, Christy McDowell, Wray Jones, Mike Taylor, Carolyn Eoff, TaLisha Glvan, Greg Gibson, David Bateman, Lewis Kanyiba, Eric Jett, Kasten Searles, Mike Watters, Brian George, Jani O'Donnell, and Catherine Leach

1. Meeting called to order at 3:19 by Greg Gibson (Faculty Senate President *pro-tem*)
2. Discussion with Dr. Steve Adkison, Provost/Vice President Academic Affairs
 - a. Dr. Adkison stated that we will follow the summer 2015 policy for summer school enrollments. He said advisors already know of the policy. In response to a follow up question, Adkison said courses with enrollments of 0 or 1 may not make, but others should not be affected.
 - b. The GPA to retain certain university scholarships has been lowered. It was noted that the GPA to keep the scholarship was higher than the GPA necessary to initially receive the scholarship. Dr. Adkison stated both current and incoming students have been notified of the changes.
 - c. Dr. Adkison stated that the university is statutorily bound to report to ADHE results of the faculty review process survey sent out by Dr. Ken Taylor. He noted that the results may be passed to the Arkansas Legislature if requested.
 - d. Dr. Adkison addressed a question about the Ellis College Dean search. Dr. Adkison stated that at the Ellis College meeting, there was a strong consensus to conduct an internal search; however, after the meeting some Ellis College faculty expressed the possibility of an external search. Dr. Adkison announced that Dr. Angela Boswell will serve as the interim dean. Dr. Adkison also stated that at this time, he has not decided whether the search will be internal or external, but he expects to have several strong candidates.
 - e. Dr. Adkison addressed a question about the Hot Topics Instructional Budget Prioritization update. He stated that Ginger Otwell is gathering data relative to enrollment, graduation, number of majors and minors, etc. He noted that the group would work over the summer and report back at a later date.
 - f. Dr. Adkison addressed concerns about the revealing nature of demographic information requested on the administrative evaluation surveys. He noted that anonymity was still of the utmost importance. He stated that the concerns would be better addressed by Dr. Brett Powell, VPFA.
3. Approval of the Minutes: Minutes of the April meeting were approved
4. President's Report-

- a. In the absence of President Hickerson, Greg Gibson met with President Jones and Malcom Rigsby met with Dr. Powell.
 - b. In addition to the President's report, Greg Gibson stated that Dr. Powell will announce insurance enrollment for next year will be fully on line and training for online enrollment will be forthcoming.
5. Shared Governance Committee Update
- a. The budget proposal was approved by both faculty and staff senates and is forwarded to the Board of Trustees which will meet on May 19, 2017.
 - b. The Committee stated that since the Committee on Committees was folded into the ballot, they will populate the vacancies information the next year.
6. Reports of Committees
- a. Executive Committee-No Report
 - b. Academics Committee-Policy that limits number of times a student may retake the course.
 A student who has enrolled in a course may be allowed to repeat the course up to three times. If, after the third attempt, a student wishes to retake a course, the student must submit an appeal before an organized committee at the college of their major, including the College Dean and Department Chair, unless a program has a specified policy in place. Undecided majors will appeal to an organized committee within the Advising Center.
 The policy was moved, seconded and approved unanimously.
 - c. Buildings and Grounds Committee-Currently accumulating contact persons per department as primary point of contact for work orders.
 - d. Finance Committee-No report
 - e. Operations and Handbook Committee- Operations and handbook –
 - i. Sabbatical leave—Committee requested an additional sentence (in bold print) to the paragraph.
 V.B.1.b. Institutional Support – The institution will provide faculty on sabbatical leave with full contractual salary and benefits for a one-semester leave, or one-half contractual salary and full benefits during a full academic year of sabbatical leave. In addition, the institution may provide financial assistance for excessive expenses such as required for extensive travel, housing, tuition and fees. **Faculty granted sabbatical leave may elect to delay the leave period for up to one year after notification of the award.** Faculty accepting support must agree to continue service to the institution for at least a full academic year following sabbatical leave.
 Proposed change was approved.
 - ii. Distinguished professor process—The committee requested revision to the language that more closely mirrors language of the other types of

promotion in the following section of the Faculty Handbook. The revision states:

III.L.6. Process for Awarding the Title of Distinguished Professor
Nomination for the title of Distinguished Professor will normally be initiated at the department level by an individual or group in the appropriate discipline or by an interdisciplinary group. Self-nominations will not be considered. If the individual does not hold an appointment in a particular department, nomination may be made by an individual or group in the same or a related discipline. ~~Letters of support, whether written individual or as a group, shall be invited from all faculty in the nominee's department, or, in the case of an individual who does not hold an appointment in a particular department, from all faculty in the nominating department or discipline.~~

The nomination, with all supporting materials, will then be forwarded to the departmental chairperson and then the dean of the appropriate school or college (directly to the dean if there is no departmental affiliation). Upon receipt of the nomination, the receiving chair or dean shall invite letters of support, whether written individually or as a group, from all faculty in the nominee's department, or, in the case of an individual who does not hold an appointment in a particular department, from all faculty in the nominating department or discipline.

Recommendations from each level, along with supporting material will then be sent to the Tenure/Promotion Committee of the respective school/college, who will forward their recommendation to the Vice President of Academic Affairs. The Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs will then forward his or her recommendation, along with all supporting materials, to the President. The president will make a recommendation and then forward all materials to the Board of Trustees which will make the final decision.

The proposed changes were approved.

- iii. Excellence Awards Division-The committee proposed a revision of the language to more closely align the award divisions with the actual Ellis College departments in each of the three divisions. The revision to read:
III.N.2: Three divisions of the Ellis College of Arts and Sciences (Social Sciences and Humanities; Science and Mathematics; and Fine Arts), The School of Business, and Teachers College, Henderson will each make one annual cash award of \$2,500.00

The proposed changes were approved.

- iv. Additional items will be addressed at the next senate meeting (pay per adjuncts and overloads)

- f. Procedures Committee-No Report

7. Unfinished Business

- a. Student Service Transcript- The Senate requests the formation of an ad hoc committee to examine the possibility of creating a student service transcript designation (much like our WI-writing intensive designation) with appropriate language for course catalog. Faculty Senate President Hickerson will call for volunteers.
- b. Zero Tolerance Policy- Zero Tolerance Policy—unintended consequences of all or none punitive system. How the senate might participate in the consideration because it's bound with retention.

Whereas Henderson's current Zero Tolerance Policy is overly harsh and unfair to students as currently enforced;

Whereas the loss of one, two, or three semesters or being barred from campus presents negative retention issues be it resolved that the senate urges the formation of a committee, to include faculty and students, to revise this policy to become more aligned with state and local enforcement, in the spirit of the School with a Heart.

Motion was moved, seconded, and passed.

8. New Business

- a. HR Contract Revision-The Committee stated that the idea is to expedite the contract process. After review, Senate noted a redundant statement which is already in the faculty handbook and therefore requested the removal of the following statement, "...Renewal of your appointment is contingent upon your performance and the availability of funds from state appropriations and tuition/fee revenue." Motion to remove was moved, seconded, and approved.

9. Motion to adjourn was moved, seconded, and approved. Meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.