

**Faculty Senate Minutes
January 16, 2002 Meeting**

Members Present:

Lea Ann Alexander, Mitzi Bass, Claudia Beach, Ana Caldwell, Vonna Cranston, Dennis DiMarzio, Jane Dunn (for Mike Matthews), Kevin Durand, James Engman, John Graves, Julia Hall, Wray Jones, Travis Langley, Catherine Leach, Michael Lloyd, Laura Lockwood, John Long, Marielle McFarland, Richard Miller, Richard Schmid, Phillip Schroeder, Shanta Sharma, Bruce Smith and David Stoddard.

Members absent:

Laura Festa, Duane Jackson, Hal McAfee, Rick McDaniel.

Others Present: None

The meeting was called to order by Faculty Senate President Richard Schmid at 3:15 pm.

Officers were elected for the current term. Travis Langley was elected to the office of President Elect on a secret ballot. James Engman was elected Secretary by acclamation. Julia Hall was elected Representative to the Board of Trustees by acclamation.

President's Report

Dr. Schmid reported on his meeting with Dr. Charles Dunn. They had discussed a number of financial matters. Dr. Dunn believes that due to an increase in state tax revenue, HSU may receive a funding increase through "Allotment B" funds. If this happens, the money will probably not be available until May or June. Although numbers were not yet available, Dr. Dunn expected that HSU would see an enrollment increase this semester. Dr. Schmid asked Dr. Dunn what the top financial priorities for HSU are for the coming year, and Dr. Dunn had responded that first was raises, and second a new administrative position to deal with NCA committee's recommendations on assessment. This position, which would involve a combination of administrative and teaching responsibilities, would probably be titled either "Assistant to the Vice President of Academic Affairs for Assessment" or "Assistant Vice President for Assessment".

Dr. Schmid reported Dr. Dunn's comments on campus construction projects. The bid for the field house is currently \$100,000 over budget. The University is soliciting bids for the Arkansas Hall expansion and renovation, and is in the process of hiring an architect for the Wells Center work. The mold contamination problem in Reynolds is being addressed.

A senator asked if Dr. Schmid and Dr. Dunn had discussed Governor Huckabee's speech on remedial courses and the involvement of junior colleges in remediation. Some discussion followed. Dr. Schmid agreed to ask Dr. Dunn about this matter.

Dr. Schmid asked the senate for any additional issues that should be discussed in his next meeting with Dr. Dunn. A request was made for specific information on the breakdown of public and private funds to be spent on the Wells and field house projects. Another request was made for information on whether or not an administrative handbook exists. An additional question concerned the use of a \$25,000 donation to purchase holiday decorations for the Bed and Breakfast.

Approval of minutes

The minutes of the November, 2001 Faculty Senate meeting were approved.

Committee Reports

Operations Committee, Academics Committee, Procedures Committee

These committees had no reports at this time. The Procedures Committee distributed a roster of this year's senators and alternates.

Finance Committee

Dr. Langley reported that both the Finance Committee and the University Budget Committee have met. Raises and insurance issues are being addressed, but there is no definite news. Questions concerning the implementation and timing of the salary equity program, and employee dependent insurance coverage are also under discussion. Dr. Dimarzio has met with Dr. Houston concerning the approach to summer course budgeting. Dr. Houston is open to considering changes.

A senator asked if the Senate has made an insurance recommendation. None had been made, and the issue has been in committee. A motion was made and seconded that "The senate feels that the University should resume covering 100% of the University employee's health insurance, and should not cut dependant coverage." Following some discussion, a vote was taken and the motion carried.

Building and Grounds Committee

Ms. Alexander reported that work on the 5911 emergency number is proceeding, and should be completed soon. When completed, the 5911 phone number will be available to report emergencies 24 hours a day from campus.

Old Business

Ms. Leach reported that in response to a faculty request, she had met with Mr. Epperhart to discuss the acquisition of Campus Pipeline. Mr. Epperhart had explained that the reprioritization that allowed this purchase involved primarily items affecting the Computer and Communications infrastructure, including postponing installation of a firewall, wireless connections, and hub upgrades, and delaying the purchase of software

to allow better compatibility between Excel and Poise programs. The lease cost for the Campus Pipeline software will be \$15,000 for the first year, and \$30,000 for each additional year.

A senator asked where the support for acquiring Campus Pipeline was, since the faculty had voted against it, and the chairs had voted against it. Another senator reported on the generally low use of Mascot.com when it was available, and apparent student disinterest in the system. Following some discussion, Dr. Schmid sent the issue back to the Operations Committee, seeking a recommendation for Senate action.

New Business

The appointment of Catherine Leach to the position of Senate Parliamentarian was announced by Dr. Schmid.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:58.