

November 2, 2011, Faculty Senate Minutes

1. Call to Order – Dr. Troy Bray, 3:17pm
Present: Richard Schmid, David Etienne, Tim Baghurst, Jana Jones, Patricia Weaver, Teresa Holsclaw, John Long, Lea Ann Alexander, Fred Worth, Martha Dale Cooley, Barbara Landrum, Catherine Leach, Brett Serviss, Troy Bray, Allison Vetter, Megan Hickerson, Shannon Clardy, Provost/VPAA Dr. Vernon Miles
2. Discussion with Provost/VPAA, Dr. Vernon Miles
 - a. A large group of HSU people were present for a town meeting in Hot Springs to discuss offering degree programs in the area. Dr. Miles stressed that we are NOT opening a branch campus in Hot Springs. Surveys were distributed to assess the types of programs the community would like to see offered and about 220 responses as of noon, Nov. 2. Student turn out was not high. The survey results will be used to determine how to proceed.
 - b. The General Education committee has approved an educational testing services proficiency testing program as a stop gap to assess general education to gather data prior to HLC visit in February. This will happen during November for some Freshman (around 300). Dr. Miles is hopeful that we will have around 200 seniors take this in the spring. This is an online evaluation. A senator asked if it could be sorted by declared majors. Dr. Miles will check. We will compare senior data with freshman data.
 - c. HLC preparation is going well and will be discussed with the Board of Trustees at the November 10th meeting.
 - d. Dr. Miles recently returned from an HLC Peer Review visit and shared his experience.
 - e. There is a proposal on the course evaluations that Dr. Miles would like to see the Faculty Senate vote on. One concern is not to isolate spring only or fall only courses from being evaluated.
 - f. Dr. Miles also encouraged the senate to vote on endorsing the University Assessment plan.
3. Approval of October minutes – passed with the amendment that in the previous session it was noted that our liberal arts core contains the minimum state requirement of science hours and therefore, science hours are not being considered in the adjustment of core hours.
4. President's report

November Visit with Interim President Bobby Jones

Mr. Jones stated that things continue to go smoothly across campus with little news to report. When asked again about the possibility of raises for the faculty in January, Mr. Jones stated that he still

remained hopeful and that nothing has occurred to change his expectations. After informing Mr. Jones of the invitation from the interim director of the ADHE, Shane Broadway, to meet with faculty senate presidents from four-year institutions across the state concerning the proposed performance funding model, Mr. Jones supplied me with a copy of this proposal, which included the six optional factors selected by HSU. Furthermore, Mr. Jones suggested a later meeting to include Ms. Franklin to go over each of these chosen formula factors in more detail before meeting with Mr. Broadway.

November Visit with Lecia Franklin

Ms. Franklin reported that her office has been busy filling various requests, mostly from the bureau of legislative research, to view presidential contracts, construction bids, and account receivable balances from the last 5 years as well as current contracts with Pepsi and the HSU Bookstore. Additionally, her office was asked to show any current textbook cost savings to students. Ms. Franklin presented a book cost comparison between our previous vendor, Follet Corporation, and our new vendor, BbA Corporation. On a random list of identical textbooks, the savings to students was substantial (~\$400).

The last payment (~\$50,000) from the stimulus money for the Womack/Foster renovations is expected to be made in December. The renovations came in slightly over budget due to change orders dealing with unforeseen structural issues. Aramark is in the process of sending its final requests to the architects for the new cafeteria and the bidding process should begin in November. Due to recent safety issues on university campuses in the state, two forums are planned by Chad Fielding to discuss campus safety and lighting issues. Information on the meeting times and places will be forthcoming.

Lastly, the fringe benefits committee will present their recommendation to the board in November concerning the increase in healthcare cost due to begin in January. The committee will be recommending no increase in premiums for members, but rather a \$5.00 increase in copays for both doctor visits and prescription drugs.

5. Reports of Committees

- a. Executive committee – no report
- b. Academics committee –

A proposal was put forward on grievances patterned on the grievance procedure from the student guide. A senator was upset that the previous policy was discarded when so much work and consideration was put into it. Much discussion followed. The proposal was tabled by vote.

A proposal was put forward on course evaluations – Friendly amendment was added that all courses will be evaluated in the spring. Point of information, paper evaluations need to be requested at least 2 weeks before evaluation time. Friendly amendment was made to add “Paper evaluations may be requested by the date determined by computer

services each semester". The final version of the proposal was approved by vote and reads as follows:

Faculty Senate Recommendations on Course Evaluations:

1. *All faculty members will have their evaluations done online unless they notify the office of computer and communication services through their department chair or immediate supervisor. Paper evaluations may be requested by the date determined by computer services each semester.*

2. *Fall evaluations will be optional for any class a faculty member is scheduled to teach the following spring semester. Non-tenured tenure track faculty may, at the discretion of the department chair, dean or immediate supervisor, be required to do evaluations anyway.*

3. *All spring classes will be evaluated.*

c. Buildings and Grounds Committee – no report.

A question was raised about a ticketing issue concerning parallel parking spaces on 11th street. The spots are not clearly marked.

d. Finance Committee – No report

e. Operations Committee – no report

f. Procedures committee – Results were given from the recent departmental election. These senators will serve for 2012-2014 They are included at the end of these minutes. At large election ballots will be out by Nov. 10th.

6. Old Business –

a. The suggestions to the retirement plan wording from the memo from General Counsel Elaine Kneebone concerning retirement were approved by unanimous vote.

7. New Business –

a. University Assessment Plan is important for HLC visit. The University Assessment Team asked the Faculty Senate to endorse the plan. Grammatical issues can still be corrected. The Faculty Senate voted unanimously to endorse the assessment plan.

8. Old Business –

a. Concerns exist as to whether website issues will be addressed particularly in regard to publishing privileges.

9. Meeting adjourned – 4:27pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Shannon Clardy
Faculty Senate Secretary

<u>Senator</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Megan Hickerson	Steve Carter	Social Science
Paul Williamson	Rafael Bejarano	Psychology
Bernie Hellums	Carolyn McClure	Educational Leadership
Allison Harris	Rick McDaniel	Physics
Wray Jones	Janice O'Donnell	Chemistry
David Evans	Steve Knight	Music
Pedro Lopes	Stephanie Barron	Eng, Fgn Lang, Phil
Richard Miller	Jonathan Moss	Aviation
Beverly Buys	David Stoddard	Art
Pamela Shurett	Patricia Loy	Nursing