

MINUTES
Faculty Senate Academic Affairs
May 1, 2012, 3:30 pm
Union room 204

Present: Bonella, Cox, DeRouchey, Dille, Easton, Roberts, Sachs, Spears, Zajac

Absent: Arthaud-Day, Bennett, Ganta,

Guests/Visitors: Monty Nielsen, Eli Schooley

1. Jackie Spears, temporarily chairing on behalf of Andy Bennett, called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm. Spears recognized members rotating off Academic Affairs and thanked them sincerely for their service on this committee.
2. A motion was made and seconded to approve the April 17, 2012 minutes. Motion carried.
3. Course and Curriculum Changes
 - A. Old course and curriculum Business
 1. Graduate Certificate in Homeland Security
(Rejected by Faculty Senate; necessary changes made to move forward)

Paperwork is pending. This item will be on the May 15 agenda for action. In addition, the consensus was that current committee members would like to give input on action items for the May 15 meeting since many are pending from committee work this year.

4. Graduation list addition
 - A. Approve a posthumous degree for:
Travis R. Kempf, Bachelor of Science, College of Arts and Sciences
Background: Travis was in good standing as a senior Kinesiology major working on completing his degree at K-State. He was involved in a fatal vehicle accident on December 29, 2011.

A motion was made by Dille and seconded by Zajac to approve the posthumous degree. Motion carried.

5. Old Business
 - A. Review of Approval, Routing and Notification manual (Pages 1-15)

Spears noted that with the timing of starting on this document coinciding with new members starting at the next meeting, perhaps it might be a good use of time to have a few members review the document with her over the summer with the intent that a revision could be brought forward in the fall. She would be happy to head this work, along with a few other members. Sachs suggested including some of the new members for next year. Cox mentioned administrative personnel who work on the documents involved in the approval process and indicated it may be prudent to have several of them review the changes proposed over the summer prior to those changes being brought forward to the committee. Other discussion continued. Zajac had a question about whether or not Academic Affairs has authority to reject a proposal (p. 12). Other questions were raised. For example, if an item is returned to a college by the committee, does it have to go through the whole approval process again? What if approval or a response is not received from a notified unit despite repeated efforts to solicit a response, when can the proposing academic unit move forward? Spears will recommend to Bennett, per the committee's recommendation, that at the May 15 meeting a small group made up of new and continuing committee members be appointed to develop a revision that would be brought to the committee for approval early in the fall semester.
 - B. DCE non-credit courses

This topic was briefly discussed. The issue came up after it was discovered there were a few courses offered through DCE that are provided by outside vendors. These courses are tied to K-State in that DCE signs a certificate of completion for a student who finishes the course. Committee members

questioned whether it was appropriate for DCE to offer these programs without securing approval through Faculty Senate Academic Affairs. In addition the use of the term ‘certificate’ could cause confusion, given that K-State offers both graduate and undergraduate certificate programs governed by shared academic criteria. Academic Affairs may ask for further information regarding these items to see if a process needs to be put in place. A brief conversation took place about certificates versus minors.

C. K-State 8 Tagging and Criteria – Taskforce report completed

Spears commented that the report and recommendations from the taskforce were sent to committee members this afternoon. These will be discussed and acted on at the May 15 meeting. There was some discussion about the percent of course time linked to assigning a K-State 8 tag, especially the requirement that 100% of the course in a 1-credit course be devoted to the content specific to the K-State 8 tag.

D. Learning Compact

Spears welcomed Eli Schooley to the meeting, who helped chair the Enhanced Classroom Experience committee this year. He provided a brief overview of the Learning Compact and answered questions. The committee was created two years ago under previous student leadership. The committee includes one faculty and one student representative from each college. The Learning Compact is a one sentence statement, emphasizing that learning is a two-way street, recommended for inclusion in a course syllabus. The statement reads: “We, the students and faculty of Kansas State University, agree that the best learning culture is one in which students and teachers will work with great vigor and mutual respect to achieve excellence.”

Student Senate passed the Learning Compact on March 15 and is now seeking approval and support from Faculty Senate. Upon approval from Faculty Senate Provost Mason has agreed to post it to the Provost’s course syllabi website and encourage faculty to include the Compact in their syllabi. Sachs made a motion to approve the statement, essentially recommending that approval be placed on the agenda for the June Faculty Senate meeting. DeRouchey seconded. This will be sent to Faculty Senate for their approval, and if approved, be sent to Provost for inclusion as a recommended statement that can be included in a faculty member’s syllabi. Roberts noted that this is showing faculty senate support. Members commended Schooley for his work on this. Motion carried.

6. Committee Reports

A. iSIS – Bennett/Dille

No meeting.

B. CAPP – Bennett

No meeting until May 9

C. Library Committee – Sachs

No meeting yet.

7. Academic Affairs Chair Election

Zajac nominated Bennett, Easton seconded. No other nominations were made. Zajac moved that nominations cease. Easton seconded. Bennett was unanimously elected as chair for 2012-2013.

8. Announcements/for the good of the University

A. A Special Session of Faculty Senate regarding faculty and unclassified salaries will take place on Monday, May 14, 3-5 pm, Hemisphere Room, Hale Library.

9. Meeting was adjourned at 4:33 pm

Next meeting is Tuesday, May 15, 2012 Union room 204, 3:30 p.m.