

MINUTES
Faculty Senate Academic Affairs
October 7, 2014, 3:30 pm
Union room 204

Present: Armbrust, Bennett, Charney, D. Fallin, J. Fallin, Goodson, Haar, Hoeve, Kennedy, and Pacey
Proxies: Michel Ransom for Shannon Washburn, Bennett for Kennedy after 4 pm, Charney for Pacey after 4:30
Guests/Visitors: Camilla Roberts
Liaisons: Monty Nielsen

1. Bennett called the meeting to order at 3:31 pm. There was a slight rearrangement to the agenda order to accommodate schedules.
2. The minutes of September 16, 2014 were approved as submitted.
3. Course and Curriculum Changes
 - A. Undergraduate
 1. A motion was made by Goodson and seconded by Armbrust to approve the following course change as approved by the College of Education on September 23, 2014 (sent out to the listserv by Janel Harder on September 24, 2014):

COURSE CHANGE

Department of Special Education, Counseling and Student Affairs

~~EDSEC 050. EDCEP 110. Developmental Reading Lab~~ Study Skills and Strategies

Goodson gave a brief explanation about the change. Motion carried.

4. Old Business
 - A. Honor and Integrity Constitution changes update – Camilla Roberts
Bennett presented the proposal to the Executive committee on September 29 for placement on the October FS agenda; however, there were concerns about having Leadership Studies as a separate entity on the Honor Council membership due to the fact this seemed to set a precedent. Therefore, it was sent back to Academic Affairs. Roberts reported they removed this from the language. Since Leadership Studies offers only a minor and the faculty within the unit technically have a home location in the College of Education, faculty and staff from Leadership Studies can still be recommended and included in the Honor Council membership. Also questioned was why IT was included, but there are valid reasons for this and therefore that piece will be kept. A couple other clarifying questions were answered regarding the College of Vet Med. Fallin moved to approve this revised proposal. Ransom seconded. Motion carried.
 - B. Academic Freedom optional syllabus language
This topic was discussed at the last Academic Affairs meeting. Kennedy commented this optional syllabus language was drafted over the summer and has now been included on the Provost web page of statements. It came about due to some concerns over KBOR policy changes last year. Student Senate passed a resolution last week regarding the statement and is requesting Faculty Senate support the statement as well. Conversation ensued. Was the university handbook consulted, for example Section C. It was noted there are duties and responsibilities that come with academic freedom as well and some examples of this were provided. It was commented that other syllabus statements listed on the Provost website have links embedded in them that lead an individual to further information, either a section of by-laws or the University handbook, etc. Some believed this statement too should direct the audience to further information. Clarification was offered that this statement is not a policy statement and does not supersede what is in the University handbook. After further discussion the consensus seemed to be that if a link could be placed in the optional syllabus

statement that directs the reader to the University Handbook, members would give support. Bennett noted the Student Senate resolution was presented to Academic Affairs as well as Faculty Affairs for review. He will converse with the chair of FAC about what Academic Affairs has given support for. Again, it was noted that Appendix C in The University Handbook is policy language, whereas this optional syllabus statement is a philosophical statement provided to highlight awareness. Syllabus statements highlight information that may or may not be in the handbook. This is an important value that deserves highlighting. It was noted this was reviewed by the Office of General Counsel. Could a hyperlink be included without causing additional work to Student Senate? Yes.

A motion was made to endorse the academic freedom statement as optional syllabus language with the addition of hyperlinks to appropriate sections of the University Handbook. Charney seconded the motion. Motion carried. It was noted Faculty Affairs will also look at this. If they have no objections to Academic Affairs request for hyperlinks, this will be on the Executive Committee agenda at the end of the month for placement on the November FS meeting.

C. Open/Alternative Textbook proposal

Bennett inquired if there was a motion to approve the Open/Alternative textbook proposal and its goals. There was a request last time to add language regarding how students will benefit and learn better by this process. Goodson made a motion to approve and it was seconded by Hartman. Discussion ensued. Some believe it is not possible, at this time, for them to move away from a paper textbook and they wish to keep what they are using. Discussion continued regarding the fundamentals of this proposal and how it can benefit Kansas State, both faculty and students. There was some concern about the wording used in the proposal. There are plenty of academic reasons to strive for this that should be better highlighted. Perhaps the proposal overemphasizes the economics side. With some minor adjustments, committee members would be comfortable supporting this. It was also asked whether these would then be Open Access materials. Can it be protected material? If not, that may need to be a consideration for faculty thinking of moving from a traditional textbook to other materials. The motion to approve was withdrawn. The proposal will be edited further and brought back to the committee. Bennett reported this will also be viewed by FSCOT. The purpose of this proposal is to have support from Faculty Senate and provide the document to administration for their use in fundraising. This is not language to be placed in the University Handbook but rather more like a statement of intent.

5. Announcements/for the good of the University

- J. Fallin commented there is a speaker who will be discussing open textbooks next Thursday in the Hemisphere room if anyone is interested.
- Faculty Senate Photos will be taken prior to the October 14 meeting at 3 pm in Forum Hall

6. The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 21, 2014; 3:30 pm; **113 Seaton Hall**