



OKLAHOMA
PANHANDLE STATE
UNIVERSITY

Approved Minutes

Faculty Senate Regular Meeting
Friday, November 06, 2020

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY VICE-PRESIDENT STACY NORDQUIST

Roll Call

AE—Stacy Nordquist, Charla Lewis, Tito Aznar

ASN—Dr. Beverly Meyer, Dr. Justin Collins, Tenoch Ramon, Daren Stephens

BT—Steve Martin, Julia Bird.

Invited Guests—Dr. Julie Dinger, Dr. Ryan Blanton, Amber Glass

UPDATES FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Dr. Blanton - Operations

- Switched all campus buildings to heat and working to replace some components in the heating system.
- Bookstore transition to Akademos almost complete and being switched over to an academic function. Planning on selling off existing bookstore inventory. Instructors will have to use books that Akademos can get. Akademos will function as the bookstore manager instead of the personnel we have. Trying to get students to call previous bookstore facility the Aggie Fan Store. Working with Great Western Dining for meals for going virtual.
- Roof repairs continuing and attempting to work around students being on campus to not disrupt students.
- Please let Dr. Blanton know if you have any questions.

Dr. Dinger - Academics:

- Gave update on going virtual. Academic calendar was not changed and decision was made to wait to consider going virtual after thanksgiving until closer to Thanksgiving. Important for Dr. Dinger to allow faculty to drive a decision to move to virtual instruction after Thanksgiving. A poll of faculty resulted in a slight majority desiring to go virtual after Thanksgiving. Faculty are welcome to come and work from their offices or classrooms for virtual instructions. Most university offices will move to virtual presence at the same time.
- Committed to hosting commencement in December and working on logistics to practice social distancing and meet the needs of those in attendance. Given the nature of Covid and differing comfort levels, faculty will not be required to attend commencement, but all who are comfortable are welcome to attend. Graduates are not limited in how many guests they can bring, but the capacity of the arena will be limited to about 450. Will use Hughes-Strong and then possibly SAB 101 or the team room for any overflow if capacity is reached for the arena.

- Dr. Dinger stated Dr. Faltyn and Dr. Blanton provided Ms. Lewis and Mr. Nordquist an update on the investigation that took place. Dr. Dinger stated she was not directly involved in the investigation but would be willing to “be on retainer” if anyone had questions. Dr. Blanton’s office will be conducting training and audits regarding access to make sure there are not accidental access issue for faculty.

--Mr. Martin joined the meeting at the beginning of Ms. Glass’ presentation

Amber Glass—Student Activities

Ms. Glass gave a brief update on the new academic misconduct reporting procedure. It is available on the website. Ms. Glass solicited input on what her role should be in dealing with academic misconduct. Consensus was let the involved faculty member drive level on involvement from the Dean of Students to provide for the most flexibility.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Nordquist moved with a second by Dr. Collins to approve the minutes as presented. Minutes unanimously approved.

-- Ms. Bird joined the meeting during the vote to approve the minutes.

Administrative Leave Updates

Ms. Lewis gave an update on the recent suspension of Mr. Steve Martin and Ms. Vicki Pasque. Administration reported that the 5-week investigation showed that all issues were relatively benign and training will be provided to help faculty know what is appropriate to access. Mr. Nordquist ask to hear from Mr. Martin on his satisfaction on the process involved. Mr. Martin gave an account of his experience and state that students and faculty on campus received more information on the status of the investigation during the 5-week period that neither suspended faculty member. Mr. Martin stated that neither faculty member was informed of the nature of the violation other than the possible violation of a policy. Mr. Martin reported according to the chief auditor for the A and M Board of Regents that no report was produced at the conclusion of the investigation and there no evidence of impropriety was found.

--Daren Stephens joined the meeting near the end of the discussion on administrative leave updates.

Upward Evaluation

Ms. Lewis reported that Dr. Faltyn expressed interest in implementing upward evaluations where faculty evaluate administration. Ms. Lewis polled the senate and all were in favor of upward evaluation if responses could be anonymous.

Faculty Pay Study Committee

Ms. Lewis reported that in conversations with members of the faculty pay study committee it was pointed out that the faculty handbook states that the university pays the insurance premium for faculty and that has not been the recent practice of the university. Ms. Lewis also reported the Ms. Franks, chair of the faculty pay study committee, would like to attend faculty senate and discuss the committee's findings.

OLD BUSINESS

Faculty Senate Constitution Revisions

Mr. Martin reported he was working on a way to conduct voting in D2L that would make voting available only to eligible faculty and maintain anonymity. After further discussion, it was decided that Mr. Martin and Ms. Smith would investigate electronic voting options.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion on Going Virtual

Mr. Martin expressed that he would have preferred notification through means other than just Facebook. Mr. Nordquist and Dr. Meyer pointed out that the official means of communication is university email. Additionally, overall communication with faculty is a concern in that not all communication comes through the primary means of communication of faculty. Not all faculty use social media.

ADJOURN

Mr. Aznar moved and Dr. Collins seconded to adjourn. Motion passed and meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Steve Martin, secretary



Steve Martin, secretary

January 8, 2021

Date



Charla Lewis, president

January 8, 2021

Date