

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

November 4, 2014

Assembly Room McFall Center

CALL TO ORDER: 2:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Absent: Tim Cloeter, Michelle Heckman, Rebecca Mancuso, Holly Meyers, Greg Rich, Irina Stakhanova, Stephanie Walls

Quorum present.

COMMUNICATIONS

Chair of Faculty Senate: Joel O'Dorisio acknowledged now knowing a "genuine pop culture icon" — Bill Albertini. Albertini's appearance on "Jeopardy," where he was a champion, recently aired on the local television stations. The Faculty Senate applauded. Chair O'Dorisio invited the Faculty Senate members to a Holiday Reception being hosted by President Mazey at University House following the December senate meeting. He announced the guest for the December meeting would be Dick Edwards, mayor of Bowling Green. Fran Voll, chair of the Board of Trustees, has been confirmed for the January meeting. Faculty Senate continues to work on a variety of issues through several committees including the structure of academic honesty, student code of conduct and some adjunct issues.

President Mazey:

1. Enrollment still looks good — up 800 from last year's numbers at this time and admits are still higher. Confirmations are not as high as this time last year. We need to yield them, and any way that faculty can help is encouraged. This is a critical time during which prospective students make their decisions.
2. The State Share of Instruction formula has been reviewed. Several of the weighted categories that had impacted BGSU will be rectified. President Mazey said the changes will not mean a large increase, but won't hurt BGSU as much. We need to remember the SSI is built on graduates.
3. The Trustees Innovation Fund was successful generating 27 proposals looking at reaching new student populations.

As a precursor to the working session at the end of the meeting today, Chair O'Dorisio asked President Mazey to share some challenges during her remarks. President Mazey said there are many challenges today. She highlighted: competency-based education, continued growth of online education, need for flexibility in the curriculum, increased competitiveness especially in the state of Ohio, and the debt issue. About the debt issue, she said the reduced support from the states for students makes addressing this issue difficult. Something will likely need to be done at the federal level, like a federal block grant program to states.

Following her remarks, President Mazey took questions from senators.

Q (Philip Weinsier): Are you planning to reduce tuition rates next year or is that going to be tied to whatever decision comes down for SSI?

MM: We haven't really talked about tuition next year. I don't anticipate reductions to tuition per se. It is the state senate president who is the one talking about the need to reduce tuition in the state.

Q: Rieuwert Blok: In all this talk of state funding is there ever any talk about graduate education?

MM: It is all education. The SSI supports graduate and professional education. When we talk about education it is graduate and undergraduate. Here at BGSU the issue is undergraduate education supporting graduate students. Unless the aid is to graduate students who are involved in instruction, the move is to increase fee-paying master's.

Provost/VPAA: No report. Provost Rogers was traveling and not in attendance.

REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

Amendments and Bylaws: O'Dorisio read a written statement from A&B saying the committee continues to work on student absence policy and academic honesty.

NEW BUSINESS

Technology Update: Chief Information Officer John Ellinger, who has been CIO for 4 years, talked about technology and how it impacts the classroom. He presented a PowerPoint with information on the following topics: Canvas, Promotion and Tenure, Falcon Advising and Career Engagement System, BGSU Homepages, Talent Acquisition, Other Projects, and What's Coming Up.

Following his presentation, Ellinger took questions from the senators.

Q (Amelia Carr): Know you said we should be experiencing better search experience, but the Web site is not user friendly. For example, users have to go to "About" to find some offices.

JE: Marketing and Communication handles the labeling of the Icons. He would need to look into this.

Q(Jeff Meyer): We can't install Dropbox on our office computer. Why is this when Dropbox is the default when working with others around the country and the world?

JE: We as an institution do not have an agreement with Dropbox. Cost for licensing made it prohibitive. Users can still use Dropbox, it just has to be through the Web. University is officially sponsoring One Drive. Security is main concern. We have to have a balance and recognize the collaborative needs of faculty and how to make our system work for faculty.

Q (Bill Albertini): With Sharepoint One Drive is there a local folders system for Apple?

JE: Only for PC at this time.

Q (Salim Elwazani): What degree do you monitor what software is being used and how much?

JE: BGSU currently has five to six enterprise agreements. Different software systems meet the needs of various constituents. Ellinger said, "Not one piece of software solves everybody's problems."

Q(Allen Rogel): Does the back-up system work for Linux machines?

JE: Yes.

Q (Sheri Wells-Jensen): Currently, we have systems that don't talk to each other creating extra work and need to email information between offices. Is there hope for integrated databases?

JE: "Yes, we will get there," he said. "I won't tell you what year, but we will get there."

Q(John Folkins): Is there a way to build in redundant ways/links for information since people get at things in different ways or may not know where the information is housed?

JE: Linking more key words in search could be helpful.

Q(Amelia Carr): In a meeting we found three different course descriptions. Seems to be old catalog information out there and this is misleading. Is there something that can be done to purge some of this old information?

JE: He will follow up on the old catalog information that should have been removed.

Q(Rachel Vanatta Reinhart): We still have many horrible classrooms where the technology locations within the classroom are awkward or screens block only blackboard. Besides the few you mentioned in the PowerPoint, is there a plan to update or renovate other classrooms?

JE: Next summer, Capital Planning will be putting about \$3 million into classrooms across campus. He thinks about 40 or 50 classrooms are on that list. If you see a classroom or are in a classroom that is less than adequate, let his office know.

Joint Faculty Senate-Administration Workload Committee Faculty Workload Report:

Over the summer, a team of three faculty members and three administrators met and discussed the workload policy. The current policy, written in 1994, was a direct response to state legislation at the time to recapture more teaching effort out of faculty, a mandate of 10 percent more teaching from faculty. This recent effort, spearheaded by faculty senate, is pro-active to get ahead of the current climate in the state legislature and revisit a policy that is 20 years old. The joint committee produced the report of seven observations that went to Provost Rogers in September. The report was shared with Senate Executive Committee and now the Faculty Senate. The report will also be available to the entire faculty through the Faculty Senate and Provost websites.

Discussion with Joel O'Dorisio and Bill Balzer, both of whom served on the committee, clarified some points. Norms for teaching loads varied widely. The committee was only charged with addressing full-time faculty. A number of gaps exist in Institutional Research data and resulted in an initiative to collect information and establish a system for collecting information that will produce consistent and usable data. The committee was careful not to touch on issues that related to the CBA. The document leaned heavily on teaching because finding out

what research looked like was even harder than teaching to get clear picture and data.

In Provost Rogers' absence, Bill Balzer shared the provost's plans and next steps for the document and arriving at a policy. Two of the observations (#4 and #7) deal with data concerns and will be handled separately. The other five observations will be the guidelines for forming a university policy. The deans will work with the units to build policy from the bottom up so each unit's policy will be consistent with the other units in the college in which it is housed. These college policies will be used to create a BGSU policy, with all reflecting the five guidelines. Faculty Senate will have a role in helping with this. From there, Provost Rogers will present the policy to the president and then the Board of Trustees.

ACTIVE WORK GROUP SESSION

Chair Joel O'Dorisio asked the members to break into working groups of six to eight members to identify some of the challenges facing faculty as we move forward and how Faculty Senate can prepare to address these issues. After roughly 20 minutes, each group shared one or two challenges. The following are a few of the challenges identified by the groups: diminished research opportunities, impact of digital classroom, right mix of TTF-NTTF-adjuncts, funding in scholarship, competitive pay, student preparedness, view of students as consumers, departmental morale, administrative ratios, retention vs. persistence, workload, emphasis on rankings, and changing political climate. Chair O'Dorisio collected all the questions to be consolidated into a working list.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Joel O'Dorisio called the meeting to a close at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Kelly Taylor, secretary, 11/13/14