

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Oct. 7, 2014

Assembly Room McFall Center

CALL TO ORDER: 2:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Absent: Bill Albertini, Tim Cloeter, Rachelle Hippler, Monica Longmore, Stephanie Messersmith, Greg Rich

Quorum present.

COMMUNICATIONS

Chair of Faculty Senate: Joel O'Dorisio opened by giving an update from the breakout session of the September meeting. A variety of responses were given to the first question – the role of the Faculty Senate – that did not present a lot of usable data. We will, however, continue the discussion. We will be working with the administration and union to clarify our role. The second question – activities for future meetings – produced more concrete responses and we have already taken action. Most common response was to invite speakers and guests to interact with the Senate. Today, Donna Nelson-Beene will be giving an update on Bowling Green Perspective and general education, and we will be having a short breakout session to brainstorm questions for Fran Voll, Chair of Board of Trustees, who is being invited to a future meeting.

President: President Mazey gave the following updates:

1. Everyone is to be congratulated for BGSU's move up in the U.S. News and World Report rankings. President Mazey said BGSU's placement in the Top 100 public universities is quite an achievement. This is already having ripple effects as admissions and applications are up.
2. President Mazey will announce on Thursday that she is changing Provost Rogers' title. His title will change from Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost to Provost and Senior Vice President. This aligns with the Capital Campaign focus on being all academic affairs oriented. The campaign goals include increasing the number of scholarships by 1,000, increasing the number of endowed professorships by 80, updating the academic facilities, naming those facilities, and getting endowed colleges and endowed programs. President Mazey stated that she would like to see two endowed colleges out of this campaign.
3. From her State of the University address the president highlighted Board of Trustees Innovation Fund, faculty excellence awards, and a move to Resource Centered Management.
4. President Mazey is pleased that Chair Voll will be a guest of Senate. Two visitors she would suggest are Chris Kingston, athletic director, and Jill Carr, student affairs.

Following the updates, President Mazey took questions from senators. Julie Haught, English, asked for clarification on the 80 endowed professorships. Would these be new faculty or conversions for faculty who are already here? President Mazey said from her past experiences these are best for recruitment of new faculty and retention of current faculty. These professorships would involve taking the amount required to endow the professorship down and providing opportunities for individuals to put that money in an estate to then do the annual payout to the person who is selected. • Neocles Leontis, substituting for Peter Blass in chemistry, remarked that part of the Accenture report addressed the rising cost of utilities. He mentioned a report on the energy costs to be presented to the president at a later time and hoped that the university could engage in a conversation about how the university can seek alternatives and do other projects to save energy. President Mazey said she had been following Neocles' efforts after a presentation he did to city council. She also said to work with Sheri Stoll and Bruce Meyer and to see where we can go in the future.

Provost/VPAA: Provost Rogers gave the following updates:

1. STEM in the Park was a success and brought over 4,000 people to BGSU.
2. Still a little early in the process, but freshman fall enrollment is running well ahead of where we were a year ago year to date, and running a little bit ahead of where we were two years ago. Applications are up 15% from year ago and 2% from two years ago. Keeping in mind that we are holding admissions standards firm, we are 40% ahead on admissions and 17% from the year before. Too early to comment on graduate, transfer, online and international because those students apply in a different cycle.
3. Thank you to Donna Nelson-Beene and committee on general education reform and John Fischer on BGP as we work to be more intentional and integrated in our approach. Provost Rogers said in the vision statement we talk about making sure our students graduate understanding what it means to be an engaged citizen and a global leader. He would challenge us all to be thinking about our curriculum in terms of ways in which we are intentionally ensuring that for our students.
4. Trustees Innovation Fund has a deadline of Oct. 17. This is an opportunity to identify programs to serve new student populations. They hope to roll some of these out by Fall 2015 where possible.
5. Deadline for faculty excellence awards is Oct. 30.
6. They were unable to make a hire in the search for a Director of Institutional Research. As a result, they have done some restructuring. Julie Matuga, Director of Academic Assessment, has agreed to a new role and title Academic Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness, which will then have oversight of IR. This allows Joe Frizado to focus his efforts on the enrollment management area.

BGSU-FA Liaison: Sheri Wells-Jensen reported the following:

1. Both the Joint Health Care committee and the Allocated Market Pool committee between the FA and administration are working very well together.
2. The FA intends to issue a demand to bargain pertaining to the new merit templates. Since modification of merit policy does affect the CBA, as such it should be negotiated. To clarify, merit for the year 2014 will be assessed by using the old policy, which was in place before the CBA.
3. The FA is holding a general membership meeting on Nov. 6 at 5 p.m. A location was not announced.

Updates on the back of the agenda: Chair O'Doriso asked for any questions in response to updates and reports from senate-affiliated groups. Julie Haught, English, asked for information about where the resolution on a Safe and Inclusive Campus, which was passed by Faculty Senate at the April 2014 meeting, was with USG and GSS. Brian Kochheiser, USG president, said nothing had been presented. Julie said a USG senator was to have presented this and she would follow up with that student. The GSS president was not in attendance.

REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

Committee on Committees: Chair Stephanie Walls reported:

1. Com Com has filled out all the committees that were waiting for assignments of a faculty member in the first four years.
2. Amendments and Bylaws still needs a one-year appointment filled and, for the commitment phobic, a substitute one semester appointment.
3. SEC has formed an advisory ad hoc committee to examine the needs and conditions of adjunct faculty on campus. Com Com has three volunteers already for this five-member committee. Two more volunteers – a senator and a full-time NTTF – are needed. Julie Haught, English, volunteered for the adjunct ad hoc committee.
4. GSS has created two ad hoc committees under its organization. GSS is looking for two faculty members each for a) university partnerships, looking at internship and stipend opportunities for graduate students; and b) emergency funding, looking to identify aid for graduate students.

NEW BUSINESS

United Way Presentation: Sara Bushong, chairing with Jill Carr, provided information about the United Way Campaign. She cleared up confusion between this and the Family Campaign. Family Campaign is in the spring and is a way for BGSU members to give back to BGSU. United Way is in the fall and is a way for BGSU to give back to the community and region and reach out to those in need. The goal is to get 500 BGSU faculty, staff, retirees and students to give \$100,000. Donors can designate which organizations specifically benefit from their donations. Please encourage your colleagues to donate or ask questions.

Honorary Degree Nominations

Senators received all documentation in support of the nominations prior to the meeting. At the meeting, Montana Miller, popular culture, presented an overview and highlights in support of Eileen O'Neill. Faculty Senate voted to support the nomination of Eileen O'Neill for an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Bowling Green State University. The vote tally was 55 for – 3 against – 3 abstain.

Arne Spohr, music, presented an overview and highlights in support of Jennifer Higdon. The Faculty Senate voted to support the nomination of Jennifer Higdon for an honorary doctorate of musical arts from Bowling Green State University. The vote tally was 59 for – 1 against – 1 abstain.

BG Perspective Update:

Donna Nelson-Beene, director of Bowling Green Perspective, gave an update on the new BGP program to go into effect fall 2015. The goal she said is to lay the best foundation for students as they move to upper level classes. Three goals of the new program were: 1) assessment – want something sustainable, not too complicated, ongoing and meets accreditation component; 2) address OBOR concerns – get into compliance and to the 36 credit hours; 3) data – want to get programs in place, do the assessments then get the data and use the data to see how we are doing as an institution. BGSU is adopting a new domain title, English Composition and Oral Communication, as this is the title from OBOR. Donna Nelson-Beene shared a worksheet (that was check-sheet like) to give an overview of the domains and requirements.

Dec. 31, 2014 is the deadline to have the whole process completed. The committee had given a June 1, 2014 deadline for proposals, which most departments met. Some are still trickling in. Total of 110 proposals made – 36 have gone to the Provost so far, a number in process to go to the Provost soon, and only 25 are waiting for revisions.

Q: Are there an adequate number of 3000 level courses and 100 percent online courses on the list to accommodate those students doing an online degree completion program in College of Technology?

DNB: They are looking at this as they make course choices to send to the provost's office. They are also working with John Fischer to see if there are any places where there is a need and attempt to fill in this. They are definitely looking at it.

Q: Are you looking for a number of BGP courses? And if so, what is the number?

DNB: The new program will be smaller. Currently, the program is large and unwieldy with 306 courses on the list. Of those, 53 had not been taught in a long time, but are still on the books and haven't been removed and need to be. Departments have been contacted about these.

John Fischer added: Courses are being judged on the merits including how long they have been offered, the number of students they are serving, the number of majors requiring or recommending, and faculty resources.

Q: In follow-up, what is the enrollment number for courses? What are the criteria for good enrollment? Faculty members have this perception that there is an enrollment number. Is, for example, the subject matter and the semester the course is offered in, being taken into consideration?

Rodney Rogers: The key is that we are being intentional with general education. We are offering choices, but not too much. The key is to make sure all those building blocks are aligned with learning outcomes, that we can assess that, and we can explain to our students why this course is key to your success in your major. In the past, students had a checklist mentality in their approach to general education.

Benefits Update:

Sandy Heck provided an update on changes for health care for this next Open Enrollment period, which takes place in November.

1. Employees will no longer have to provide the full time student status form for their dependents on Delta Dental.
2. Beneficiaries will be done online this year. This has been a paper process in the past. You can review regularly.
3. A new option Plan B is one of the biggest changes for this enrollment period. This is a lot of information and employees should review this.
4. Plan A is not changing.
5. A new voluntary program is being offered through Aflac.
6. Dependent Audit is being conducted. All employees have to turn in documents (birth certificates, marriage certificates, etc.) to a third-party vendor.

Best way to accomplish all this is to make an appointment for a one-on-one session with a benefits person. Sessions are available through the open enrollment period of Nov. 3-21. Sign up through Canvas. You can include your spouse and are encouraged to do so. Aflac representatives are also available.

ACTIVE WORK GROUP SESSION

Chair Joel O'Dorisio asked the members to break into working groups of 6-8 members to develop questions in preparation for a visit from Fran Voll, chair of the Board of Trustees, at a future Faculty Senate meeting. After roughly 15 minutes, O'Dorisio had each group share their question and then collected all the questions for consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion (not clear who made the motion). Faculty Senate should adjourn. Second (Brooks Vostal). Passed unanimously. Meeting concluded at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Kelly Taylor, secretary