

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

September 9, 2014

Assembly Room McFall Center

CALL TO ORDER: 2:32 p.m.

Introduction of officers and welcome by Chair Joel O'Dorisio.

ROLL CALL

Absent: Steve Cady, Lynda Dixon, Michelle Heckman

Quorum present.

COMMUNICATIONS

Chair of Faculty Senate: Joel O'Dorisio remarked that with the presence of a union on campus, the role of Faculty Senate has been naturally shifting to one of more pedagogy and less workforce. Part of today's meeting will involve soliciting the opinion of senators about the role of Faculty Senate and what things Faculty Senate should work on for the year.

Chair O'Dorisio shared two behind-the-scenes undertakings this year designed to continue the push from last year to make Faculty Senate, in Joel's words, "an active body."

1. The Committee on Committees has been tasked with a systematic review of Faculty Senate committees. Vice Chair Allen Rogel will be assisting. Com Com will be looking at each committee to review the charge, if it is appropriate, if the committee is meeting and what the committee is doing. This is a large undertaking and not all the committees will get done this year.
2. Faculty Senate meeting procedure will be changed so the Faculty Senate chair, President Mazey and Provost Rogers will be the only ones with standing reports on the agenda. When committees have something of substance to report, the chairs need to request to be placed on the agenda. Groups who want to provide brief written announcements or information should send these to the Faculty Senate secretary a few days prior to the meeting to be included with the agenda document. Stephanie Walls, chair of Com Com, is in the process of alerting committee chairs to this change. Joel's goal is to set up active workgroups within the meeting time frame on a regular basis.

In New Business, O'Dorisio explained that SEC created an Ad Hoc committee to study the demographics of adjunct faculty. The committee is in need of members including a Senator, a general faculty member from on campus and an adjunct faculty member. All names should be forwarded to Stephanie Walls, chair of Com Com.

President: President Mazey was not in attendance as she was at a retreat with other presidents of Ohio universities as part of the Inter-University Council of Ohio.

Provost Rogers gave her report. After welcoming the Senators back to another year, Provost Rogers shared five items from the president.

1. A taskforce of the Town and Gown Commission has completed a land use plan and released its report. Members of the campus community participated on the taskforce. The report is titled "City of Bowling Green Improvement Plan: Meeting the Needs of Today and Tomorrow." Provost Rogers had a hard copy. The report is available on the city's website. He said there are some exciting things and BGSU will benefit by some of the suggestions in ways of enhancing relationships and thinking about pathways and bikeways and those sorts of things.
2. BGSU has gone through one biennium under the new State Share of Instruction formula. Work is currently going on at the state level to refine the formula. Provost Rogers said it would be late in fall term likely before we know more and how BGSU might benefit from any adjustments.
3. Today is the 15th Day. Historically, this had been a key day because of SSI, but SSI focuses more now on course completion and degree completion so end of the term is taking on more significance. The day is still important for enrollment reporting. Statistics for Full Time Equivalent show that we are down 2.4 percent overall. BG campus is down 2.3 percent. Firelands is down 3.3 percent. Graduate enrollment is down .9 percent. Enrollment is virtually flat on the graduate side, so most of the decline is on the undergraduate side. BGSU admitted a smaller freshman class than the prior year, but the academic profile of that class is higher than last year. Provost Rogers reminded the group that last year was arguably the most academically prepared class in the history of the university, and this year was yet stronger.
4. The retention rate (first time full time fall to sophomore) showed a gain. Last year was 70.2 percent. This class is coming in at 75.8 percent. Provost Rogers said this was the result of a lot of work by a lot of people and thanked the faculty for their part part and commitment to student success. To provide some external validation of our efforts, Provost Rogers shared that BGSU moved up five spots among public institutions in U.S. News and World Report rankings. Rogers said BGSU continues to be a Top 100 public university.
5. President Mazey is scheduled to deliver the State of the University Address on Tuesday Sept. 16 at 11 a.m. in the Wolfe Center Donnell Theater. All are invited to attend.

Provost/VPAA: Provost Rogers gave no report.

REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

Committee on Committees: Com Com Chair Stephanie Walls said the committee is busy. The group used Qualtrics to survey faculty in their first four years about their committee involvement interests. If you head a committee that includes a new faculty member, you will get names in a few weeks.

Walls presented three opportunities for faculty to get involved in committees in need of members. Please consider serving yourself or finding others to serve. Names should be forwarded to Stephanie Walls.

1. Amendments and Bylaws has the most pressing need for members. A&B needs two members, each serving for one year, and one member to fill in for the current semester.
2. Bookstore Advisory Committee is in need of a substitute for one semester.
3. Honors & Awards has a one-year appointment available. This person needs to be a Senator.

OLD BUSINESS

Faculty Senate voted on the Firelands' Early Inclusive Childhood Associate Degree proposal. The Senate voted 56 approve—0 oppose—1 abstain. The proposal has passed.

ACTIVE WORK GROUP SESSION

Chair Joel O'Dorisio asked the members to break into working groups of 6-8 members to address their answers to two discussion questions:

1. What is the role of Faculty Senate now that the faculty has collective bargaining?
2. Working from this position, what are some appropriate activities that we can focus on this year to advance the university?

After roughly 40 minutes of individual reflection and group discussion, the chair collected the responses. People could also send their comments through campus mail to Joel O'Dorisio within a day or two if they wanted to think more about the topic. The plan is to look through all the notes, to report back to Senate the sense of the Senate and to consider the comments as we set the agenda for future meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion (Joel O'Dorisio). Absent any objections, Faculty Senate should adjourn.
Second (Cindy Hendricks). Passed unanimously. Meeting concluded at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Kelly Taylor, secretary