

**SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

March 30, 2010
2:30-4:30 pm

Senate Conference Room
140 McFall Center

PRESENT: Judy Adams, Kris Blair, Michelle Brodke, Jim Evans, Dwayne Gremler, Terry Herman, Jacqueline Leclair, Judy May, Ron Shields, Ellen Williams

CHAIR'S REPORT:

Faculty Senate Chair shields opened the meeting at 2:30 pm and reviewed the SEC agenda for the March 30, 2010 meeting. Shields indicated that the most lengthy discussion would probably be about the Faculty Misconduct Policy and asked to defer that topic as the last topic for discussion at the SEC meeting today. Shields reported that he had been requested, but was unable to attend an Athletics/Academics Issues meeting to discuss a proposal to excuse student absences for athletic responsibilities. Shields informed the group that they needed to go through proper channels to get consideration/approval for such requests before it would come to the Faculty Senate.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Flexible Tenure Policy

Shields indicated that we were still waiting to hear back from Amendments and Bylaws Committee on the format and wording for the Flexible Tenure Policy. Shields reminded SEC that one year ago Senate passed the Flexible Tenure Policy. The policy was never forwarded to the Board of Trustees for final approval because there were requested changes made by the Deans, the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the President's Office. One particular omission cited by University Counsel in the policy was the absence of information on the Family Medical Leave Act. The policy then went back to Faculty Welfare Committee for review and revision and then was sent on to Amendments and Bylaws Committee. We are still waiting to hear from ABC as to whether the changes made to the Flexible Tenure Policy are editorial or substantive in nature. If they are deemed editorial in nature, the changes will be announced to Senate. If they are substantive in nature, then SEC and Faculty Senate would be required to vote on the policy again. Evans moved that we place the Flexible Tenure Policy on the Senate Agenda for the April meeting. Herman seconded. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

FPCC Request for Charter Interpretation on Tenure Review Process

Shields indicated that he had received a request for an informal charter interpretation from the Chair of Faculty Personnel and Conciliation Committee regarding the Charter procedures for third year review. One suggestion/question coming from the Chair of FPCC was whether the language being used in the Charter for third year review should be the same as the language being used in policy and procedures being used for the tenure review for all faculty. Another question dealt with who could serve on the reviewing committees at the various levels of review in the third year review. An additional question dealt with how the candidate for third year review was to be notified. Shields

noted that this was not a formal request for a Charter interpretation but more along the lines of requested information coming from a prospective grievant. SEC reviewed the requests and felt that we needed to ask the Chair of FPCC for further clarification on what the specific requests for interpretation are. Evans suggested that we thank FPCC for bringing forward a potential problem with ambiguous Charter language regarding the third year review process but that we avoid prematurely providing information that might unduly influence the potential work of the FPCC on a possible upcoming grievance. The Chair of FPCC should send notification/requests regarding ambiguous language to ABC. Secretary Williams will send correspondence to the Chair of FPCC regarding the recommendations from SEC.

Fee Waiver Policy

The Office of Human Resources has offered the following proposed changes to our current policy on Dependent Fee Waivers:

Employee	Current Policy	Proposed Policy
Number of Credit Hours	FT-8 per semester/no more than 15 per academic year PT-Prorated	FT-8 semester/no more than 16 per academic year PT-Continue Prorated
How Credits Counted	Fall/Spring/Summer	Summer/Fall/Spring
Classes During Work Time	Should be made up if during work time	Must be made up within work week by using a flexible work schedule, vacation, compensatory, and/or unpaid leave
Benefit as Employee and Dependent	Can utilize both employee and dependent fee waiver	Cannot use both as employee and dependent
Reciprocity	Can take courses @ BGSU and University of Toledo under each policy	Eligible for maximum number of credit hours pursuant to this policy (i.e. cannot utilize 16 hours at both BGSU and UT)

Dependent- Full Time Faculty & Staff only	Current Policy	Proposed Policy
Waiting Period	Employees must be employed full-time 3 years then first semester following the meeting of the requirement	Semester immediately following employment
Eligibility	Through semester child turns 24 (as long as being claimed as tax dependent); can continue beyond if employee can show proof that child is being claimed as tax dependent.	End of calendar year child turns 24 (as long as being claimed as tax dependent). Nothing further, regardless of status of child.
Benefit as Employee and Dependent	Can utilize both employee and dependent fee waiver	Cannot use both as employee and dependent

These proposed changes are presented for consideration by Faculty Senate. Jim Evans moved that these proposed changes be sent to Faculty Welfare Committee and to the Amendments and Bylaws Committee for review and submission to Faculty Senate for a vote. Michelle Brodke seconded. Motion approved.

Charter Amendments for Faculty Improvement Leave

The Council of Deans requests that Faculty Senate consider the following minor editorial change to Section B-II.B1.e)(2) of the Academic Charter regarding Faculty Improvement Leave. Currently, the Charter states:

The applicant also shall file information copies with the department Chair/School Director or the appropriate supervisor and with the Dean or VPAA.

The Council of Deans are requesting that copies of FIL information be filed in the VPAA’s Office and the Dean’s Office. The proposed charter change would read:

The applicant also shall file information copies with the department Chair/School Director or the appropriate supervisor and with the Dean and VPAA.

Evans moved that this be considered a minor editorial change and be approved. Herman seconded. Motion approved. Shields will report this change to Senate.

Honorary Degree

Senate Executive Committee reviewed the request for an Honorary Doctorate. This request was initiated at the Provost's level and approved by the Honorary Degrees Committee. Jim Evans moved that this proposal be forwarded to Faculty Senate for a vote. Kris Blair seconded. Motion approved. (As per past practice, the name of the individual being considered for the honorary degree is not posted in the Senate minutes.)

OLD BUSINESS (Reordered per request of Senate Chair, Shields)

Faculty Misconduct and Discipline Policy

Shields provided a brief history of the Faculty Misconduct and Discipline Policy. He noted that the policy was originally passed by: The Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Misconduct and Discipline on April 21, 2009: SEC, as amended, on April 28, 2009; and Faculty Senate on May 5, 2009. It was not forwarded to the Board of Trustees because the President's Office and University Legal Counsel had some concerns about the appeals process included in the policy. The policy was returned to Faculty Welfare Committee in the Fall of 2009 for review and revision. The Faculty Senate Officers arranged for a meeting of Faculty Welfare Committee, University Legal Counsel and members of the original committee on the Faculty Misconduct and Discipline Policy. Faculty Welfare Committee continued to review and revise the document. FWC indicated their concern about the section entitled "Appeals Process" and decided to forward it to Senate Executive Committee for review and consideration at the April 6, 2010 (without approval from FWC). Shields asked if SEC would review the currently proposed policy and consider placing it on the April 6, 2010 Faculty Senate agenda. SEC members agreed to review the policy, make any needed revisions/amendments and send it forward to Faculty Senate for vote. Evans moved that the Faculty Misconduct and Discipline Policy, as amended by SEC, be endorsed by SEC and forwarded to Senate for vote. Blair seconded. Motion passed.

ISSUES AND CONCERNS

None

SENATE AGENDA

The following topics were identified as Senate agenda items:

- Faculty Senate Officer elections
- Senate Standing Committee elections
- White Paper Presentations on CUE (Connecting the Undergraduate Experience)
- Flexible Tenure Policy
- Faculty Misconduct and Discipline Policy
- Faculty Fee Waivers

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Shields adjourned the meeting at 4:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Ursula Williams, Secretary of Faculty Senate