

**SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

April 27, 2010
2:30-4:30 p.m.

Senate Conference Room
140 McFall Center

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

Guests: Ruben Viramontez-Anguiano (representative from Faculty Welfare Committee)

CHAIR'S REPORT

Faculty Senate Chair Shields opened the meeting at 2:32 pm. He reviewed the agenda for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Shields provided an update on the current status of the Flexible Tenure Policy, the proposed Faculty Fee Waiver Policy and the Faculty Misconduct Policy, which was being sent back to the Faculty Welfare Committee to be reviewed and revised prior to submission to the new Faculty Senate body in academic year 2010-2011.

Senate officers are hopeful that the proposed changes for the Faculty Fee Waiver can be reviewed and placed on the agenda for the May Faculty Senate meeting. Shields reminded SEC that Faculty Welfare Committee is advisory to Senate Executive Committee. Further, he noted that members of the Faculty Welfare Committee (FWC) had been invited to today's SEC meeting to provide input on the Fee Waiver Policy. Two members of the Faculty Welfare Committee had sent email commentary to the Senate Chair on the proposed policy changes. Evans requested that discussion on the Fee Waiver Policy and the Flexible Tenure Policy be deferred until later in the SEC meeting in the event that members of FWC might come at a later time in the meeting. Shields agreed.

Senate officers are also hopeful that the Flexible Tenure Policy could come before Senate for a vote at the May meeting. Currently, the policy is being reviewed by the Amendments and Bylaws Committee to be put into Charter ready language.

NEW BUSINESS

Memorial Resolutions

Williams noted that there would be two memorial resolutions for faculty members who recently passed away, Janet Emerine from the College of Education and Human Development and Todd Marshall from Firelands campus.

Program and Degree Name Change

Shields noted that a name change had been reviewed/approved by all appropriate committees including the Committee on Academic Affairs. The name change calls for the program and degree currently known as a Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology to be hereby known as a Bachelor of Science in Clinical Laboratory Science. Shields asked SEC if this should be

viewed as a minor change not requiring a vote of Faculty Senate. Evans moved that it be viewed as a minor change. Brodke seconded. Motion passed. Shields will announce this name change in his opening remarks at the Faculty Senate meeting.

Bachelor of Science in Fire Administration

Shields indicated that CAA had approved to forward the Bachelor of Science in Fire Administration to SEC for a potential review and placement on the Faculty Senate agenda for May. CAA Chair, Dave Border had identified this new degree as a minor change. SEC discussed the issue and determined that it was a major change requiring a vote of Faculty Senate. This new degree will be presented at the May Senate meeting for a vote.

Associate Degree of Applied Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Shields reported that CAA had approved the Associate Degree of Applied Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography be forwarded to SEC for review and potential placement on the Faculty Senate agenda for May. This Associate's Degree would be offered at the Firelands campus. CAA forwarded this degree as a minor change. SEC discussed the issue and determined that it was a major change requiring a vote of Faculty Senate. This new Associate's Degree will be presented at the next Faculty Senate meeting for a vote.

Request for a Faculty Charter Interpretation

Shields indicated that he had received a letter from a faculty member requesting information/interpretation on Charter policy regarding non-renewal of a probationary appointment. This is not a formal request for Charter interpretation. In particular, the faculty member was non-renewed following the third year review. The faculty member was asking who was considered the "deciding body" in the following Charter language:

When a faculty recommendation or a decision not to renew a probationary appointment has been reached, the faculty member involved shall be informed of that recommendation or decision in writing by the body or person making the recommendation or decision, and, upon request, shall be advised of the reasons for the decision. The faculty member may request a reconsideration by the recommending or deciding body. (B-I.C University Policy on Faculty Appointment and Tenure, page 7 of 9)

SEC discussed the issue and felt that in most cases the deciding body would be considered the contracting officer or the Dean of the College. However, if the Dean's recommendation were positive and the next level of decision making at the Provost's level were negative, then the Provost's office would be the "deciding body." SEC noted that this was not a formal Charter interpretation request but asked that the Senate Secretary inform the faculty member that it would be recommended that they contact the highest level of the deciding body where non-renewal occurred. In addition, the Secretary should remind the faculty member of the following option cited in the Charter:

Insofar as the probationary faculty member alleges that the decision against renewal or tenure by the appropriate faculty body was based on inadequate grounds, the Grievance Arbitration Procedures described in B-I.E may be utilized (B-I.C University Policy on Faculty Appointment and Tenure, page 7 of 9).

Discussion on Proposed Changes in the Faculty Fee Waiver

Shields reopened the discussion on proposed changes in the Faculty Fee Waiver. He shared the written commentary from two members of the Faculty Welfare Committee and asked for the opinion of the guest member of Faculty Welfare Committee who indicated that these changes would be positive changes for faculty who would no longer have to wait for three years of employment prior to receiving this benefit. Evans moved for approval of the proposed changes and Leclair seconded. Motion was approved to bring these proposed changes in the Faculty Fee Waiver Policy to the Senate for a vote. Blair suggested that Becca Ferguson from Human Resources be asked to be at the Senate meeting to respond to any questions that might arise.

Discussion on the Flexible Tenure Policy

Shields asked Ruben Viramontez-Anguiano if he had any commentary from Faculty Welfare Committee regarding the Flexible Tenure Policy. Ruben indicated that he really could not speak on behalf of the entire FWC. Shields asked SEC if they wanted to bring the Flexible Tenure Policy to the Senate meeting in May. Judy May indicated that Senate should move quickly on this policy in order to make it available for faculty who may need to use it. Williams moved that SEC endorse the Flexible Tenure Policy and forward it to Faculty Senate in May for a vote. Brodke seconded. Motion passed. Evans reminded that if SEC is endorsing the policy, then members of SEC should speak favorably on the policy at the Senate meeting.

Discussion on Faculty Misconduct and Discipline Policy

Shields asked SEC and the FWC guest how the Faculty Misconduct and Discipline Policy should be handled. Williams noted that discussions from the last Faculty Senate meeting were somewhat heated and that many Senators felt that there were major problems with the Appeals Process revisions. Williams recommended that SEC follow the directives that came from Senate calling for a return of the policy to Faculty Welfare Committee for review and revision, especially on the section dealing with the Appeals Process.

ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Post-Tenure Review or Faculty Misconduct

Evans raised the issue of a recent dismissal of a tenured faculty member. The news article detailing the event indicated that the cause for dismissal was due to performance-related behaviors. Evans questioned whether this might be interpreted as a form of post-tenure review rather than a case of dealing with faculty misconduct. Shields said that the officers would bring this to the attention of Vice President Borland and ask for clarification of the event.

Potential Conflict of Interest on Faculty Senate Committees

Shields raised some concerns over Faculty Senate members who served on governing committees in Senate and also served on governing bodies within Bowling Green State University Faculty Association. Since Faculty Senate has taken a neutral stance on the collective bargaining movement in order to preserve a position that supports “shared governance”, Shields questioned if members of Senate who also serve in leadership roles on BGSU-FA might find themselves in a “conflict of interest” position. Shields suggested that SEC might address this potential “conflict of interest” issue in the upcoming year.

Future of the Graduate College

Walling expressed concern over a lack of information regarding the future of the Graduate College. Shields suggested that Walling continue to ask for this information.

Faculty Listproc

Williams indicated that there is concern over the Faculty Senate continuing to manage the Faculty List Proc because the Administrative Assistant to Faculty Senate (Pam Pinson) is being called about a number of issues such as non-faculty members being allowed to be on the listproc. Blair indicated that she thought that Faculty Senate should consider giving up any involvement in the Faculty Listproc. Evans thought this might not be a wise move.

Last SEC Meeting of the Year

Shields thanked SEC for all of their hard work this year. He also thanked the SEC for support of him as Chair of Senate. He noted that he looked forward to the SEC dinner meeting to be held at Biaggi's on May 4th. SEC members gave Shields a round of applause and thanked him for his many contributions to SEC and to Senate this year.

ADJOURNMENT

Shields adjourned the meeting at 3:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Ursula Williams
Secretary of Faculty Senate