

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

October 1, 2013
2:30 – 4:30 P.M.

Assembly Room
McFall Center

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Wells-Jensen called the meeting to order at 2:33 PM.

ROLL CALL: Secretary Wood called the roll and announced a quorum.

Absent: Hoff, Stakhanova.

Please note: Senators arriving after roll call should call their presence to the secretary's attention at the conclusion of the meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

Chair of the Faculty Senate, Sheri Wells-Jensen

Wells-Jensen welcomed attendees and called attention to several developments and initiatives of interest to Faculty Senate:

- Bill Albertini has agreed to chair the Committee on Committees and together with Com/Com members and Faculty Senate Vice Chair, Joel O'Dorisio, Albertini is getting the logistics of faculty participation in standing committees organized. Update: Bill was serving as the interim chair until the committee convened on Oct. 15 and Ann Darke (darkea@bgsu.edu) agreed to serve as chair for AY 2013-2014.
- The work of the ad hoc committee to reconcile the *Charter* with the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) has been carried over from the September Faculty Senate meeting agenda.
- SEC endorsed the name change from Honors Program to Honors College as a positive step in improving recruitment of highly-qualified students to BGSU. The Amendments and Bylaws Committee is working to resolve issues connected with this change and to recommend to the SEC appropriate *Charter* language codifying Honors College operations and policy.
- The Ad Hoc Committee to study faculty workload issues will soon begin meeting.
- An Ad Hoc Committee to recommend standard questions for student evaluations of faculty – coordinated jointly by the Provost and the Faculty Senate Chair—is being convened and is a strong model of shared governance from the ground up.
- Faculty Senate Office relocation to Olscamp near the Center for Faculty Excellence is in the planning stages.
- Faculty Senate officers (Well-Jensen, O'Dorisio, and Wood) have been meeting with the Provost, the Chief Human Resources Officer, and the Secretary to the Board of Trustees, and together working through the process of consolidating support for Senate.

Chair Wells-Jensen also mentioned updates on the Academic Honesty Policy and on implementation of the Presidents' Climate Commitment as subjects of future Senate meetings.

President , Mary Ellen Mazey

Student Retention President Mazey discussed the need for all faculty to be focused on student success and student retention. Despite many new retention efforts implemented last academic year, the fall-to-

fall retention of the freshmen class increased by less than one percentage point. Since the University admitted the best academically prepared class in the BGSU's history in Fall of 2013, Dr. Mazey believes that retention should increase next fall providing the faculty and others actively engage the students in academic and co-curricular work.

Honors College Dr. Mazey thanked the SEC for endorsing the new Honors College and thanked its dean, Dr. Simon Morgan-Russell, for the work he has undertaken. She asked all faculty to assist the new college and dean in recruitment and retention efforts.

Capital Budget Following a meeting of all the four-year university presidents and the two-year community college presidents with Governor Kasich last Friday, the governor announced that he will be recommending a new capital budget to the legislature this year. Funds will become available in the summer of 2014. BGSU plans to take forward the renovation of one of the Traditions buildings as its highest priority.

EXPO Job and Internship Fair Finally, the President commended the work of Jeff Jackson, Assistant Vice President of Enrollment Management and Director of the Career Center, and his staff for the success of the EXPO Job & Internship Fair. There was an increase in employers represented of 22 percent over last year, with a total of 188 employers on site in the Field House. Many employers were alumni of BGSU. She urged all BGSU faculty and staff to continue working to ensure that our students are successful in their first careers and beyond.

The President responded to questions from the floor of the Senate.

Provost/VPAA , Rodney K. Rogers

Provost Rogers highlighted several indications of progress along with matters of continuing academic importance for this academic year.

CBA Implementation The Provost commended the work of Bill Balzer, Vice President for Faculty Affairs and Strategic Initiatives, and Sandra Faulkner, Contract Administrator and Grievance Officer for the BGSU Faculty Association, in clarifying various aspects of the Collective Bargaining Agreement during its initial implementation phase.

Recruitment and Retention Focus on attracting new student and growing total enrollments continues to target populations such as professional Master's program applicants, international students, and others.

Academic Advising Spearheaded by Vice Provost Sue Houston, implementation of recommendations for improving academic advising will center on setting clear expectations for students, aligning policies and procedures across the University, and adding value to the advising processes by judicious use of technology to enhance student success in various ways .

Programs/Discussion Forums Dr. Rogers reminded Senate of the presentation by bestselling Common Read author, Christopher McDougall, and invited all interested faculty to attend one of two brown bag discussions on the future of Higher Education based on the book, *College (Un) Bound*, scheduled for October 16 or November 7, noon-1:30 in the first floor Pallister Conference Room of the University Library.

The Provost responded to questions from the floor of the Senate.

Graduate Student Senate (GSS) Representative, Lingxiao Ge

No report from Graduate Student Senate.

Undergraduate Student Government (USG) Representative, Alexis Solis

President Solis expressed appreciation for the work of the Homecoming Committee and hope that all present would enjoy the festivities. He outlined the current USG priorities:

- Student participation in University standing committees.
- Academic concerns including lobbying for the extension of library hours and working to resolve outstanding issues pertinent to updating the Academic Honesty Policy.
- He asked senators for feedback about student concerns heard in the classroom that USG could work on. Several comments were made and in the interest of moving the agenda forward, Solis asked members to forward any additional issues/concerns to him via email asolis@bgsu.edu or telephone at (419) 372-6026.

BGSU Faculty Association (BGSU-FA) Liaison, Lawrence Coates

Dr. Coates echoed the Provost's commendation of the committee to reconcile the *Charter* with CBA provisions. The solid work over the summer of this group, of which he was a member, is deeply appreciated.

Coates mentioned that the ICS (Institute for the Study of Culture and Society) Fellowships are now open to NTTF's and well as tenure track faculty, noting that the same high standards will apply to applicants from both groups.

Dr. Coates mentioned the administration's response to the BGSU-FA's public records request for information and documents drafted over the summer information in connection with faculty workload policies. There has been some mention of efforts to raise the teaching load of NTTF to 5-4. BGSU-FA leadership and members of the bargaining unit look forward to further discussions about these issues.

Retiree Representative, Ellen Williams

Dr. Williams reminded Senate that the BGSU Retiree Association (BGSURA) is comprised of members from not only faculty but also classified and administrative staff and that it has representation on Classified Staff Council, Administrative Staff Council and The Ohio Council of Higher Education Retiree Board as well as on Faculty Senate. She listed Fall activities of the group and mentioned that V.P. for Capital Planning Steven Krakoff will speak at the next BGSURA luncheon.

REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

Committee on Academic Affairs (CAA) – David Border

At CAA's 9/18/13 meeting, guests Matt Jurak and Laura Stafford shared information concerning the Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) General Education renewal work and invited CAA to provide input to their group.

After discussing the Honor's College, CAA concluded that the committee was unlikely to perform a role in the review of the proposal since the Senate Executive Committee and Amendments and Bylaws Committee are shouldering much of the review responsibility.

The committee's next meeting was scheduled for 10/2/2013.

Amendments and Bylaws (A & B) Committee – Erin Labbie

Labbie reminded Senate that *Charter* Changes necessitated by implementation of the Collective Bargaining Agreement were on the day's agenda. As A & B co-chair and as co-chair of the Ad-Hoc Committee on the *Charter*, Labbie encouraged senators to stay until that vote was completed.

Amendments and Bylaws Committee is scheduled to meet next on October 15 to discuss new business, following the vote to pass the CBA mandated *Charter* changes. Some clean-up work in the *Charter* remains after significant changes have been presented for Faculty Senate's consideration and subjected to a vote. The committee is always open to suggestions of additional *Charter* changes that may be needed.

Committee on Committees (ComCom) – Senate Vice Chair, O'Doriso and ComCom Chair, Albertini

The Committee on Committees met with O' Doriso to elect a chair and get organized. Interim chair, Bill Albertini, has begun outreach to fill vacancies among Senate standing committees and University standing committees, including an email to faculty and a letter to chairs and directors encouraging them to nominate faculty. Senators were urged to volunteer for committees and/or to nominate colleagues to participate in shared governance via committee service. Contact information: woalber@bgsu.edu or (419) 372-8668.

Committee on Professional Affairs – No report.

Fiscal Affairs Advisory Committee – No report.

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution Commending Pam Pinson for Her Service to Faculty Senate A resolution commending Pam Pinson for six years of service as Faculty Senate Office Manager characterized by "tireless service and thoughtful attention to detail" as well as "exemplary professionalism, courtesy, and dedication" was read by Vice Chair, Joel O'Doriso. The resolution on behalf of Faculty Senate concluded by extending to Ms. Pinson "sincere thanks, gratitude, and best wishes to her and to her family for the future." A voice vote unanimously passed the resolution. Ms. Pinson was presented with a one-of-a-kind blown glass object and a gift card from Faculty Senate officers. Pam then received a standing ovation from attendees.

Charter Amendments Mandated by CBA: Members of Ad Hoc Committee on the Charter

Erin Labbie thanked those who contributed to the Ad-hoc Committee on the *Charter* -- including Mark Earley (no longer active on this committee) as well as members who were present -- for their painstaking and precise work over the summer in reconciling the *Charter* with the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Committee members Erin Labbie, Allen Rogel, Lawrence Coates, Michael Buerger, Sheri Wells-Jensen, and Patrick Pauken presented for Faculty Senate's consideration the suggested *Charter* language revisions and fielded questions. Allen Rogel moved and Jude Edminster seconded Faculty Senate's endorsement of the *Charter* changes. After a brief discussion, part A changes passed by a margin of 57 votes in favor of endorsing the changes and no abstentions or negative votes. Part B changes were passed by a margin of 53 votes in favor with no abstentions and no negative votes.

United Way Presentation: Sara Bushong, Dean of University Libraries Dean Bushong spoke of the goal of improving the percentage of active BGSU employees contributing to United Way. She noted that BGSU raised over \$101,000 last year and urged interested persons to get involved as a donor and/or member of the campus planning committee. Sarah Swegan, Wood County United Way Development Officer (and a BGSU alumna), then spoke of United Way's commitment to putting money back into the community through assistance with issues like income tax refunds and other educational, health, and income-related services. She said that many students and their families receive United Way services along with other community members.

ISSUES AND CONCERNS/SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: None raised.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 4:02 PM.

NOTE: Senate meetings are open to the public. [Supplemental materials supporting proposed action item\(s\) are sent to Senators only.](#) Senators arriving after roll call are asked to report to the Secretary at the end of the meeting. Please use a microphone when addressing the body. Senators are expected to stay through adjournment.

Respectfully submitted, Elizabeth J. Wood, Faculty Senate Secretary