

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 29, 2013
2:30 – 4:30 pm

Senate Conference Room
140 McFall Center

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amelia Sangenetta Carr; John W Folkins; Lingxiao Ge; Rachelle Marie Kristof Hippler; Kathryn S. Hoff; Paul Andrew Johnson; Joel O'Dorisio; Andrew John Pelletier; Alex Dominic Solis; Sheri Beth Wells-Jensen; Elizabeth Jean Wood.

GUESTS: Nick Hennessy, Sustainability Coordinator; Bruce Myer, Assistant Vice President for Campus Operations

PRESIDER: Chair, Sheri Wells-Jensen

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

President's Climate Commitment Update: Hennessy and Meyer previewed for SEC the updates they would like to present to Faculty Senate. The first major step toward implementing this commitment is completing an inventory of BGSU's greenhouse gas emissions and articulating a plan to reduce such emissions within two years of President Mazey having signed the agreement. A committee of faculty, staff, USG, and GSS, will be working with Hennessy and Meyer and probably a third party to complete the inventory and begin implementing the plan. This group's recommendations are anticipated soon after the beginning of 2014.

Questions from SEC members revealed that, among other information, a number of campus functions (for example, athletics, dining services, and residence halls) are not subject to oversight by campus operations. Nevertheless, they have been supportive of recycling and green initiatives on campus.

Amendments & Bylaws Committee: Wording for *Charter* Revision Regarding Senate Eligibility

SEC discussed the proposed *Charter* revision that would have limited FS eligibility to those faculty matching the CBA definition of "bargaining unit faculty" as reported by Human Resources. The prevailing opinion of SEC members is that chairs and other persons with administrative responsibility of no more than 50% can make significant contributions to Senate's consideration of academic matters and accordingly should retain eligibility for Faculty Senate membership.

Folkins moved and Pelletier seconded a motion that the current *Charter* statement regarding eligibility of academic department chairs, school directors, and program directors remain unchanged and that the new language offered by Amendments and Bylaws "to expedite identification" of faculty members eligible for Senate be rejected with thanks for A & B's work in drafting the proposed language. SEC voted unanimously to retain the current *Charter* language to the effect that "... *school directors, department chairs, program directors, and others holding faculty rank with no more than fifty percent of their contractual time assigned for administrative duties*" shall remain eligible for Faculty Senate membership.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Amendments & Bylaws Committee: Recommendations Regarding Updating the Academic Honesty Policy SEC agreed with A & B's contention that *Charter* revisions are best considered in the context of a holistic look at 1) academic honesty policy and 2) procedures for its implementation. Any further SEC discussion of *Charter* updates pertaining to academic honesty will be deferred until the ad hoc committee on academic honesty proposed by Faculty Senate Chair Sheri Wells-Jensen has submitted its recommendations.

O'Dorisio moved and Johnson seconded a motion that an ad hoc committee of about 10 members to study and unify academic honesty policies and procedures be convened. Input should come from the following constituents, although not all will be members of the ad hoc committee:

- administrators charged with implementing academic honesty policies
- faculty
- GSS
- UGS
- College of Arts and Sciences
- GSW
- Learning Commons
- ESOL program

The motion further charged the committee to contact entities who may be working on academic honesty recommendations (e.g. Undergraduate Council and Graduate Council) in order to consolidate results of current debate and discussions. Ideally the committee should convene no later than the third week of November so that its recommendations can be reviewed by the SEC in April, in time for any recommendations for change to be approved for the Faculty Senate agenda before the end of the current academic year.

ComCom Update: Vice Chair O'Dorisio, liaison to ComCom, reported that under the leadership of Ann Darke ComCom has succeeded in filling 28 committee vacancies, with 8 in process. That will leave only about 10 remaining vacancies.

Secondly ComCom will be making recommendations about reviving or disbanding committees that have not met recently but may be appropriate venues for faculty input to academic issues and concerns.

Senate Workload Committee: This new ad hoc Senate committee will meet on October 31. Ideally both this committee and the BGSU-FA committee will meet with the University administration regarding workload issues and policies. The faculty association has issued a request to the Administration to negotiate workload issues and to receive a copy of the current BGSU workload policy, believed to date from 1994.

GSS expressed concern about implications of workload policy for graduate students who are instructor of record.

Faculty Senate Office Hours: Alice Cook has hired a student employee to work Wednesday afternoons starting 11/6/2013. Alice will be in the 204 University Hall office on Tuesdays (except during Senate meetings and ComCom meetings) and Fridays. FS Secretary, Bess Wood, will maintain hours in 204 on Wednesdays from 9:00 – noon with a few exceptions due to scheduling conflicts. Chair Sheri Wells Jensen will also be working in the Senate office at times.

So far it does not appear that the allotted portion of Alice's time is sufficient to support essential FS work. Wells Jensen will convey this information to Ms. Cook's supervisor and to the University administration.

ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

An SEC member asked for an update regarding conducting a discussion of the appropriate role of a faculty senate body in a collective bargaining environment. Wells Jensen conveyed her hope of putting a discussion on the December FS agenda, inviting a faculty association officer from a sister institution and one of the faculty senate officers from that same campus to share challenges and lessons learned in keeping both the union and the faculty senate at their institution strong.

SENATE AGENDA:

Applied Geospatial Science Curriculum Modification request
Fiscal Affairs Committee Report
President's Climate Control Initiative: Hennessy and Meyer
IT Update: Ellinger

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted Elizabeth J. Wood, Faculty Senate Secretary