

NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Minutes of Faculty Council Meeting

Friday, September 7, 2012

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Deason-Toyne in SCL 129. There was ITV access at Muskogee, Broken Arrow and Tahlequah.

Council Members in attendance in Tahlequah: Jeb Briley (Business & Technology), Ron Cambiano (Education), Shari Clevenger (Liberal Arts), Samantha Clifford (Library), Kendra Haggard (Liberal Arts), James Hicks (Science & Health Professions), Spencer Johnson (Optometry), Chris Miller (Liberal Arts)

Council Members in attendance in Broken Arrow : Andrew Aken (Business & Technology), Cheryl Van Den Handel (Liberal Arts), Mai Anh Vu Tran (Business & Technology), Victor Zhu (Science & Health Professions)

Council Members in attendance in Muskogee :

Council Officers in attendance: Denise Deason-Toyne (President), Pamela Louderback (Vice President), Linda West (Secretary/Treasurer).

Guests: Jon Asbill (Capital Projects), Ernst Bekkering (Business & Technology), Bruce Davis (Cherokee Nation), Tim Foutch (VP Admin), Pat Guin (Cherokee Nation), Nate Kuntz (Capital Projects), Jennifer McCann (IDSC), Bill Wallace (Liberal Arts) - Tahlequah.

Guests:

President Turner

President Turner addressed Faculty Council and said that he is looking forward to fall semester and would be pleased to talk with us in the future. Provost Rugg should be on campus September 17-18th. He talked about retention and stated that the faculty have the greatest impact on retaining students. Our number of first time students is up and we will be looking for ways to engage students. As he has learned more about our culture, he is looking at revisiting the concept of shared governance in a way that is not unfair or lopsided.

Faculty Memorial/Circle of Excellence Bricks

There has been some discussion of the idea of a faculty memorial. These are all ideas and suggestions at this point. There will be a committee to review the ideas in the future. At this point, we are just exploring options and President Turner affirmed that this is a good time to look at ideas as we approach a campus master plan. Kuntz and Asbill made a presentation about

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locations for a possible faculty memorial, other memorials at other campuses and the idea submitted by R.C. Coones in response to the Faculty Council design contest. The Cherokee Nation would like to be involved in the project and planning for a memorial and its location.

Jennifer McCann - Indigenous Scholars Development Center

She had a brochure and discussed the idea behind this grant funded program. They have hired staff and are currently located in Bagley, 1st floor. They hope to have scholar development sessions that will support student retention and are coordinating with the Student Academic Success Center. They will have tutors, individual and group study sessions, counselling services, mentoring and leadership opportunities. She was asked about financial issues and the success of native students. They will have a forum on September 27th that should address some of these issues. Although it is focused on indigenous students, their services are open to all students.

1. Call to Order

- A. **Review/Approval of minutes of the May 4, 2012 meeting**
(http://arapaho.nsuok.edu/~faculty_council/minutesmay2012.html)

Minutes were approved as presented.

- B. **Budget Report**

The budget is \$4,100 for this year with \$900 reserved for travel. Ideas for using funds were: furnishing for the BA and Tahlequah Faculty lounges and a faculty memorial.

2. Committees/Standing Reports

- A. **Need volunteers to serve on and chair the following:**

Nominating Committee- Haggard is the chair joined by Shari Clevenger and Andrew Aiken.

- B. **Faculty appointments to standing committees, etc.**

We need people for our standing committees: Faculty Welfare, Bylaws and the Faculty Handbook

3. Old Business/Pending Issues

- A. **Designs for Faculty Memorial**

See discussion above. We do want to make sure our priority is to find a home for the Circle of Excellence bricks. A committee will be reformed to look at all the issues before the end of the semester.

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- B. **Uses for Faculty Council Budget Funds - Memorial Fund?**
Funds from last year could not be transferred to the Foundation or kept over for the next year. One thing we usually fund is some contribution to Undergraduate Research Day.
- C. **+ and - for grades** - We still need time to research this idea. We will table it for now and look at this topic next month.
- D. **Changes/Additions to Circle of Excellence Selection guidelines**
The committee will get some feedback and we will look at this at the next meeting.
- E. **Revision of Bylaws** - will be discussed at the next meeting.

4. New Business

- A. **ETextbook policy**
There was a change recently to the policy and e-textbooks are to be allowed in classrooms. They can be excluded from class if textbooks are not required to be used in class. The person using any device may not be disruptive to the class.
- B. **Faculty mentoring/Evaluations/Reviews - consistency among colleges?**
The RTP guidelines have been in place for about a year, but there are questions that some colleges are not using them. We would like to do a survey to find out what the experiences are. This was taken to UPC but was rejected because it does not involve a broad spectrum of the campus. This is an opportunity to collaborate with the new Provost. UPC would like the idea to come from the Provost and not from Faculty Council.
- C. **Faculty handbook -Needs editing regarding Grievance Policy/Procedures**
There has been confusion about grievance policies and procedures. We need to look at the Faculty Handbook and see if we can address some of the unclear issues. Louderback, Hicks, West and Deason-Toyne volunteered to look at these issues.
- D. **Speaker's Bureau**
The idea was sent to UPC but they sent it back to us for more details. An idea was to highlight specialties in the NSU Directory.

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5. Announcements:

No announcements.

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Next meeting will be October 5th at 3 pm in the same locations unless announced otherwise.

Submitted by Linda West, Secretary-Treasurer
10/3/12