

NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Minutes of Faculty Council Meeting

Friday, February 7, 2014

1.Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Van Den Handel in BABT 225 at 3:00 pm. There was ITV access at Muskogee, Broken Arrow and Tahlequah.

Council Members in attendance in Tahlequah: Shari Clevenger (Liberal Arts), Samantha Clifford (Library), John Diamantopoulos (Science & Health Professions), Kendra Haggard (Liberal Arts), Jim Hicks (Science & Health Professions), Spencer Johnson (Optometry), Sandra Martin (Library), Dan Sisk (Science & Health Professions)

Council Members in attendance in Broken Arrow : Andrew Aken (Business & Technology), Tia Bennett (Education), Jeb Briley (Business & Technology), Kurt Choate (Education), Buster Hall (Broken Arrow), Mai Anh Vu Tran (Business & Technology), Lee Woods (Education), Victor Zhu (Science & Health Professions)

Council Members in attendance in Muskogee:

Council Officers in attendance: Cheryl Van Den Handel (President), Linda West (Secretary/Treasurer).

Guests: Jon Asbill (Capital Projects), Ben Hardcastle (Communications & Marketing), Nathan Kuntz (Capital Projects)

Review/Approval of minutes of the November 1, 2013 meeting (http://arapaho.nsuok.edu/~faculty_council/minutesnov2013.html)

Minutes were approved as presented

2.Budget Report

More information is needed to transfer funds for Undergraduate Research Day.

3.Committees/Standing Reports

Circle of Excellence – the Committee still needs two members. Over thirty nominations have been received. Deadlines were set for March 7th for submission of portfolios and the last week of March for the committee to

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meet and make decisions. This gives us a small window to get the awards announced and plaques made before the ceremony in April. Faculty Council voted to keep the awards design the same this year and revisit a redesign in fall 2014.

No other committee reports.

4. Old Business/Pending Issues

A. **Diversity Statement**

Policy committee passed the statement and has forwarded it to President Turner who is expected to approve the statement.

B. **Design & Location of a Faculty Memorial, Location of COE bricks**

Jon Asbill and Nathan Kuntz attended the meeting. Asbill presented three proposals for the location of the COE bricks. All three plans are on the south side of the Library. One is in a circle pattern near a new sidewalk feature, one is incorporated with a new entrance plaza to the Library, and one is a gallery/sidewalk combined with a circle pattern. There were questions about installation, dirt or cement; how many bricks there are and growth plans; what size the proposed circle is. It is intended to be a nice spot that people would want to visit and be a focal point. It would be at a crossroads with whatever the new purpose for Wilson Hall will be. The plan was hard to see in BA, so it will be emailed to Faculty Council. Asbill would like to see another meeting where plans are discussed and the design changed to suit Faculty Council preferences. There is no current timeline which will depend on cost of the final design. The Library plaza is planned for next summer. When the plan is nailed down, we can get estimates and see if it will fit in our budget.

C. **Status of Shared Governance Document:** See New Business.

D. **Professional closet for students:** NSGA This project is stalled.

5. New Business

A. **Faculty Evaluation Task Force**

Dr. Fly wants names of individuals from each college to serve on this revision task force. One member should be part of the graduate faculty. We are set to have online only reviews in spring 2014 after testing in the fall. There were questions about faculty privacy and who can see the results. It was stated that some results are not generated by the software program, they have to be manually computed and

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entered. Faculty are concerned about confidentiality. Task Force volunteers: Ron Cambiano (COE and Grad. Faculty), Kendra Haggard (COLA), Dan Sisk (SHP), Jeb Briley (B&T), Spencer Johnson (Opt)

B. Discussion of Shared Governance Document

There was discussion of the document that has been edited and is returned for Faculty Council approval. Changes were noted in additions of RUSO limitations, the removal of a few paragraphs and the addition of some groups (i.e. Chairs Council). Discussion centered around the use of the words shared and collegial. These were in the original document and were used interchangeably. Faculty Council voted to change all occurrences of the word shared to collegial. The intent of the document was questioned. Is the document stating how things are or asking for changes? On a second vote, the document, with changes was accepted by Faculty Council.

C. Recruitment and Retention: How do we improve? Need ideas.

Hardcastle and Cambiano led the discussion. Hardcastle presented charts showing NSU's D23 goals and the recent decline in enrollment and credit hour production. The shortfalls in budget were also discussed. Communication and Marketing is looking for ideas from the faculty that would address any of these issues. Hardcastle noted that the addition of 24 advisors could be the cause of a 5% gain in retention last semester. We all need to work together to attain the goals of D23. He would like to have the names of six-eight faculty who would be committed to the concept that they can make a difference. This group will meet and talk about the ideas. He plans to have an organizational meeting soon and needs names from each college. Van Den Handel would like names by email by the end of next week to pass on to Hardcastle.

D. What should be our Budget Priorities in the next year?

Tabled for lack of time.

E. Should faculty have more voice in Inclement Weather Decisions?

Tabled for lack of time.

F. Guns on Campus Legislation: letters and phone calls

Faculty Council voted to write a resolution and vote on it via email in the coming week. There were questions about the fact that guns in locked cars are legal everywhere in Oklahoma at this time. How does this coincide with the current ban of guns on campuses?

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G. **Raise emergency fund of \$125,000 for helping students to stay in school.** Tabled for lack of time.

H. **Tulsa Heart Walk: NSU Faculty Team?** Tabled for lack of time.

News:

Upcoming event reminders are on the agenda.

Are there ideas for the May 7, 2014, 125th Anniversary of Seminary Hall?

Change next meeting date? March 7th is Undergraduate Research Day.
Faculty Council voted to move the meeting to March 14, 2014.

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

Next meeting March 14, 2014

Submitted by Linda West, Secretary-Treasurer
2/14/14