

NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Minutes of Faculty Council Meeting

Friday, March 14, 2014

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Van Den Handel in SH 204 at 3:00 pm. There was ITV access at Muskogee, Broken Arrow and Tahlequah.

Council Members in attendance in Tahlequah: Ron Cambiano (Education), Shari Clevenger (Liberal Arts), Samantha Clifford (Library), John Diamantopoulos (Science & Health Professions), Christine Hallman (Liberal Arts), Jim Hicks (Science & Health Professions), Spencer Johnson (Optometry), Sandra Martin (Library)

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: Heather Fenton (Nursing)

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

Guests: Karl Siewert (Library) in Broken Arrow

Review/Approval of minutes of the February 7, 2014 meeting (http://arapaho.nsuok.edu/~faculty_council/minutesfeb2014.html)

Minutes were approved as presented

2. Budget Report

More information is needed to transfer funds for Undergraduate Research Day. We will transfer the funds the first week after spring break.

3. Committees/Standing Reports

A. **Circle of Excellence**

The Committee is reading portfolios and will meet the week after spring break to decide on award winners. A date for the award ceremony was discussed. Members of Faculty Council requested that we again hold a separate award ceremony. We see that the student award ceremony is on the schedule. We believe that a separate ceremony is appropriate for this award.

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B. Course Evaluation Task Force

The Task Force has revised several questions. There will be a pilot evaluation this spring. Paper evaluations will have the old questions and the online evaluations will have the new questions. They will then evaluate the questions. There was discussion about how to get the percentage of online responses higher.

4. Old Business/Pending Issues

A. Diversity Statement

The statement has been approved for use by the University.

B. Guns on Campus resolution

The resolution has been delivered. Staff Council is passing their version on March 25th after spring break. The bills have passed the House and are in the Senate. Communicating with your senators is appropriate to express your opinions.

C. Design & Location of a Faculty Memorial, Location of COE bricks

We plan to reconsider the designs at our April meeting. Nate will be in BA with copies of the plans and Jon will be in Tahlequah.

D. Collegial Governance Document:

The revised document is going to Staff Council, Chairs Council and Student Government for approval. It should go to Policy Committee in March and then to the President. We should have this in place by the time we have a new Provost. It was noted that many people have been advocating for this idea for a long time and it is good to see some progress.

E. Recruitment and Retention Discussion

This is a major issue. Van Den Handel had just come from meetings where some figures were discussed. Our applications are up 14% compared to this time last year. The yield on applications is about 65-70%. Some other numbers: there were 1190 new students in fall 2013, 433 are not back for spring. 36% of these are because of some financial hold. Credit hour production is the big concern. The enrollment numbers don't reflect that many are part time; this reflects a drop in CH from 110K to 95K or 1.9 million in dollars. Some of our loss is in transfer students in the 31-40 age range. Ideas for retaining transfer students are welcome.

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5. New Business

A. **Recruitment and Retention** (see above)

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

Van Den Handel had collected responses to this question via email. Other ideas were added at the meeting. Budget priorities listed: support for faculty and programs, library resources and databases, professional development funds, form E requests from faculty for equipment and supplies. Discussion led to current services supplied by the libraries. Faculty are unaware of a program called OKShare where they can obtain a borrowers card that works at other libraries in the state. Also, interlibrary loan can obtain materials from other libraries.

C. **Raise emergency fund of \$125,000 for helping students to stay in school**

Faculty Council was encouraged to support this effort to provide grants and loans to students in need. We need someone to put our effort together. We will talk about this again in April.

D. **What does F. C. want to do for the 125th Birthday of Seminary Hall?**

This will be the kick off to the three year capital campaign. We need to plan something for the event.

E. **Tulsa Heart Walk: NSU Faculty Team?**

President Van Den Handel will be walking and wants others to walk with her. The event is in Tulsa on April 12th.

News:

Upcoming event reminders are on the agenda.

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Next meeting April 4, 2014

President Van Den Handel will be out of town. Agenda items include the Seminary Hall event, Circle of Excellence bricks design. We need to start gathering names for Faculty Council appointed committee slots. We also need to remind colleges of delegate and grievance committee elections for next year.

Submitted by Linda West, Secretary-Treasurer
3/27/14