

Draft Minutes of the  
SU Faculty Senate Meeting  
November 29  
HH119

Senators Present: DeRidder, Ervin, Groth, Hopson, Howard, Lawler, Morrison, Mullins, O'Loughlin, Parker, Ritenour, Robeck, Shannon, Shipper, Pereboom, Talbert

Senators Absent: McKenzie

1. Maarten Pereboom called the meeting to order at 3:30pm

2. Pereboom announced the following:

- Please participate in the open meetings for candidates for the position of Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and the Dean of Students.
- Please attend the Writing Center open house Nov. 30 from 4-7 pm
- Please attend the Curriculum Change Committee open meeting on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 in Devilbiss 123. A document will be distributed prior to the meeting for your review.
- The Senate schedule for meetings next semester will be distributed soon.

3. Minutes of Nov. 29th approved following a quorum.

4. The Provost provided the following updates:

- Also invited faculty to attend open houses for vacant positions. He explained that instead of hiring 2 Associate Vice Presidents for Student Affairs, they are hiring a Dean of Students (more student activities) and one Associate Vice President of Student Affairs (broader policy issues).
- He will be making a presentation of the MHEC mission statement soon.
- December 8th is a Regent's retreat with system Presidents - each will make a presentation on what their campus intends to do in the next 5 years in terms of the Regents efficiency and effectiveness programs. Dr. Dudley-Eshbach intends to share that we are talking about a major curriculum change. This is a good way to test out the water early and to discover if the Regents might object or not support us, such that when the faculty get together to talk about it, we'll have some assurance that the Regents are behind us or not.
- He is hoping to be able to say something soon about faculty recruiting for next fall. Senate responses to this announcement centered on the need to recruit very soon, to hear a drop dead date from the Provost as soon as he knows, and confirmation that the 323 students are FTE, not freshman.

5. Steve Gehnrich gave a report from the Wellness Committee regarding the campus smoking policy.

- He explained the current smoking policy (although there is no written record of it) is to remain 20 feet away from dorm entranceways.
- The Wellness Committee sees a need to create a policy (some students have complained to the Wellness Committee about smoking near doorways). Gehnrich offered the ideas they are considering and sought feedback to help the committee create a policy that they will eventually recommend. The ideas under consideration include: leave as is, restrict to outside 20ft. of all doors (if you smoke, problem for smokers), make some entrances (perhaps covered) okay for smoking, ban smoking on campus, place gazebos

in strategic areas on campus as smoking areas.

- Senator comments included a plea to not overact or go overboard in restrictions, to leave as is, to identify 1 handicapped accessible entrance for non-smoking per building and to have one entrance to smoke per building and the others to remain non-smoking.
- Discussion also included how to enforce a policy, signage placement and type.
- The committee has reviewed what other schools are doing. The type of policy might reflect the severity of the problem/population size

6. Ron Dotterer presented an overview of the report for Middle States.

- A 2nd draft of the report is on the web.
- There were 5 working groups. Some highlights include:
  - #1 priority is bringing faculty salaries to the 85th percentile
  - major problem overall, lack of resources, same as in the 76 & 86 report
  - need to create strong alliances with peer institutions
  - Our strengths remain the quality and dedication of faculty/staff & student centeredness
  - increase in financial aid, merit, need based financial aid
  - doubled representation of AA and other underrepresented groups (now %10)
  - also raise questions of assessment and accountability
- Some offices have full institutional assessments plans in place, but not all, a stronger set of benchmarks, outcomes need to be articulated so that there is an increase in accountability in those offices
- On Dec. 7th at 11am, Jessica Kozloff, President of Bloomsbury U. of PA, will meet with representatives in the President's conference room
- March 5-8 is the campus visit- chairs need to reserve time to meet with representatives
- Give feedback to Dotterer before holiday break

7. Susan Muller presented a report on the Curriculum Change Committee

- Department visits are ongoing
- Faculty development day is being planned
- Please attend the open meeting next week

8. Pereboom resumed discussion started from the last meeting regarding the need to decide on the decision-making for the Curriculum Change model

- Although Mike O'Loughlin distributed/explained a motion about the decision, Dave Parker explained that the motion goes against our own by laws. We need to call a meeting of the faculty to discuss, debate, decide - if we get enough people there.
- Senator comments included the definition of a full time employee, the advantages & disadvantages of a vote at an open meeting of the faculty, the need for the Senate to send out a majority and a minority report, the need to make a decision now about when to vote so that people can have advance notice and an idea to have a Senate meeting where the Senate votes and then 2 weeks later a full faculty meeting for faculty to vote via secret ballot.
- O'Loughlin withdrew his motion

8. Donna Ritenour presented a report from the University Curriculum Committee

- after the executive committee reviewed comments from last week, we realized we needed to give the Curriculum Committee more direction
- reviewed 5 points distributed that summarize concerns from last meeting

-The difference in the checklist depends on whether we believe that an online course is fundamentally the same as in-class or different

-Senators suggested that the UCC needs to clarify the intent of checklist – is it part of a formal process or as a guide to chairs? Suggested to limit it to technology issues only

9. Pereboom discussed the idea of reviving a Senate ad hoc finance committee

We should have a committee that regularly meets and discusses priorities - see if folks who served last year would like to serve on a revived committee to address specific issues, but then to draw up bylaws for a standing committee

10. Pereboom adjourned the meeting at 5pm