

Tuscarawas Campus Faculty Council Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2013

Faculty Present: Auld, Baker, Brindley, Burkholder, Cheng, Das, Davis Patterson, Engohang-Ndong, Fenk, Fuller, Graff, Green, Harding, Hediger, Hoffman, Jewell, Jones, Kang, Lashley, Minnick, Osikiewicz B., Petite, Powers, Rajagopal, Roman, Wang, Willey

Administrators Present: Andrews, Bichara, Bronkar, Donley, Gritzan

I Call to Order

Lashley called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

II Approval of March 11, 2013 minutes

Unanimous approval of the March minutes (Minnick/Auld).

III Treasurer's Report

Osikiewicz reported there were no withdrawals on the Flower Fund and only one deposit of \$80 during the month of March. Therefore, the current balance of the account is \$311.25. An additional \$140 has been collected that needs to be added to the account. After this deposit is made, the account balance will be \$451.25.

IV Chairperson's Report

Lashley reported that RCFAC met on March 15th. At that meeting, RCFAC:

- got an update on the status of the new state funding model and learned that, fortunately, it now appears that KSU will lose "only" about a million dollars in state funding—an amount considerably less than the \$8 million loss that was originally anticipated.
- discussed the feedback from each campus regarding the appropriate SSI norms for regional campus faculty. The Stark Campus is conducting a pilot project that involves several different norming groups. Several campuses, however, are in favor of abandoning SSI norms completely, and RCFAC is considering making this recommendation to Faculty Senate. Lashley has asked Academic Affairs to revisit this issue and decide if we, as a campus, want to endorse the abandonment of reporting norms of any kind on SSI summaries. Auld stated that if the norms are taken away then each faculty member will have nothing to compare their own SSI numbers to and have no real reflection on their own teaching. Das asked about Owen Lovejoy's committee. Lashley stated that it was still going through faculty senate. Minnick stated that the senate is discussing this and stated that the problem is that people are misinterpreting the plus/minus differences in the SSI summaries. Minnick stated that some campuses are using SSIs for merit and this was never the intention of the SSI summaries. Bichara asked if one of the options is to norm according to discipline. Lashley stated that this is one of the options being considered.
- approved a motion to request that Provost Diacon ask the heads of the various

academic units to work with their respective Faculty Advisory Councils to increase the presence and visibility of Regional Campus faculty on departmental websites.

- discussed the feasibility of having a common weighting section that would be universal across the handbooks of all of the regional campuses. (The TT CBA mandates that the handbook of each academic unit contain specific guidelines for weighting the relative contribution of teaching, scholarship, and service in making decisions about tenure, promotion, and reappointment.) Lashley has charged the Faculty Affairs Committee with considering this issue and deciding whether or not to endorse the idea of common weighting criteria to be applied uniformly across all regional campuses.

Lashley also reported the following campus news:

- Senior faculty have finished the NTT annual reviews, so all personnel reviews for the current academic year are now complete.
- Full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty who wish to apply for Release Time for next year (that is, a load lift of up to 3 hours to pursue scholarly activities) should submit their proposal to Carla Barker no later than noon on FRIDAY, April 12. (Please note that there was an error in the original memo, which said that the deadline was noon on Wednesday, April 12.)
- Lashley stated that she is working her way down the ranked list of faculty, asking each person individually if he or she would like to request an office reassignment for next year. Please be ready to respond quickly when she gets to you so that preliminary assignments can be in place by the end of the semester.
- The annual Faculty Council Spring Picnic will be held on Tuesday, May 7th, starting at noon.
- Finally, the University will be limiting adjunct faculty to a workload of no more than 9 credit hours per semester (in the past, adjuncts have had loads as high as 12 hours), because the Affordable Health Care act would require that they receive health benefits with a 12-hour load.

V Faculty Senate Report

Minnick reported that at the March 11, 2013 meeting, Faculty Senate:

- heard President Lefton state that the University is on track to meet enrollment projections for the next academic year. We currently have 23,000 applications for Fall 2013 and are expected to enroll 4,000 freshmen. Incoming freshmen GPA's and ACT/SAT scores are higher than ever, including those of the AALANA, out-of-state, and international applicants. When asked how this was achieved, President Lefton stated that it was due to increased marketing of the University and targeted recruiting efforts.
- heard President Lefton state that instead of the expected loss of \$8 million from the second year of the new state subsidy formula, we will lose only \$1 million. The plan is to make up the lost funding with increased enrollment or some other method. President Lefton stated that currently about 18% of our budget comes from the state. Concern was raised that this new method of rewarding universities on the number of degrees awarded would lead to a perverse incentive of passing lower quality students

cheapening a college degree. President Lefton agreed that this will have to be watched carefully. Provost Diacon stated that he was not as concerned since less than 15% of students leaving the University do so for academic eligibility reasons. President Lefton agreed with Provost Diacon's position, but was more concerned about how the Ohio Legislature seems to be more intrusive about higher education behavioral issues.

- heard President Lefton's update on campus and town renovations in progress.
- asked President Lefton about the University's response to Ohio HB 59 about increasing faculty workloads. Lefton stated that he did not think it would have a serious impact due to it being a violation of our contract, which he intends to point out to the legislature.
- unanimously passed the University Policy on Distinguished Ranks with a friendly amendment about reflecting the University's commitment to diversity.

VI Committee Reports

Standing Committee Reports

A. Academic Affairs

Jewell stated that the SSI norming was discussed. Originally the committee didn't know what options were possible. They suggested to keep the current norming group and, if possible, **norm against all RC sections within the same discipline**. Finally, if it is possible, to norm the SSIs against all courses in the regional campus system.

B. Faculty Affairs

Osikiewicz stated that the faculty affairs committee has met three times since the last faculty meeting. The committee is continuing to discuss the representative faculty council proposal. In particular, the committee is discussing how to break the faculty into groups and how many representatives from each group should be chosen. Once the proposal has been finalized by the committee, it will be submitted to the entire faculty and townhall discussions on the proposal will be organized.

C. Electronic Communications

Kang reported that the committee received 13 surveys back from the survey about online teaching. The surveys indicate that there is a need for more Blackboard seminars on Fridays. All the information that was gathered from the surveys was shared with Dr Haldar.

D. Library

Green reported that the committee has not met since the last faculty meeting. However, Rocks Ann was chosen as the winning name in the name the dinosaur contest. At least one additional meeting will be held before the end of the semester in order to organize a survey about faculty perceptions of the library.

E. Student Affairs

Engohang-Ndong reminded everyone that the Student Research Colloquium is on Monday, April 15th at 7:00 pm in ST126. Two new items will be presented and voted on during new business.

Ad Hoc Committees

A. Artist Lecture Committee

Davis Patterson stated that the last Artist Lecture event, Garrison Keillor: A Brand New Retrospective, is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17th. The event is also part of The Voices of Distinction series.

B. Diversity Committee

Davis Patterson stated that the Taste of the World will be on Wednesday, April 10th. There is new participation during Heritage Week this year from Crume and Beltz and from the early childhood education program.

C. Service Learning Committee

Willey stated that the Service Learning Celebration was held last week. Willey reminded faculty that she needs their student service learning hours by April 15th.

D. Safety Committee

Gritzan stated that the committee did not meet since the last faculty council meeting, but he indicated that he is currently working on the campus security camera proposal for installation this summer.

VII Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

VIII New Business

- **Two proposals from Student Affairs:** Engohang-Ndong introduced the two proposals from the Student Affairs Committee. The first proposal is related to student research/creative activity conference fund. The committee wants to be able to support students attending research conferences. The second proposal is related to student travel. This proposal provides for classroom academic events and not for recreational trips. After returning from the trip, the student must either present at the Student Research Colloquium or give a brown bag presentation about what they learned from their trip. According to the proposal, the students must do the travel with the support of a faculty member. Lashley asked whether the \$800 applied to one student or an entire class. Engohang-Ndong stated that the \$800 is per application. Therefore, if the application is for one person the limit is \$800, and if the application is for an entire classroom, the limit is still \$800. Engohang-Ndong stated that the committee will be looking to provide travel for the most students possible. Lashley asked if the

applications will all be reviewed at the same time or individually. Engohang-Ndong stated that the travel fund will be reviewed two different times – once during the fall semester and once during the spring semester. Therefore, the committee will know how many applications are requesting travel funds. Gritzan stated that the two proposals are funded separately. Therefore, funding of a travel application will not interfere with the funding of the student research/creative activity conference fund. The Student Travel Fund proposal was passed unanimously. The Student Research/Creative Activity Conference Fund proposal was passed unanimously.

- **Nomination for faculty council officers:** Lashley noted that the vote on the new faculty council officers will be done via paper ballot. Lashley announced that there were already faculty willing to serve in each office and asked for additional nominations.
 - Chair: Lashley stated that there are currently two individuals running for chair of faculty council -- Steve Minnick and Nicole Willey. Lashley asked for any additional nominations from the floor. Osikiewicz/Auld moved that the nominations be closed. Motion passed.
 - Vice-Chair: Lashley stated that there is only one candidate for Vice-Chair of faculty council -- Sandra Pech. Lashley asked for additional nominations from the floor. Osikiewicz/Fenk moved that the nominations be closed. Motion passed.
 - Secretary/Treasurer: Lashley stated that Jeremy Green has agreed to run for secretary/treasurer of faculty council. Auld/Osikiewicz moved that nominations be closed. Motion passed.

IX Administrator Reports

A. Dean's Report

Dean Andrews reported on the following items:

- **Searches:** The Nursing Search, Vet Tech Search, and Computer Design and Animation Search are all in progress. The Educational Technologist Search has been advertised. If anyone is interested in serving on that committee, please let Dean Andrews know. The work of this committee will be done in the summer.
- **Saturday Classes:** Currently there are five classes being taught on Saturday and two of those classes are hybrid classes. Dean Andrews stated that it costs \$32,380 per semester to have the building open and to staff the building on Saturdays. Therefore, the decision has been made to temporarily suspend Saturday classes for the next academic year.
- **Renovations:** Founders Hall renovations will begin May 13th. The renovation includes the classrooms in A-wing and the library. The parking lots will be sealed and striped and the Tolloty Center construction will begin. Security cameras will hopefully be installed this summer. The renovations for summer 2014 are tentatively the new faculty office complex and classroom expansion of Founders Hall as well as new wall coverings in Founders Hall. Phase I of re-roofing Founders Hall will begin with the gym and the B-wing and the C-wing. They are looking carefully at the properties on the north side of the campus that the Board of Trustees own which include University Hall which is the old Colonial Manor and the Attention

Center. There are four components: 1) to secure the envelope of the facility; 2) to inhabit the facility; 3) to reclassify the building for educational purposes; and 4) the cost for deconstruction of the facilities. No decision has been made. However, to inhabit the old Colonial Manor and to classify it for educational purposes is about a \$10 million dollar project.

- **Campus Events:** Dean Andrews reminded everyone that Regina Brett will be on campus on Tuesday, April 9 as part of the Artist Lecture/Featured Speaker series; the Spring Awards Ceremony is on Friday, April 12; the Student Research Colloquium is on Monday, April 15; Garrison Keillor is on campus on Wednesday, April 17; the Student Art Show at the Center for the Arts is on Thursday, April 15; and Graduation is Friday, May 10th.
- **Summer Contingency Formula:** Dean Andrews stated that they are still working on the formula for the summer enrollment contingent courses. Instructional costs are the primary component to use. Collectively, the regional campus deans are looking at the cost of the service fee as well. Fenk asked what our current service fee is. Dean Andrews stated that the current rate is 9.5%, but that it will slide up to 10% next year and will hold there for two years. It will eventually reach 11% by the end of the contract. Lashley asked was the rate is for the other regional campuses. Dean Andrews stated that it is currently 12% and will most likely go up another point next year. Dean Andrews later clarified that the reason we have a differentiated service fee is because we have costs that the other campuses do not have.

B. Assistant Dean's Report

Assistant Dean Haldar was unable to attend today's meeting. However, Lashley stated that Dr. Haldar wanted to remind everyone that Commencement is Friday, May 10, in the Performing Arts Center. Faculty should report to the dressing room area for robing, no later than 6:30PM. We will start to line up at 6:40.

C. Other Administrator Reports

- Donley asked if there were any volunteers for the getting to know the faculty trivia game that will occur during Faculty Appreciation Week. John Highman is still looking for volunteers for this event.
- Bichara reminded everyone of the Student Art Exhibit on Thursday, April 25, from 7:00—9:00 at the Center for the Arts. All the work will be available via silent auction.
- Gritzan thanked everyone that participated in Student Satisfaction Survey. If your organization is giving any awards at the Student Awards Ceremony, please contact him so that he can get the checks ready. Gritzan reminded everyone to submit their faculty travel requests before leaving for the summer.
- Bronkar reminded everyone that during the renovation the books in our library will be unavailable.

X Announcements

There were no announcements.

XI Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Osikiewicz,

Tuscarawas FC Secretary/Treasurer

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