

ASU FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
May 3, 2002

FACULTY ASSOCIATION

Bob Bennett, President (AS)
Jeff Bailey, Past President (LIB)
Bill Rowe, Sec/Treasurer (FA)

FACULTY SENATE

Bob Bennett, Chair
Bill Humphrey, Vice-chair
Debra Walden, Secretary
Michael Morrell, Parliamentarian

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Bill Humphrey

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Roger Abernathy absent
Jim Bednarz absent
Joe Sartorelli
Dick Freer
David Jimerson absent
Ernesto Lombeida absent
Bill Maynard
Victoria Spaniol absent
Richard Wang

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Dan Marburger
Clint Relyea
Jim Washam absent
Chris Brown proxy – Gauri Guha

COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Jo Anna Grant
Lillie M. Fears

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Cindy Albright absent
Kris Biondolillo
Joe Justen
John Ponder
Karen Yanowitz

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Charles Coleman

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

Bill Rowe

John O'Connell absent

Ken Hatch absent

COLLEGE OF Nursing & Health Professions

Terry Baggs absent

Steve Guffey absent

Debra Walden

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Polly Green

LIBRARY

Myron Flugstad

MILITARY SCIENCE

Daniel Tiscareno absent

COUNCIL OF ACADEMIC DEANS

Jan Duggar absent

VISITORS

Dr. Lynita Cooksey

Dr. John D. Hall

CALL TO ORDER

Senate Chair Bennett called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

Bennett announced that agenda items that had been tabled April 19th have been added to the agenda for today's meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes from the April 19, 2002 Faculty Senate meeting were reviewed. Following a motion by Senator Humphrey and a second by Senator Relya, the minutes were approved without corrections.

REPORTS

Meeting with Col. Wood – May 2 2002

Bennett reported that he, Dan Marburger and Col. Wood (trustee) meet 5/2/2002.

Bennett noted that the discussion was "extensive, far reaching and comprehensive."

The focus of the discussion was primarily athletic issues including 1-A status. Bennett noted that it had been communicated to him that the board of trustees both values and desires faculty input on this issue.

Bennett stated that he and Marburger had presented the concerns of the senate regarding the athletic budget deficit and had presented data related to the difficulty of maintaining 1-A status. Col. Wood responded that the board of trustees was committed to a continuing evaluation of the athletic program. Wood implied that there was little that

could be done for the next two years because of contractual agreements with other schools for athletic competition. Any forfeiture on these contracts would cost ASU a great deal of money.

Bennett stated that he had presented the senate's opinion regarding the athletic budget deficit and the perceived harm inflicted upon the academic mission of the university. He also reported that discussion was held regarding the proposed transfer of funds to cover the athletic deficit. Col. Wood noted that a vote on the transfer would be made at the board of trustee's meeting on May 10th. Wood suggested that if the transfer is not approved then the university would face an audit and risk hurting the revenue stream of the university.

Bennett noted that the interaction was open and frank. He was assured by Wood that the viability of the 1-A program would continue to be evaluated.

Marburger noted that Wood reiterated the fact that 1-A status would be ended if by the year 2004 an attendance of 17,000 persons per game could not be achieved. He noted that the athletic director is working very hard to increase student attendance and to market the games. Marburger stated that he had expressed concerns about achieving the required attendance but with a rising budget deficit. He indicated that Col. Wood responded by stating that he would not stand behind a division 1-A program that is losing millions of dollars each year. Marburger noted that Wood reiterated this position numerous times.

A discussion among members of the senate followed. Senator Biondolillo stated that it might be more tolerable if the senate had some sense of the evaluation process. She stated that it would be helpful to be privy to the formal plan of evaluation. Bennett responded that he believed that the board was in the process of developing a formal evaluation process. He indicated that Wood was committed to sharing our concerns with the board. Marburger stated that the primary impression he got was that the new requirement for attendance was the primary criteria for program evaluation.

Senator Maynard expressed concerns about whom Col. Wood represented. Bennett noted that Wood had received clearance and authorization to represent the board and to report back to the board. Senator Wang suggested that it would be right to represent a full "airing" of the faculty opinion before the board of trustees. Wang stated that he hoped that Bennett might be placed on the board agenda as a representative of the faculty. He noted that the next step would be to seek a place on the board agenda at which time we ask the board to commit to an evaluation plan. Bennett indicated that he believed that the meeting with Col. Wood was an important first step but that he was willing to take whatever steps necessary to address the board if that was the desire of the senate. Maynard stressed that his concern was that the board know that this faculty was not opposed to athletics but rather, that we are in favor of academics. Bennett assured him that this point had been made repeatedly.

Dr. John Hall, visitor, stated that he would be interested in knowing what the faculty wants to be done at this point. He stated that he appreciated Dr. Wang's view and emphasized his concern that we need to "strike while the iron is hot" suggesting that board might be very receptive at the May 10th meeting. Bennett stated that there is no problem in requesting a place on the board agenda and that he would do that. Hall continued, asking what the faculty would ask Dr. Bennett to say before the board.

A long discussion followed between members of the senate. Senator Rowe expressed his concern about rising fees and the impact on low-income students. Senator Freer asked if there was any potential for economizing in the athletic budget. Marburger indicated that this had been one of the primary concerns during the meeting with Col. Wood. He noted that Wood had indicated that any commitment to 1-A would have

to be “phased out” - using an exit strategy - because of our agreements with student athletes. Senator Freer suggested a joint commission be formed to determine the criteria for evaluation of the athletic program. Senator Sartorelli noted that while we do have commitments to student athletes that we are also committed, more importantly, to academic interests.

Following continued discussion, Hall suggested “this conversation” should be held with the entire board and President Wyatt and that the meeting should be well attended by faculty. Want noted that the centerpiece of the presentation to the board should be determining the strategy for evaluating the athletic program.

At this point, Senator Biondolillo made a motion to suspend the rules to permit further consideration of this issue. Following a second by Senator Maynard, the motion passed unanimously. The following issues was proposed by Biondolillo and seconded by Maynard:

Be is resolved that the chair of the senate request being placed on the agenda for the may 10th meeting of the Board of Trustees to obtain information about their strategy to evaluate the athletic program for its continuance under I-A status.

A friendly amendment was made by Wang and accepted by Biondolillo to state the resolution as follows:

Be is resolved that the chair of the senate request being placed on the agenda for the may 10th meeting of the Board of Trustees to share faculty concerns about the growing deficit in the athletic budget and its impact on academic programs at ASU and to obtain information about their strategy to evaluate the athletic program for its continuance under I-A status.

Marburger noted that he was uncomfortable with this addendum. He stated that he believed that the meeting with Col. Wood was used as an opportunity to share all faculty concerns. He noted that the meeting lasted over five years and that there were reassurances that an exit strategy would be developed. He stated that the next natural progression would be to ask what is the strategy for program evaluation. Bennett also suggested that faculty concerns had been shared. He noted that the board had asked for the meeting with himself and Marburger. He stated that he was assured that our senate concerns would be shared with the board through Col. Wood. Bennett offered to share any concerns of the faculty senate but made it clear that he believed that these concerns had been shared.

Senator Grant suggested that a dialogue needed to be created and that we should credit Col. Wood for listening. She suggested that the wording should be changed to “having shared our concerns”. Discussion of concerns related to the language of the resolution followed.

Senator Wang called the question. Following a show of hands, the motion to stop debate passed 10 to 7. A vote was then taken regarding the resolution. Motion passed with a vote of 10 for and 8 against.

OLD BUSINESS

Survey

Chair Bennett informed the senate that the employee survey had been mailed to all employees in the system May 2, 2002.

Shared Governance

Bennett offered copies of the draft *Report on the Review of the Shared Governance Process by the Shared Governance Committee* dated April 2002. He asked that comments or suggestions be forwarded to him.

Academic Calendar

Chair Bennett recognized Dr. Cooksey, associate vice-chancellor of academic affairs. She informed the senate that the proposed 15-week calendar including a fall break was not approved. Dr. Wyatt felt that there was not a consensus on campus and that this was an area that needed to be studied. The traditional 16-week calendar will be followed 2003-2004. She noted that faculty would receive information about these dates soon.

Tenure Pool

Dr. Cooksey also noted that a resolution has been sent to the board of trustees to abolish the practice of the tenure pool on this campus. Apparently, the Higher Learning Commission had expressed concerns about the policy. Also, we have reached a point on this campus when we will not have any person in the tenure pool. This offers an opportunity for change. Any decision will be in the hands of the board at the May 10th meeting.

Faculty Handbook

Senator Humphrey passed out copies of the proposed contents of the faculty handbook. He noted that the committee has split the handbook into two segments:

Faculty Handbook of Policies and Procedures

ASU Handbook of Policies and Procedures

He offered this as a report from the handbook committee. Humphrey made a motion that this report be accepted. Following a second by Senator Freer, the motion passed.

Financial Aid & Scholarships Policy Recommendation

Chair Bennett noted that action was required on this agenda item. Senator Maynard stated that he had several questions and concerns. Dr. Cooksey was recognized. She informed the senate that these particular monies are derived from state monies and therefore, questions existed about awarding these funds to foreign students. She noted that persons who have GEDs or who are privately schooled are also not looked at for these scholarships. She noted that these scholarships are based on ACT and high school GPA. Discussion followed regarding several concerns in relation to the recommendation.

A motion in favor of this shared governance document failed.

Proposed New Revisions to Constitution and By-Laws

Parliamentarian Morrell provided copies of proposed changes to the senate. He noted that these changes were written in order to provide a policy for dealing with vacancies in faculty association offices. A discussion of the draft document followed. Jeff Bailey made a friendly amendment that the term "spring" be substituted for the term "March" anywhere in this document. This would more clearly indicate when association meetings are held.

Senator Maynard called the question. The motion passed following a voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Enrollment Management Committee Recommendation

The Enrollment Management Committee offered a report. The proposed policy change concerned readmission following academic suspension. The recommendation was to replace the entire current "readmission following academic suspension" policy found on page 46 of the current 2001-2002 bulleting with the recommended policy found at http://finaid.astate.edu/academic_suspension_polic.htm. The committee noted that the basis for its recommendation was the improved procedures for readmission to the university established by the [Restart@ASU](#) Program.

A motion was made to suspend the rules to permit discussion by Bailey and was seconded by Grant. Humphrey made a motion to accept the recommendation and Grant seconded. The motion passed.

Resignation

Michael Morrell announced that he was resigning his position as parliamentarian of the faculty senate. Chair Bennett commended Morrell for his service to the senate.

Distance Education

Senator Biondolillo asked for an update on the recommendations related to distance education. Bennett stated that this information had been placed into consideration with the faculty handbook. Biondolillo stated that she was concerned about the formal recommendation for workload. John Hall asked for clarification stating that he thought that Bennett would be speaking directly to Dr. Wyatt about the workload issue. Bennett reassured Hall that this issue had been wrapped up in the handbook issue and that once passed that it would go to Dr. Wyatt for his approval. Hall reiterated his concern that Bennett had been commissioned to speak directly to Dr. Wyatt about the issue. Bennett stated that he would review the minutes for the sense of the senate and would follow the directions of the senate.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Walden, Secretary