

## **Faculty Senate Minutes, Penn State Worthington Scranton**

**October 13, 2010**

**Sherbine Lounge**

Meeting called to order at 12:00 pm by Dr. Parminder Parmar, Faculty Senate Chair

### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion made and seconded to accept September 8 meeting minutes. Motion passed.

### **Chancellor's Report - Dr. Mary-Beth Krogh-Jespersen**

The Chancellor expressed her appreciation for the "great turnout" at the Student Success Center opening, October 6. At this event, she announced that the campus achieved 65% of its fundraising goal. Since then, less than a week later, the campus received an additional \$250,000. We are now at 73% of our goal.

Dr. Krogh-Jespersen shared that Terry Pegula, the energy industry millionaire who donated \$88 million toward a Penn State hockey rink, is a Worthington Scranton alum. He attended school here from 1969 to 1971. She would appreciate hearing from anyone who remembers him or knows anything about him. The campus is pursuing appropriate channels to meet with him as he has expressed an interest in continuing his support for Penn State.

The Chancellor announced that we recently received approval to have international students. Bill Bryan and Sandy Feathers will possibly develop a team to explore what the campus needs to do to prepare for these students.

### **Interim DAA Report - Dr. Molly Wertheimer**

Dr. Wertheimer thanked everyone for participating in the Early Progress Report process. There was a 95.2% response rate. She acknowledged Allison Burns and Durell Johnson for their work ("gentle prodding") in getting this done.

She asks that the faculty now go online to eLion to obtain the reports of their advisees. Please contact any student on their way to academic trouble.

She reported that it has been a hectic six weeks: sent in three sabbatical proposals; helped prepare four dossiers; attended a number of polycom programs; met with the Chancellor and Cabinet, the Enrollment Management Team, the Director of Continuing Education, the Director of Information Technology, the Director of Student Affairs; and chaired the P&T Committees. She also reported frequent trips to Durell's office including one yesterday to wish him a happy birthday.

Along with Durell Johnson and Kim Bogden, she met with the program heads of Science, Business, and Liberal Arts. More meetings are scheduled for English, Engineering, and Math / IST. During these meetings the Program Coordinators find out how much of their requested budget was funded.

As interim DAA, Molly described being in a dilemma. Sandy Gleason and others send the DAAs opportunities for faculty to apply for conferences and workshops. These are forwarded knowing that faculty may not have any money to attend. She sees the FAR letters as a possible solution. Deciding what conference or workshop to attend should be based on the "action plans" in the FARs. Molly encouraged the faculty to meet with her to review their FARs and to make sure they convey what is needed.

### **Director of Student & Enrollment Services Report - Bill Bryan**

The Student Success Center is completed and Bill Bryan reported that "we are officially in our offices." Bill said that there have been a lot of students using the new facilities - "we are off to a roaring start." One area that has been particularly popular is the Leadership Development Room. Matt Nied has coordinated a number of programs to build students' leadership skills. He is seeking ways to increase student involvement and welcomes any referrals you may have of students demonstrating leadership skills.

He reported that the Enrollment Management Council will be reviewing the most recent Student Satisfaction Survey. He will report their findings at a future meeting.

### **Faculty Senate Report**

As the University Faculty Senate will not meet until next week, Dr. Dale Holen indicated that there is no report.

### **Faculty Council Report**

Dr. David Byman announced that the first meeting of the University College Faculty Council will be Tuesday, Oct. 19. Dr. Byman is our representative for 2010-2011 and would appreciate hearing from the faculty if they have any concerns. At the October meeting, they are scheduled to talk about adjunct hiring and the SRTE. Please email him all suggestions by Sunday, Oct. 27.

### **Committee Reports**

There were no committee reports. Dr. Parmar encouraged the faculty to “get active.”

### **Old Business**

Electronic ballots for Faculty Senate Chair Elect will be sent later this afternoon. Because Renee Bishop-Pierce and Dale Holen regretfully withdrew their names from the ballot, and their names appeared on the earlier ballot, a new one needed to be created. Those who already voted will need to vote again. In response to a question from the floor, you can only vote once. Kathleen Covey utilized SurveyMonkey to create the online ballot and it will not allow you to vote multiple times.

The three candidates on the ballot are: Gail Keating, Bill Sciacca, and Taoye Zhang (Taoye volunteered to be added at today’s meeting). The voting will close at 3:00 pm on Friday, Oct. 15.

### **New Business**

#### 1) Presentation by Sophia Robles

Sophia Robles, Campus Career Counselor, gave the results of a student survey she did. She found that most students responding to the survey (484 of 581) have never utilized Career Services. The number one reason given was not knowing what CS has to offer. Ms. Robles distributed the survey results along with copies of her

PowerPoint presentation. In this presentation, Ms. Robles identified the Career Services' objectives, services, workshops and resources available for students. She told the audience that she is willing to meet with their classes to discuss these services and demonstrate the resources. She also encouraged the faculty to refer students to her. "Faculty referral is the key!"

2) Matt Mutchler announced that the students' Community Human Service Organization is collecting donations for the Women's Resource Center of northeast Pennsylvania. He encourages everyone to consider buying a paw (\$1, \$5, or \$20) or placing a donated item in boxes outside the cafeteria and in Dawson's lobby. He referred to an earlier email that identified the items that can be donated.

3) Russell Casey announced advising week events, November 8 - 12. There will be opportunities for faculty to share ideas on advising best practices, two student-centered presentations on using eLion, and "advising on the fly." Advising on the Fly will be held in the Cafeteria Conference Room. Volunteers from different disciplines will provide walk-in advising during the lunch hour. Dr. Casey will email everyone additional information.

4) Ron Yevitz announced that the campus will host the University College Business Faculty meeting on Friday, October 15. He expects 75 faculty from across the Commonwealth to be here on what may be a blustering day.

5) Dr. Holen suggested that the campus establish some type of memorial for students who die unexpectedly. He knew of places that planted trees in memory of deceased students. Bill Bryan offered Student Services to help with this. They will meet to discuss this further.

Jim Hart asked if there was some means to notify the faculty when a student dies. He shared that students in his class discovered the death of their classmate, Jessie Reap, when they opened the local newspaper that morning and several were visibly upset. Because of confidentiality and family wishes there may be limits on what can be shared prior to public announcements. Bill Bryan indicated that Student Services will look into this. He also encouraged the faculty to refer students to Campus Counseling Services.

**Adjournment**

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm.

**Next Meeting**

The next Faculty Senate meeting will take place on Friday, November 12, at noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Fennewald (covering for Eva Tettenborn, Faculty Senate Secretary)