

**Faculty Senate Minutes, Penn State Worthington Scranton**  
**November 3, 2011**  
**Dawson 10**

Meeting called to order at 12:05 pm by Dr. Gail Keating, Faculty Senate Chair

**Approval of Minutes**

The October 2011 minutes were approved.

**Administrative Reports**

**1) Chancellor:**

Chancellor Dr. Mary-Beth Krogh-Jespersen reported the following:

- The Core Council recommendations for the Worthington Scranton campus are expected shortly. As a reminder, the Chancellor explained that the Core Council had been charged with eliminating \$75 million of former Stimulus funding, as well as the budget cuts made by the State of Pennsylvania to Penn State's funding, from the University's budget. There were three Core Councils: 1) Administration and Finance: this council's work is ongoing. 2) Outreach and Continuing Education: this council has finished its work, and the Vice President for Outreach is looking at ways to deal with the recommendations for Continuing Education. 3) Academic Core Council: each college received a report, including the University College. The report is available on a website. It contains seven recommendations, and task forces have been formed to address each of these recommendations by Dr. Madlyn Hanes. Dr. Krogh-Jespersen will serve on a task force on data and enrollment.
- The campus is continuing to work on its strategic plan. This summer, the Chancellor's Cabined reviewed the entire implementation plan. It is available on the website (for employees only). Since it contains some short-hand notes, questions should be directed to Dr. Krogh-Jespersen. Currently the campus was working on realizing the following goals: transitioning to an Academic Advising Center from DUS, developing a Co-curricular Transcript, and determining three new majors to be offered at Worthington Scranton.
- In July, Dr. Krogh-Jespersen met with Dr. Hanes to work on a verbal draft of the Core Council report that would match our campus. The Chancellor also met with directors and individual groups. Last week, a preliminary draft became available from Provost Dr. Rodney Erickson's office, containing stronger language and recommendations. The campus will need to respond with strong justifications and has an opportunity to do so by January 12, 2012. Some recommendations include the consolidation of administrative infrastructure. However, there will be no shared Student Affairs Manager, since Worthington Scranton is the third-largest University College campus and needs its own administrator in this position.
- Currently there is a review of existing P3's to determine if the campus is fulfilling its promises made in the documents when majors were added.
- The number of under-enrolled courses will be reduced further. However, the good news is that our campus already has the lowest percentage of under-enrolled classes among all University College campuses.
- The number of developmental classes should also be reduced.
- A final draft of the report will be on the website, and responses can be included.

Dr. Russell Casey asked if the addition of programs included any graduate programs. Dr. Krogh-Jespersen responded that our campus only had the ability to deliver Bachelor's degrees and would need a new state-wide mission change or a change to the mission of the five Northeastern campuses to offer graduate courses. However, the campus should utilize the World Campus and integrate it into undergraduate degree programs.

Dr. Keating offered that we should find out why some of our students went to Wilkes University and which programs they were studying there, as she had encountered a number of former students recently who had stated they were now at Wilkes.

## **2) Interim Director of Academic Affairs:**

Dr. Molly Wertheimer reported the following:

- The promotion and tenure dossiers are due in Dr. Sandy Gleason's office by 11/14/11, and she expects them to leave the campus during the middle of next week, on 11/9 or 11/10. She thanked the P & T Committee members for their work.
- A Polycom workshop on promotion to Senior Instructor will be held by Dr. Gleason either on 11/14 or 11/16/11. Dr. Wertheimer will send out more information via email as soon as it becomes available.
- Dr. Wertheimer asked faculty if anyone had published any papers or given a conference presentation. The following faculty members self-identified as having papers accepted for publication: Dr. Dave Byman, Dr. Russell Casey, Dr. Kami Merrifield, and Dr. Éva Tettenborn. Dr. John Dolis reported that he had been invited to give a lecture at Wilkes University. Dr. Wertheimer stated that she would like to set up a systematic way of collecting information on faculty research accomplishments.
- Dr. Wertheimer reminded faculty and staff that the Oracle electronic calendar and Webmail would be migrated to an integrated system, the University Collaboration Suite (UCS). Training modules regarding the migration are available, and questions can be directed to ITS staff. Marilee Mulvey sent a message with details recently, and Dr. Wertheimer reminded all faculty and staff to read the November 2 email for details on the conversion. In trying to determine the best time to migrate faculty and staff to the new system, Ms. Mulvey and Dr. Wertheimer realized that there was no optimal time. November 14 has been chosen as the target date for faculty; November 21 is the target date for staff. This way, any problems will hopefully be resolved prior to Thanksgiving, the last two weeks of the semester, as well as finals week.
- Marilee Mulvey added that individual appointments will be set up with faculty and staff to complete the conversion.
- Humanities Laureate Dr. Linda Miller will present during tomorrow's "English Major Kick-Off Event." The presentation will begin with remarks by English Program Coordinator Paul Perrone at 11 am. A reception will be held afterwards, and all are invited to attend.

## **University Faculty Senate Report:**

Dr. Pat Hinchey reported the following:

- During the recent University Faculty Senate meeting, many English faculty members voiced their concerns regarding the Core Council's recommendations to eliminate or cut back on developmental English courses. In their experience, many students at the University College campuses needed these courses as they were not ready for ENGL 15 upon enrollment at Penn State. These faculty members were concerned with Pennsylvanians' access to education at Penn State. A minority of faculty members claimed that it was not Penn State's mission to offer remedial education; only students ready for non-remedial courses should be accepted at the University.
- President Spanier gave a presentation and offered that for the first time, there was a 50-50 split of international students enrolled in graduate and undergraduate courses (traditionally, the majority of international students had been graduate students). Dr. Hinchey remarked that international students have to document they have the finances to pay for their education prior to receiving a visa.
- In response to some faculty members' concerns about the impact on University College enrollment if developmental courses were no longer offered, Dr. Spanier argued that it was not the mission of Penn State to offer remedial education. Students in need of such courses or education could be served by other colleges.
- Regarding rumors that the GHA requirements are to be abolished, Dr. Hinchey reported that the chair of the Curricular Affairs committee has heard rumors only so far.

#### **University Faculty Council Report:**

No report at this time.

#### **Committee Reports:**

##### Honors Committee:

Dr. Todd Adams reported the following:

- The campus has about 40-45 honors students; they meet twice per month.
- Penn State's lobbyist in Harrisburg met with the Honors Program to discuss how budgets were determined.
- The Honors Committee met with the Faith and Values committee to discuss the presentation "The Morality of Taxation."
- A meeting with international students is planned.
- Dr. Meg Hatch attended the Honors meeting at University Park.
- Currently we are the only campus where Honors is a standing committee of the Faculty Senate and does not directly report to the DAA.

##### Advising Committee:

Dr. Russell Casey reported the following:

- The second set of Advising Focus Group interviews has been completed. Recommendations will be available by January.
- A storyboard created by Ryan Moskalczak regarding degree audit use will be put online for students. Three different versions will be sent out, and the faculty can vote on them and provide input. It will be available by January. The storyboard will incorporate a new focus, directing student to see their advisors.

- Dr. Casey requested that advisers should forward his recent email on Advising on the Fly to their advisees.
- Dr. Casey also reminded those serving at Advising on the Fly to bring their laptops and ID tokens.
- Due to a scheduling conflict, no faculty research seminar will be held next week. Dr. Casey reminded faculty working with collaborators that co-authors could participate in faculty research seminars via Skype or Polycom.

**New Business:**

**Faculty Senate Constitution:**

- Faculty Senate Chair Elect Joe Fennewald explained that at the October Faculty Senate Meeting, the suggested revisions to the Constitution had been distributed. A meeting had been held on October 25 to discuss the suggested changes. The original draft had been changed based on comments received at that meeting and via email. A changed version will be sent out via email shortly.
- The new document, reflecting comments and changes, is now 40 pages long. As per the requirements, the Faculty Senate now has one month to review the documents. If it is approved, it will be passed on to University Park for review.
- Approval has to occur article by article.
- Mr. Fennewald recommended that faculty start by reviewing the rationale for the recommendations first.
- The document also needs to be reviewed by the Faculty Senate Council, composed of the Executive Board, representatives of the Senate, and Chairs and Co-chairs of standing committees (a total of 23 people). The Council members were contacted via email. Comments received from them were incorporated into the revision.
- Mr. Fennewald detailed many of the changes suggested by the new Constitution (see document emailed by him for all details).
- Dr. Keating and Mr. Fennewald stressed that moving a committee from the Faculty Senate to, for example, Academic Affairs would not mean that a committee would no longer exist. Likewise, new committees could be added as well. However, Mr. Fennewald had tried to determine where committees are located on other campuses, making his recommendations for changes based on that data.
- A hands vote on the suggested changes to the Constitution will follow at the next Faculty Senate meeting in December. Attendance of all was crucial. Dr. Keating and Mr. Fennewald reminded everyone that the majority of those *present* (as opposed to a *quorum*) would be enough to make changes to the Constitution. (This, in fact, is one of the issues the new Constitution seeks to change).

Dr. Hinchey thanked Mr. Fennewald for his time and effort put into a much-needed revision of the Constitution.

**Athletics:**

Jeff Mallas reminded faculty that the cross-country team would compete at Lake Placid soon. Excuses for student athletes would be provided to faculty.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 pm.

**Next Meeting**

The next Faculty Senate Meeting will take place at noon on December 6, 2011. The place will be announced.

Respectfully submitted,

Éva Tettenborn  
Faculty Senate Secretary