

Faculty Senate Minutes
Meeting held February 8, 2006
Quorum Present

Durell Johnson (Durell)

Call to Order

Call for acceptance of January Faculty Senate minutes

Dale Holen (Dale)

Motion

Norbert Mayr (Norbert)

Second

January 2006 minutes accepted as correct.

Durell

1st Order of Business: University Faculty Senate Requests

Note: Section 9 temporarily suspended for these actions.

Any objections to proposed language change from Commonwealth to University?

No Objections

Objections to proposed Delegation of Authority statement?

Mary-Beth Krogh-Jespersion (Mary-Beth)

This is an issue that is currently under review. Is there a need for a representative set of guidelines?

Durell

We would like to have language in place in order to have some kind of representation when these decisions are made.

Mary-Beth

Without a current representative structure, isn't this language change preemptive?

Durell

Yes, but perhaps by adding a comma after University, it will eliminate any ambiguity.

Motion to accept proposed amendments with the addition of a comma after University and before Faculty Senate.

Norbert

Motion

Dale

Second

Proposed amendments accepted with the addition of a comma after University and before Faculty Senate.

Durell

2nd Order of Business: University Strategic Plan and Academic Affairs Report

Mary-Beth

We have some good news. The bids for the cafeteria are coming in very close to our proposed budget, so we are on schedule to start renovation on May 1st. And, we are 50,000 away from reaching our goal of 1.2 million for the new Business Building. We are expecting to begin architect selection July 1st.

Yvonne Glanville

Where is the building going to go?

Mary-Beth

Up on the hill. And, on another note, many building projects have been cancelled, but not ours.

Dick Barshinger (Dick)

So, if we have the green light, I guess we can rest assured that our campus isn't closing any time soon.

Mike Mahalik (Mike)

First of all, I wanted to thank everyone for their efforts in completing their OPR's. Worthington-Scranton was at the top of faculty respondents. Also, thank you to Juliet Avery and everyone in getting the FAR's done. And, FYI, there is RDG money still to be had, so fill out an application form if you have a project.

Dale

Are RDG's limited by dollar amount?

Mike

Name that tune, but keep in mind that reports are due April 1st, so we're talking about a quick turnaround.

On another note, we have two searches currently running, one for Physics and one for Marketing. We have two Physics candidates scheduled.

Janet Melnick (Janet)

What about PDG's and TDG's?

Mike

Keep draft proposals at the ready in case money is freed up. All monies need to be expended by the end of the academic year, and we are under pressure to have no carryovers.

Durell

3rd Order of Business: Summer Pay Resolution

Norbert

Request that Summer Pay stands at 9% for all Faculty.

Durell

Let's open it up to the floor.

Dick

9% does not apply to 4 credit courses, which accrue at 3% per credit hour.

Jim Klein

Some lab courses have also included contact hours in the past.

Margaret Hatch

Can you explain the differentiated pay aspect of the resolution?

Norbert

There has been an ambiguous process of setting pay, depending on faculty status and campus policies.

Dick

Can we agree to alter the language to include something about credit hours and class size?

Mike

There are still considerable financial issues to be resolved.

Durell

Motion to set aside protocol...

Philip Mosley (Phil)

Motion

Todd Adams (Todd)

2nd

...and vote via email as to whether the resolution has support amongst the Faculty Senate members.

Todd

Motion

Dick

2nd

Motion accepted to set aside protocol and vote via email tally as to whether Summer Pay Resolution has support amongst the Faculty Senate members.

Durell

4th Order of Business: Committee Reports

Janet

Campus Senate Committees have been established and the list has gone out to the Faculty. I tried to give everyone their first choice. Also, the Diversity Committee is working on several events, including one for Convocation.

Durell

5th & 6th Order of Business: Old Business/New Business

No old business to discuss.

Norbert

Is it adequate or fair to expect Faculty to create Independent Study courses, on top of their normal courseload, without any kind of compensation in terms of relative accumulation of teaching hours or monetarily?

Given the time it takes to create a unique Independent Study, especially in subjects that are removed from the Faculty's area of expertise, this seems to be an unfair practice.

Mike

- *There is precedent for this at other campuses, and at other institutions.*
- *We are one of the only institutions to give titles to our Independent Study courses.*
- *Independent Study classes should be a rare event.*
- *Students are not in peril if this is not an option to them.*
- *This is a temporary situation that occurs when a Program is in its fledgling phase.*

Norbert

Is it possible to count Fall/Spring Independent Study courses towards Summer Enrollment?

Mike

There is no procedural precedent for this.

Dick

Put it on your FAR.

Margo Bergman

Compensation for student's doing research for me? Seems like too much to ask for.

Cynthia Mailloux

Isn't there a mechanism for students to get around this (World Campus, etc...)?

Mike

I see this as an advising/scheduling imperative.

Norbert

All three students in this specific case were given unacceptable options, which is why I agreed to build a 400 Level History Course from the ground up.

Allison Burns

Students are aware that they have to be creative when they transition to a new program at Penn State.

Norbert

I see this as a give and take. I am willing to take on new subjects, and I am asking whether there is some way to compensate the Faculty for their efforts. Right now, the compensation is \$50 per credit hour, which hardly seems worth the time or effort.

Mike

Compensation will stay the same. Is this extortion?

Rick Dempsey

This seems to me to be a Course Development issue, letting students take classes before they are defined.

Mike

Yes, every new program goes through a transition phase. But, I would regard the banking of courses as something to be avoided.

Phil

Perhaps it would be good to get student input regarding the 400-level experience.

Dick

In the Math Department, banking has occurred informally for years.

No Resolution / Issue Died in Talks

Durell

Special Presentation of the President of Student Government: Jonathan Bossick

Jonathan

I just wanted to say that as the President of Student Government, one of my goals is to boost morale. We have 14 active clubs on this campus, and it is great when the Faculty announce events in class, and come out to support us. This will help with retention and ultimately will produce more interest in this campus.

Pat Sweeney

Is there a way that the Faculty could be informed of events in digest form? I seem to get notices sporadically.

Marilee Mulvey

The events calendar links from the Website and is updated on a daily basis.

Durell

There are a few announcements.

Ron Yevitz

4th Annual Start Up Drive (brochures on table)

Dick

P & T Report on its way

Durell

Motion to adjourn

Dale

2nd