

Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC)
Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2009

Members Present: Dr. Patricia Easterling, Dr. Kay K. Jordan, Dr. Judy Niehaus
Dr. Stephen Owen, Dr. B. Sidney Smith

Members Absent: none

Guests Present: none

I. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

1. Dr. Owen called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.
2. The minutes of the July 6th meeting were approved.

II. Reports and Announcements

1. Dr. Owen reported that the RU Board of Visitors will meet on September 9th and 10th. The Student Affairs Committee will meet at 9am, the Business Affairs Committee at 11 am, and the Academic Affairs Committee at 1pm on the 9th. The full board will convene at 9am on the 10th. The first item on their agenda is a closed session in which they will elect the faculty representative, who will then be seated.
2. President Kyle will give a brief statement of welcome to the senators at our first meeting on the 10th.
3. The College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences and the College of Science and Technology are scheduled to elect one adjunct senator each, and Dr. Owen will contact the deans to arrange for this.
4. Dr. Owen met with a group concerned with implementation of the new Core Curriculum, and so far things seem to be on track. The next big issue will be that in fall 2010 faculty will be needed to teach the full set of sections of CORE 201. The target date for getting the names of interested faculty is October 15th. It remains to be determined how this will be done.
5. Dr. Owen reported that the university is engaged in pandemic planning for the H1N1 flu virus. Dr. Dennie Templeton has been leading this effort, and the provost will report on the issue at the leadership team meeting at 1pm, Wednesday the 26th, in the Bonnie Auditorium.
6. At the convocation, the speakers will be Tommy Fraim (Rector of the Board), President Kyle, Provost Stanton, Dr. Owen, and Matt Clem, the president of the Student Government Association. Dr. Owen asked the members to provide reflections for him to consider as he prepares his remarks for convocation. Members offered several comments, with an emphasis on the importance of faculty unity and collegiality, an understanding of the difference between principled disagreement and

factionalism, and placing the welfare of the institution as our foremost priority in all our deliberations.

7. We do not have an announcement of the new appointees to the Board of Visitors.
8. The executive council will meet with President Kyle regularly, starting in about a week.
9. Dr. Owen reported that the ad hoc investigative committee is working to meet its October 1st deadline for its report. It is not yet ready to write its report, because it is still attempting to gather needed facts. Questions have been submitted to administrators. The committee has also met with several administrators to get answers to questions. Dr. Owen's impression is that administrators have been cooperative and forthcoming.

III. Old Business

1. None.

IV. New Business

1. Because of the BOV meeting, the members chose to set their executive council meeting prior to the first senate meeting on the 10th for Tuesday the 8th at 2:30 pm. At the September 2nd meeting of the executive council we will make committee assignments.
2. Members took up the recommendation for Academic Program Review that has been forwarded by the Academic Program Review Committee. Members appreciated the adjustments that had been made in response to faculty concerns that they had communicated to the committee earlier in the summer. Dr. Jordan stated that the issue of electing faculty representatives still needs to be addressed. Dr. Jordan also asked if we should consider an appeals process. Dr. Owen noted that this question is beyond the scope of the recommendation. After discussion, the members voted to recommend adoption of the academic program review procedure drafted by the committee.
3. Members reviewed the committee objectives from the previous year and discussed objectives for the new year. This discussion will continue at our next meeting.
4. Members debated how to initiate consideration within the senate of revision of the university internal governance system. It was determined that the executive council will introduce a resolution at the first senate meeting calling for the creation of a task-force to consider whether IG should be revised, and to consider what process should be followed for such revision, and make a recommendation to the full senate. Dr. Smith will draft the executive council motion for members' consideration at the next meeting.

V. Announcements

1. None.

VI. Adjournment

1. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.