FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
September 26, 2011

The Pittsburg State University Faculty Senate met 3:00 p.m. Monday, September 26, 2011 in room 102
Yates Hall with Dr. Hazel Coltharp, President, presiding.

President Remarks
Dr. Coltharp announced that we are now recording meetings. She also asked for a motion to approve
multiple changes to agenda; adding herself to announcements, adding the name Donna Jacobs for Classified
Senate, replacing Misty Button with Heather Eckstein for remarks from Unclassified Senate and consideration
of report on Freshman Experience prior to committee reports. Motion made by Dr. Johnson and unanimously
approved.

Past Minutes
The minutes of May 9, 2011 were approved.

Announcements

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs – Dr. Lynette Olson
Dr. Olson welcomed all attendees and praised them for their part in the governance process. Dr. Olson
thanked those who had participated in the sessions with our Regents, sharing that the BOR visit to campus
was exceptional, and many of the regents were complimentary of their experience. There had been a meeting
in Topeka earlier in September where a unified budget request process was adopted for every regent
institution. More detail on the unified budget can be found on the BOR web site. PSU proposed $1,000,000
toward a polymer initiative that will benefit the campus in many ways. (see attached) This would build on the
strength of polymer research center while connecting with the chemistry and engineering technology
departments. Dr. Olson stressed that realistically it would be very unlikely to expect any other new monies.
The mindset seemed to be to fund similar initiatives and little else.

An Interdisciplinary task force has been formed with Drs. Paul Zagorski and Bill Ivy co-chairing the
committee based on discussions from last year on how to build in this area. The intent is to improve
collaboration in teaching and research while identifying roadblocks and solutions. Academic Affairs, two
strategic planning initiatives are also rolling out events and need a high level of engagement by faculty. If there
is an interest in planning activities pertaining to Internationalization (rolling out in fall) or diversity (rolling out in
spring), please contact Dr. Olson.

As a residual of the master plan, a space utilization study is underway to help us understand how to
better utilize academic space. Representation from all academic units has been involved with the consultants
in this review of both classrooms and offices.

PSU/KNEA – Dr. Kenny McDougle
Dr. McDougle extended an invitation to a Fall Social to be held Thursday, November 10th from 7:00-
8:30 a.m. at Heritage Lounge as an opportunity for faculty to get together and visit while enjoying a continental
breakfast.

STUDENT SENATE – Eric Jones
Mr. Jones announced there are 11 new senators providing a good cross-section of the student body.
Pitt Points initiative is now in place and allows students activities to be tracked throughout the year to
encourage involvement and provide opportunities for prizes and scholarships. Co-curricular transcripts had
been investigated, but currently tabled until a decision has been made on what will replace Angel next year.
The new system could have this component already built into the design.

UNCLASSIFIED SENATE – Heather Eckstein – secretary
Mrs. Eckstein announced that Misty Buttons is leaving her position at PSU and that B.B. Stotts, as
president-elect, will step into the role of president with an election planned for a new president-elect. Issues
being discussed are professional development, constitution development and many other very interesting
topics.

CLASSIFIED SENATE – Donna Jacobs (not present)
Dr. Coltharp noted that the topic of Transfer Articulation agreement came up several times in her meeting at the BOR. The agreement's recommendation presented to the BOR in June has created a great deal of discussion within the faculty senate president group. More would be available on the subject on the BOR website, http://www.kansasregents.org/regent_agendas_meetings (see page 56). Foresight 2020 is still being updated and thus far goals seem very attainable. Consensus is that the newly elected chair of the Board of Regents, Ed McKechnie, is very driven and progress will be made. Targeted funding is more likely than 2% or any percent increase across the board. Dr. Coltharp added that both the BOR chair and vice-chair, Mr. Ted Imert, are from SE Kansas and will represent the area well. Mr. Michael Fienen's office is to work on updating FS web page as the senate’s webmaster, Skip Morris, is on sabbatical.

Dr. Coltharp asked to entertain a motion to request reassigning of the report on Freshman Experience until the October meeting, due to Dr. Ivy’s absence due to meeting in Topeka. Dr. Mark Johnson so moved, Dr. Peter Chung seconded and motion was unanimously approved with no discussion.

Committee Reports

Per Dr. Coltharp, most are ‘no report’ unless otherwise advised as she proceeded to read through the committee and sub-committee list.

*Academic Affairs – Chair, Julie Samuels – noted that Justin Honey will be recorder*

*Undergraduate Curriculum Committee – Chair, Peter Chung – have not met to date*

*Learning Resources – Chair, Morgan McCune*

Committee working on library issues while waiting on constitution task force to study how the Learning Resources and Information System subcommittee which will work together in the future.

*Departmental Academic Honors – Chair, Robert Schwindt (Barb McClaskey reporting)*

Committee met and reviewed 147 applications (12 COT, 72 A&S, 46 COE,17 COB) with 78 being approved as consistent with past applicant criteria and 69 set aside for more review by the committee later this week. The committee members have continued to discuss that by-laws do not reflect the current process and will be meeting with the Constitution committee. Members are considering that academic departments may be the best to approve applications as experts in their own departments. Asked the senate members present to seek input within their department and consider establishing guidelines on what would constitute a department requirement.

*Honors College Subcommittee– Chair, John Franklin – no report*

*Writing Across the Curriculum – Chair, Ann George (Don Judd reporting)*

Committee did meet and discussed charge of committee within constitution and will have more to report next month. Also looking at recommendations from last year's task force on WL stipends and that the stipend be attached to best practices. Committee will be speaking to Provost to determine administration support for such a change, while continuing to develop best practices and transparency in the evaluation process. WAC no longer has same role as when developed as an advisory board for identifying WL courses. WAC would like to identify more constructive tasks going forward.

*Diversity and Multicultural Affairs – Chair, Browyn Conrad – (Leo Hudson reporting)*

There is now a short, 4-question, questionnaire on GUS to assist in creating a sample data base identifying reference materials and syllabus notations pertaining to multi-cultural diversity in each course. A Mr. Bulke scheduled to go out on September 28 providing more information and directing faculty to this questionnaire.

*Student/Faculty Committee – Chair, David Oldham*

Committee has not met to designate a recorder. Will be working on clarifying the Dead Week Policy and picking up where left off last year.
Faculty Affairs – Chair, Mark Johnson
Dr. Mark Johnson report that there have been twenty-three priority 1 applications submitted totaling $18,904 and one priority 1B request for $500. Also submitted have been two priority 2 (designated as $300 to attend a conference) applications which have been set aside until priority 1 applications have been completed. This accounts for $15,976.89 presently approved with more information needed to make final approval on applications pending. Dr. Johnson advised that there is $70,000 available this year and approximately $54,000 remaining. Dr. Johnson encourages applications be turned in.

Dr. Tim Bailey asked about last year’s budgeted amount of $80,000 to which Dr. Irene Zegar advised that all the funds were used including some priority 2 being funded along with one non-tenure track, which is within the discretionary power of the committee.

Constitution Committee – Chair, Darren Botello-Samson – met but nothing to report

General Education Committee – Chair, Mark Johnson
Dr. Johnson reviewed minutes (see attached) of the committee’s 9/23/11 meeting. Items listed in report recommended for approval included: HONOR 200 General Literature with Video Production – first interdisciplinary course, MLL 114 Chinese 1, and general education changes for newly developed on-line BS in Workforce Development. All were unanimously approved by General Education Committee members and motion was made to approve. No further action needed as coming from committee. There was discussion initiated by Dr. Bailey on faculty load and who would be able to count the interdisciplinary course Honor 200. Dr. Johnson believed it was to be split down the middle and taught during the summer. Unanimously approved by senate vote.

Remaining committees listed on the agenda were quickly reviewed by Dr. Coltharp with no reports given.

Unfinished Business - none

New Business
Dr. Darren Botello-Samson asked that the senate review representation within the senate based on the creation of what could be coined ‘mega’ departments. The recommendation was made that constitution committee review.

Dr. Olson added that the College of Education is merging SSLS and C&I and that it is timely to review.

Open Forum/Important Dates
Dr. Mike Leiker reminded those present about the exercise on the oval each Tuesday and Thursday at 11:50-12:30 during the month of October and to watch for Mr.Bulkes.

Dr. Johnson spoke of the Tilford Conference on October 24-25 and on October 26 volume 3 of Pechakucha Night will be held in the University Club in the Student Center. The Provost will be doing a day in the life of the Provost as one of the 6 minute 40 second presentations.

Dr. Oldham announced a GIT show at Labette Community College and Mr. Kehle advised of multiple music festivals and presentations throughout October.

Meeting Adjourned  Motion to adjourn approved at 3:50 p.m.

[Signature]
Debbie Greve, Recording Secretary
Pittsburg State University
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Pittsburg State University’s Polymer Initiative
From Education and Research to Production

From its nationally recognized plastics engineering technology program, Pittsburg State University has built a world-class polymer research program that now attracts federal funding, corporate partners, and scientists from throughout the world. Located in the Tyler Research Center since 2007, the Kansas Polymer Research Center (KPRC) provides Kansas with an opportunity to capitalize on key state agricultural resources. As a natural next step, the university proposes to establish a set of academic programs and program enhancements that leverage the success, capacity, and expertise present in the KPRC. Two academic departments, situated in two separate colleges of the university (Arts/Sciences and Technology), have envisioned a plan that will produce chemistry and plastics engineering graduates who are uniquely prepared for careers in the critical and growing areas of plastics and polymer chemistry. Undergraduate and graduate programs in polymer science will provide the foundation for expansion of Pittsburg State University’s impact in the field of polymers.

Pittsburg State University’s Capacity

The Department of Chemistry is approved by the American Chemistry Society. Currently, the department offers basic foundation science courses in Chemistry and Organic Chemistry and specialty courses in Polymer Chemistry. Graduates of this program are employed in various research areas as well as various professional fields such as pharmacy and chemical engineering following further study.

The Plastics Engineering Technology Program has produced graduates employed by companies such as Rubbermaid, Coleman, and Charloma. These graduates have taken part in the design and manufacture of plastic products for the food, aircraft, automotive, electrical wiring, RV, lawn care, and medical industries.

The Kansas Polymer Research Center (KPRC) at Pittsburg State University is one of the world’s leading centers specializing in vegetable oil-based polymer research and development. KPRC scientists work with industrial partners, state and federal agencies, and producer associations on developing and commercializing PSU’s intellectual property. Pittsburg State researchers have developed a line of plastics made from soybean oil with application potential in such areas as automotive, construction, home furnishings and agriculture development. As testament to their cutting edge work, these scientists won the 2007 Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award for plastics research.

Workforce Implications

Polymer chemistry is vital in fields that develop products such as plastics and synthetic fibers; agricultural chemicals; paints and adhesives; and biomedical applications such as artificial skin, prosthetics, and the nicotine patch that helps smokers overcome their smoking habit. On a web site regarding Polymer Chemistry careers, the American Chemical Society notes that estimates suggest that as many as 50% of all chemists will work in polymer science in some capacity during their careers. Expanded course work and degree programs in polymer chemistry will provide the expertise and skill sets needed in this broad field. Undergraduate and graduate students will receive outstanding educational opportunities in the disciplines of Polymer Chemistry and Plastics. Combined with Plastics Engineering, students with a strong foundation in Polymer Chemistry will be uniquely qualified in areas of product design and manufacturing knowledge, and a materials research experience. A graduate of this program would be prepared to make an immediate impact in a wide range of plastics industry career opportunities.

Given the history and focus of the university in relation to polymer research and related applications, this initiative is a logical next step. This initiative and its resulting capacity have the potential to propel Pittsburg State University to the forefront in the field of Polymer Chemistry and its application in material science as well as other relevant fields. An investment of $1,000,000 in new FY2013 base funding is requested for this initiative.

September 1, 2011

1701 South Broadway * Pittsburg, Kansas 66762-7546 * 620/235-4100 fax: 620/235-4080
www.pittstate.edu
23 September 2011  Faculty Senate General Education Committee

Members Present: Mark Johnson (chair), Jonathan Dresner (Recorder), James Oliver, Ann George, Janet Zepernick, Kristen Maceli  Others: Craig Fuchs (Honors College)

Meeting began at 1pm

1) Honors 200: General Literature W/ Video Production
   Hold-over business from Spring. Craig Fuchs answered questions
   • This version of Honors 200 would fit in the English Literature category of Gen Ed; endorsed by the English Department. Plan is to have a 2-year, 4-course sequence of Honors 200 courses, each of which will need approval from GEC for their respective categories.
   • WTL, as well as digital components.
   • Interdisciplinary Gen Eds initiative driven by Provost office, using Honors College as test bench.
     o Sacrificing some in-field content: problem? "Eroding" core experiences? Will come up every time; need to be handled case-by-case at this time. Interdisciplinarity common in honors college types courses nationally: thinking outside the box for both faculty and students.
     o Prerequisite issues: gen eds often gateway to more advanced learning; will it count as prerequisite? Will students have to retake courses? Will it expand interest by broadening exposure to multiple disciplines?

Zepernick moves for approval, Johnson seconds.
Approval unanimous.  Fuchs leaves.

2) MLL 114 Chinese 1 Proposal
   Dresner moves, Oliver seconded
   Approved unanimously

3) BS in Workforce Development
   Mark Johnson representing Technology
   • Has been approved by Curriculum Cmte, then came back to us
   • Started as Online Completion program: starts w/ Associates, minimal GenEd
   • This is a full BS, but still entirely online: Doesn't fit campus-based Gen Ed Core, but fits available online courses and covers broad survey
   • Some discussion of online offerings, especially in Gen Ed.
   Zepernick moves to approve, Maceli seconds
   Motion is approved unanimously.

Materials to consider for next time:
   • George L. Mehaffy, "The Red Balloon Project: Re-Imagining Undergraduate Education" http://www.pittstate.edu/dotAsset/274255.pdf
   • GEC mandate includes both specific course approvals and general direction of Gen Ed programs. What will PSU Gen Ed be? Integrated ongoing study and development, or introdutory disciplinary surveys?

Next Meeting schedule for October: Monday, October 17th, 3:30

Meeting adjourned 1:52pm
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*Grant Moss substituted for Bert Patrick Sept. meeting.
Pittsburg State University
Faculty Senate Agenda

Date: Monday, September 26, 2011
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: 102, Yates Hall

AGENDA

I. Call to order

II. Approval of Minutes from May 9, 2011 meeting

III. Announcements
   A. Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs – Dr. Lynette Olson
   B. PSU/KNEA Remarks – Dr. Kenny McDougle
   C. Student Senate Remarks – Mr. Eric Jones
   D. Unclassified Senate Remarks – Ms. Misty Button
   E. Classified Senate Remarks – ***

IV. Committee Reports (Reports from committees will begin with Curriculum Committee followed by Academic Affairs)
   A. Academic Affairs Committee – Chair, Julie Samuels, Recorder, **
      1. Undergraduate Curriculum Subcommittee – Chair, Peter Chung.
      2. Learning Resources Subcommittee – Initial Chair, Morgan McCune.
      3. Information Systems Subcommittee – Chair, Michelle Hudiburg.
      4. Continuing Studies Subcommittee – Chair, Alex Konopelko.
      5. Departmental Academic Honors Subcommittee – Chair, Robert Schwindt.
      6. Honors College Subcommittee – Chair, John Franklin.
      7. Writing Across the Curriculum Subcommittee – Initial Chair, Ann George.
      8. Diversity and Multicultural Affairs Subcommittee – Initial Chair, Debbie Fischer.
   B. Student Faculty Committee – Chair, David Oldham; Recorder, **
   C. All University Committee – Initial Chair, Maeve Cummings.
   D. Faculty Affairs Committee – Chair, Mark Johnson.
   E. Constitution Committee – Chair, Darren Botello-Samson.
   F. General Education Committee – Chair, Mark Johnson.
   G. Budget Committee – Chair, Gil Gooper.

All University Committees or Other Appointments
H. Intramural Advisory Board – Contact, Greg Murray
I. Parking Committee – Chair, Serif Uran
J. SGA Committee – Representatives, Cris Elliott, Justin Honey
K. Student Governing Board – Contact, **
L. University Judicial Board – Contact, Laura Washburn
M. Academic Honesty – Chair, Peter Chung

V. Unfinished Business
   A. Request for Reassignment of First Year Experience Report to October, 2011 Faculty Senate Meeting
   B. Update from Learning Resources/Information Systems Task Force

VI. New Business

VII. Open Forum

VIII. Adjournment – Next Meeting – October 24 at 3:00 p.m. at Yates Hall, 102