

## FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

November 25, 2019

The Pittsburg State University Faculty Senate met at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, November 25, 2019 in the Sunflower Room of the Overman Student Center with Kevin Bracker, President, presiding.

### Past Minutes

Minutes from the October 28, 2019 meeting were approved.

### Announcements

*Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs – Dr. Howard Smith*

Dr. Smith shared that the KBOR meetings that took place the previous week went well. Dr. Smith thanked all those involved in the meetings. Dr. Smith also discussed Finals Week and the importance of using that week to give finals. Some faculty have heard from students that there are a lot of finals occurring during Dead Week.

*PSU/KNEA – Grant Moss, President*

Dr. Mayer reported that membership in KNEA is up 6%. There has been an ad hoc committee created to review Promotion and Tenure. Some feel the current procedures are unclear especially as they relate to the use of Activity Insight. In addition, a Constitution ad hoc committee has been created and the Election committee is also being restructured. An executive committee meeting is planned for December 10<sup>th</sup> with Happy Hour to follow at 5pm.

*Student Senate – Alexis Houser, Representative*

Ms. Houser reported that SGA has appointed a new director for diversity and inclusion. In addition, SGA is promoting the Professor Beyond the Classroom grant. Information is available on the SGA webpage.

*Unclassified Professional Senate – Brad Stefanoni, President*

Mr. Stefanoni reported that there was a good discussion at the KBOR meeting last week.

*University Support Staff – Terry Pierce, President*

Dr. Bracker reported that there was a good turnout for the KBOR meeting last week.

*Faculty Senate President – Kevin Bracker, President*

Dr. Bracker reported that the Faculty Senate presidents reviewed the Policy for Credit for Prior Learning. No concerns were raised. If you would like a copy, email Dr. Bracker. There was also discussion of lack of consistent policy regarding dependent tuition waivers. Not all of the Regents institutions have one.

At the Regents Faculty meeting approximately 30 faculty attended. Dr. Whitbeck asked the Regents about teacher shortage and student loan forgiveness for teachers in much needed areas. Dr. Jayawardhana asked about the possibility of working with Community Colleges in recruiting International students that then would transfer on to universities. In addition, he asked about state funding to KBOR and to us. Dr. Johnson raised the question about the need for hiring and retaining quality faculty in growing programs. There was also a question/discussion on out-of-state tuition, and possibly eliminating higher tuition for out of state students. There are currently over 20 exemptions in place for out-of-state Kansas students.

Dr. Bracker also shared that Unified Student Information System will be making presentations on Wednesday Dec. 4th in the Sunflower Room. The presentations will include a general introduction to Unified and a session on Registration, Add/Drop and Advising.

Dr. Bracker also noted that Master Advisor Training will take place on Monday, Dec. 16th from 8:45-3:15 at the Axe Library.

### Committee Reports

*Academic Affairs – Steve Cox, Chair*

No report.

*Undergraduate Curriculum – Nico Prelogar, Chair*

Dr. Shewmake reported that the committee approved and recommends all curriculum items (15 History course revisions and a new major in Family and Consumer Sciences – Early Childhood Unified: Birth through Kindergarten).

The motion to approve the curriculum items passed unanimously.

*Library Services/Learning Resources – Gail Yarick, Chair*

No report.

*Online and Distance Learning – Krissy Lewis, Chair*

Dr. Bracker reported that the committee met on November 1 to discuss action items for the year. (See agenda for a full list of action items confirmed.) Dr. Hendershot attended the meeting to provide a report on the RPK prototype team working on online learning.

*Academic Honors – Janice Jewett, Chair*

No report.

*Honors College – Rebeca Book, Chair*

Dr. Book shared that the committee will meet December 3<sup>rd</sup> to get started.

*Writing Across the Curriculum – Alex Binder, Chair*

No report.

*Diversity and Multicultural Affairs – Jason Reid, Chair*

Dr. Bracker reported that at the committee's last meeting they discussed questions to include on a new Faculty Diversity Survey. Additional comments regarding the survey included: 1) reduce number of questions to 10, 2) use selection-based questions, 3) create a shared MS Word document for collaboration and 4) keep in mind the HLC requirements when drafting survey questions.

*Student-Faculty – Daniel Maxwell, Chair*

No report.

*All University Committee – Jennifer Harris, Chair*

No report.

*Faculty Affairs – Andrea Kent-McConnaughey, Chair*

Ms. Kent-McConnaughey reported that around \$45,000 has been allocated for faculty presentations (Priority 1) leaving around \$55,000. She also encouraged faculty to consider submitting requests for Priority 2. Priority 1 and Priority 2 will be awarded first, but Faculty can be awarded Priority 2 money if there is money left from their Priority 1.

*Constitution Committee – Mark Johnson, Chair*

No report.

*Pitt State Pathway Committee – Michelle Hudiburg, Chair*

Dr. Bracker shared that the committee is reviewing one new course AT 101 and submitted for approval FIN 210, HIST 207, REC 350, PHIL 206 and GT 210. Dr. Bracker clarified that new courses need to go through the curriculum committee first and then the Pitt State Pathway committee. It was not clear initially when to submit new courses to the Pitt State Pathway committee. A few courses approved by the Pitt State Pathway committee hadn't been legislated. The forms were updated to better communicate the process. HIST 207, PHIL 206 and GT 210 were not first legislated so these courses will go through the curriculum committee and will be voted on at the December 9<sup>th</sup> Faculty Senate meeting for

curriculum and the Pitt State Pathway. FIN 210 and REC 350 are existing courses and are being recommended by the Pitt State Pathway committee.

The motion to approve FIN 210 and REC 350 passed.

It was suggested in the future for the Pitt State Pathway committee to include in their report the Essential Elements the courses being proposed were meeting. Dr. Bracker will pass this along to the committee.

*Budget Committee – Linden Dalecki, Chair*  
No Report.

*Academic Honesty – Cole Shewmake, Chair*  
Dr. Shewmake reported that one new maxient report has been submitted.

**Unfinished Business**

None.

**New Business**

Dr. Klenke asked about GT 210 as they are hoping to include this course for 20/SP. Dr. Bracker restated that the course would be voted on for curriculum and Pitt State Pathway at the December 9<sup>th</sup> Faculty Senate meeting.

**Open Forum**

None.

**Meeting Adjourned** Motion to adjourn was approved at 3:18 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Melinda Roelfs, Recording Secretary

