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Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting, September 19, 2001

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Faculty Senate

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Minutes of the September 19, 2001 Faculty Senate Meeting

- Present:** Officers: Watkins, Lyle, Allison, Rogers
Senators Redfern, Rom, Wardlow, Warnock, Allison, Amason, Chappell, Brady,
(Elected): Cochran, Freund, Gupta, Dale Johnson, Kennedy, Lieber, MacRae, Ryan,
Schroeder, Taylor, Denny, Farley, Hall, Nutter, Martin, Killenbeck, Salisbury,
Etges, Fort, Gay, Holyfield, King, Kral, Miller, Musick, Schmidt, Springer
Senators
(Admin.): Weidemann, Williams, Geren,
- Absent:** Officers: none
Senators Wall, Don Johnson, Rosenkrans, Taylor, Lee, White, Dennis, Norwood,
(Elected):
Senators White, Smith, Shannon, Woods, Dutton, Hunt, Loewer, Moberly, Henderson
(Admin.): Allen

Patsy Watkins called the meeting to order at 3:33 PM. She commented on the value of service and thanked the FS members for serving. Leadership positions this year include Buddy Lyle (Vice Chair of Faculty Senate), Dennis Brewer (Chair of Campus Faculty) and Tom Jensen (Vice Chair of Campus Faculty).

- I. It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda motion passes
- II. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of 5/9/2001 motion passes
- III. Reports and Announcements

- A. Update on Promotion and Tenure Committee, and status report on the University and Distinguished Professor criteria. Paul Cronan stated that input based on last spring's FS meeting, the Promotion and Tenure Committee acted upon the document that was posted at: http://www.uark.edu/depts/facsen/AgendaMinutes/2000-2001/2000NovFSMinutes_files/Sec-5_FH_99.pdf to give the revised manuscript posted at: <http://www.uark.edu/depts/facsen/AgendaMinutes/2001-2002/2001Sept/PromotionAndTenureSummer2001.pdf>.

Also Scott Varady (UofA Legal Counsel) and Nancy Talburt provided input to keep the document within guidelines of the university system. The Chancellor and President adopted this document August 20, 2001. In the summer two substantial changes were made that were different from that approved by the Faculty Senate last spring. One change was regarded an item voted on directly by the Faculty Senate. This change was with respect to the letters to be requested for a candidate undergoing promotion and tenure (under III.B.8.g.). This statement was completely changed. Now there will be 3 letters from outside impartial reviewers that lack a "familial relationship" with the candidate. This change occurred over the objection of the FS chairs. The other change regarded the statement in paragraph III.B.22 of the original document that specifically addressed the Chancellor or Provost meeting with formal and/or informal groups/individuals about promotion/tenure cases, a step not outlined in the P&T document. Such meetings would constitute a violation of the promotion and tenure process. The Provost decided to eliminate this paragraph in its entirety and over the objections of the FS Chairs.

Discussion between the Provost and the Promotion and Tenure Committee regarding this deletion included the Provost Smith's statement that this was already the policy of the University of Arkansas. The Promotion and Tenure Committee requested that the Provost provide this in writing and the Provost agreed that he would.

During Q&A:

Without objection: It was requested that further study be done by the P&T committee regarding the two changes made over the objection of the FS chairs. A return report to the Faculty Senate should make it clear as to why the administration chose to change the recommendation of the Faculty Senate for III.B.8.g and the deleted paragraph III.B.22.

The question arose that if paragraph 22 was already university policy then why was it deleted. Paul Cronan did not have an answer to this and stated that this would have to be answered by the Provost.

One question regarding protocol: If a change is made then shouldn't this document come back to the Faculty Senate? John King stated that if that had occurred then the document would be held up one more year and it was thought that it would be best to have the document in place. However, it was pointed out by Paul Cronan that even though the document went forward, it did so with objection to the two points given above.

John King also stated that parts of paragraph 22 did not fit into the University statewide policies according to the University legal counsel.

It was pointed out by Paul Cronan that paragraph 22 was in reaction to earlier promotions and tenure decisions involving committees formed in some colleges that were not part of the outlined policies. Also the Deans met collectively to discuss decisions with the Chancellor. Paragraph 22 was an attempt to avoid this in the future. The Provost thought this was an overreaction of the P&T committee and that they would not do this in the future. Jerry Musick pointed out that the FS could only recommend a document. The Provost and Chancellor can choose to ignore the recommendation. We need to hear from the administration as to why they chose to ignore paragraph 22.

IV. Old Business

- A. Dental Insurance. Susan Bristow. It was moved and seconded to accept the dental insurance resolution that is posted at:
<http://www.uark.edu/depts/facsen/AgendaMinutes/2001-2002/2001Sept/DentalPlanResolution.pdf>.

Q&A Concern over the state budget was expressed. In particular concern over whether the UofA could afford this plan. Don Pederson stated that the UofA has some contingency to cover budget cuts from the state. Susan Bristow and Don Pederson gave information regarding whether the UofA would provide a 50:50 split. If the 100% option results then an employee would simply enter into a large general pool of Delta Dental customers. **resolution passes.**

V. New Business

- A. Consent Agenda.
It was moved and seconded to accept items 1-5 from the Graduate Council. motion passes
- B. Resolution on long term care insurance. Raj Gupta reported that the long term care insurance that UofA adopted last year was the type of insurance that Consumer Reports (Oct 97) indicated was the worst kind to adopt. Charts indicating why this type of insurance is not as desirable as other types were used in his presentation.
It was moved and seconded to adopt the resolution on long term care insurance.
It was moved and seconded to amend the first line of the resolution to "The Faculty Senate requests the Campus Fringe Benefits Committee work" motion to amend passes.
motion to adopt amended resolution passes.
- C. Election of Senators to Executive Committee. The following senators were elected to the Executive Committee: Jerry Musick, Raj Gupta, David Gay, Joel Freund, John Ryan.
- D. Election of Senators to Campus Council - These senators will be nominated by email. Voting at the October FS meeting.

VI. Announcements/Information

AAUP meeting. William Etges, Pres. of the Guerdon-Nichols Chapter of the American Association of University Professors. There will be a meeting at the Radisson in Fayetteville on October 19&20.

Campus Faculty Meeting, September 27. Dennis Brewer announced that President Sugg will talk about the vision of the University system.

VII. Moved and seconded to adjourn at 4:35 - motion passes.

Patsy Watkins, Chair;

Neil Allison, Secretary.

Minutes approved:
October 17, 2001