Minutes
September 25, 2017
4:00 PM
University Faculty Senate
Shawnee State University

1. Call to Order
UFS President Marc Scott called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call
Secretary Jennifer Napper recorded the attendance (as follows):


4. Agenda: Approval seconded by Tom Piontek and approved unanimously.

5. Remarks from UFS President: See attached documents.


7. Administrative Reports
President Kurtz comments: President Kurtz spoke about the strategic plan, which addresses the need for us to invest in strategic programs at the university and streamline our programs.

Provost Jeff Bauer comments: Underperforming programs may be warehoused; however there will be a need for new or modified programs to help the university grow. The exploration of new markets such as targeting adult learners is being examined.

University College – In early October, there will be a department established in the University College, which will allow the department to propose and change curricula.

Distance Learning – By fall 2018 some programs, such as RN-BSN and BS-Health Sciences, will transition to online offerings in the last two years of coursework. The hope is to attract working students to finish up their four-year degree. Online pilot courses offered over the summer were successful and the administration wants to expand the selection of GEP courses offered.

Program Warehousing – The procedure for warehousing programs is expected to be transparent and the metrics developed by the Ad Hoc committee last year will be utilized. The low performing programs will be identified based on those metrics and the chairpersons of the affected departments will be notified. There will be an opportunity for the departments to prepare a rebuttal. The Provost plans to submit the list of programs proposed to be warehoused for the February 12, 2018 EPCC meeting. The list of proposed programs for warehousing would then be forward to UFS for its February 26, 2018 meeting.

Program learning outcome reminder – All programs must have measurable learning outcomes by December 31, 2017.
Grade appeal process – This process is not well defined once it reaches the Dean level and above. It has been requested that the UFS develop a more defined procedure for Deans to follow.

Faculty Professional Day – Generally well received and improved over past years according to survey. Next year this will take place the Friday before the semester starts and be optional.

Non-departmental directorships – Aaron Breuwer will be the new Director of Celebration of Scholarship. Linda Hunt will be the Director of the Adjunct Academy as well as Ombudsperson. Mike Barnhart will serve as Chair of the Distance Learning Committee while Chris Meade is out on sick leave this semester.

Question from Dan Johnson: What will allocation of faculty resources look like? Will the administration give faculty of warehoused programs more direction on what they are supposed to do?

Answer from Rick Kurtz: Academic Resource Management Committee is the first set of reviewers on reallocation. The reality is it is uncertain. All parties will have to work together to figure out the course of action.

Answer from Jeff Bauer: Not just a reallocation of resources, also repackaging of existing courses into more marketable programs.

Discussion Marc Scott and Rick Kurtz: Administration needs to share data about marketing trends for programs. Chris Shaffer can offer such data analysis.

8. Announcements from Senate floor

Marc Scott: The Faculty Assessment Committee can assist programs in developing Learning outcomes and methods of assessment. The next workshop will be held on October 11 at 4pm and will be led by Marc Scott and Becky Thiel.

9. Committee and Director Reports

Executive Committee Report:

UFS President: The Executive committee will be visiting departmental meetings to get feedback from faculty. Marc Scott thanked the Department of Mathematical Sciences and School of Education for allowing him to sit in on their meeting.

UFS Vice President: Kyle Vick reported on two Ohio Faculty Council (OFC) meetings attended over the summer. The OFC, comprised of faculty leadership at Ohio public universities, and the Ohio Faculty Senate, comprised of faculty leadership at Ohio Community Colleges, will issue joint statements as the Faculty Congress of Ohio when the two bodies are in agreement on issues impacting both organizations. This consequently gives more leverage to these organizations.

At the second meeting the CCP standards and textbook costs were discussed. Legislature is pushing for universities and colleges to come up with strategies to save students money. Two models have been discussed: the first day model and inclusive access (which is all digital media) model. A price is negotiated with the publisher and the materials are paid for by a course fee. The price negotiated has to be lower than any other commercial availability of the material. This can especially benefit students that depend on financial aid to purchase textbooks.
HB66 – Issue involving teaching load. Withdrawn form of the bill states that all tenured faculty must teach at least three hours of undergraduate credit per semester. There is currently a working group in the state legislature that is working on this bill to address teaching load.

10. Unfinished Business: None.

11. New Business
   a. Formation of Ad Hoc committees
      i. College Credit Plus Policy: Motion to discuss seconded by Phil Blau.
         Originally discussed at EPCC meeting to have 9 members on this committee. Cathy Bailey moved to reduce this number to five members: One representative from GEAC, EPCC, and three at large members with one member from the School of Education. This motion was seconded by Isabel Graziani, passed unanimously.

         Motion to create the committee passed unanimously.

      ii. Grade Change Policy: Motion to discuss Sarah Minter seconded. Policy will be created and published. Jim Reneau suggested an administrator should be present on the committee. Gene Burns wants an SEA representative on the committee since a grade change involves a complaint against faculty and the policy must be consistent with the CBA. Isabel Graziani moved to change the number on the committee to five voting members (1 from each college, 1 SEA appointee, and 1 at large) plus a nonvoting SGA representative and a member from the administration. Seconded by Dan Johnson, passed unanimously.

         The motion to create the committee passed unanimously.

   b. Creation of STEM 1001 Computer Programming Fundamentals passed unanimously.

12. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn meeting was seconded by Jim Reneau at 5:07pm.
I wanted to begin by welcoming our returning and new senators as well as our guests. I will endeavor to make my remarks as brief as possible, but also to do justice to a handful of important issues I’d like to brief you on. Higher Education in the U.S. seems to be in a constant state of flux and there are significant issues at the national and state level that will impact our students’ learning environments and the work we do, and there are also issues at our institution that this body can work to address this academic year. Here’s a sampling of some of these national, state, and campus issues.

**National: Title IX & DACA**
U.S. Department of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos announced a few weeks ago a significant change in how the Department of Education will handle Title IX violations, particularly with respect to accusations of sexual assault. I’m keenly interested to find out what those changes might mean for our students, and I’ve asked our Title IX coordinators to address the Senate once the federal policy changes take shape.

The recent decision to rescind the Deferred Action for Child Arrivals (or DACA) policy will impact roughly 20,000 young people in the State of Ohio. The Provost has informed me that we have no DACA students currently attending SSU. Nevertheless, I’d like to extend my thanks to Dr. Kurtz for signing on to the Inter-University Council’s letter protesting the rescission of DACA and calling for permanent protection of these impacted individuals. The Ohio Faculty Council, a body representing the faculty leadership at all 14 public universities in Ohio including Shawnee State, has issued its own letter which I’m submitting for the record with my remarks.

**State: Textbook Costs & OFC/FCO**
At the State Level, Kyle Vick, the Senate Vice President and I have attended meetings of the Ohio Faculty Council, and Kyle will speak a little about what we’ve learned at those meetings during the Executive Committee Reports. The OFC is currently doing some important work around textbook cost that might impact our students specifically.

**Shawnee State: College Credit Plus, Grade Appeal Policy, and Program Warehousing**
Here at Shawnee State, we also have important issues to address this academic year. Later in this meeting we’ll discuss the creation of Ad Hoc Committees to clarify our College Credit Plus Policy and to clarify the appeal process once a student appeals to a Dean.

I want to say a few words about an issue that will likely be contentious: program warehousing. In the last month and in the coming weeks, members of the Executive Committee, including myself, have and will be visiting faculty across this institution. I have and will be asking about the faculty’s thoughts on this issue specifically. I’ve also spoken with the Provost and learned a little about the administration’s standpoint on this issue, and I’m sure the Provost will share his thoughts in the coming months.

No one I’ve talked to takes this issue lightly. We’ll be discussing numbers and the reasoning behind the proposed warehousing, and I’d like us all—faculty and administration alike—to always remember that
we’re talking about the future of our institution and the professional lives of our colleagues. We want our institution to succeed and weather what appears to be a difficult period ahead, and I think we’ll thrive depending upon the degree of shared governance we bring to bear on this issue and others.

While we talk about the possibility of warehousing, I hope we also talk about the possibilities and future for our colleagues who teach in programs that may be warehoused. Are there ways to leverage their expertise to develop innovative, perhaps interdisciplinary programs that can attract students to Shawnee State or retain current students? The Senate and EPCC may not be the places to hold such conversations, but we might be locations in which faculty can develop partnerships and share strategies that can lead to innovation. It’s my hope that faculty can design such innovative programs and it’s my hope the administration will support their creation.

Shared governance is messy. It isn’t always efficient. But when it’s done well, it works. I can tie a direct line between successes we experienced in the Bridge Program this summer to shared governance. The feedback I received from other faculty and administration improved the program. I worked closely with Dean Kacir in the administration of the program, and many people including Dean Milliken, Jennifer Pauley, John Whitaker, Dean Stewart, Dean Simms and many others lent a hand, volunteered feedback, and sometimes asked important, uncomfortable, and even unanticipated questions about the program that will improve it even more next year. Shared governance is an important tool to help the university move forward—the Senate a place where we address important problems—and I want to thank you all for being a part of that.
Most of this report will be provided by Kyle, the Senate Vice President, and he’ll be discussing what we’ve learned from the Ohio Faculty Council over the last few months. However, I would like to mention that the Executive Committee has visited with the School of Teacher Education and the Mathematical Sciences Department, and I’d like to thank Dr. Irish and Dr. Whitaker for granting us a little time to learn from your faculty. We’ll be meeting with another six departments and our offer remains open to all faculty members. We’d be very interested to listen and answer questions for as long or as little as you’d like. Skip Miller in Engineering has informed me that we have 317 seconds to spend with his department. We’ll take it. Our visits are no substitute for the work of senators representing their departments; they’re a way for a relatively green Executive Committee to learn from our colleagues.
September 11, 2017

The Honorable Rob Portman
United States Senate
448 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Portman,


As they said in their letter to you, many Ohio students will face great difficulty because of the termination of the DACA program. Taking action to rescind this program, even with a reported six-month delay, will throw the lives of hundreds of young people and their families into turmoil.

On behalf of our students, and all who are potentially affected, the Ohio Faculty Council also urgently request Congress to approve legislation incorporating a permanent solution to this issue, a solution that includes permitting these students to maintain their current status in this country and at our institutions. This position is consistent with U.S. Attorney General Session’s statement rescinding DACA, in which he said, “Congress should carefully and thoughtfully pursue the types of reforms that are right for the American people . . . . and advance an immigration policy that serves the national interest.”

We agree that consideration and passage at the national level is a better opportunity and more thoughtful way to fix the problem for public university students in Ohio facing uncertainty over their immigration status. It allows for a well-reasoned, comprehensive, and permanent result that provides hope and sends a clear and compelling message of support to our community.
As we said to you in a letter in January of this year, the more than 20,000 DACA students on our campuses at public universities in Ohio have enriched the learning environment and brought extraordinary talent to our state. We appreciate that to be eligible for the DACA program that these students must not have been convicted of a felony, a significant misdemeanor, or three or more other misdemeanors, or have been otherwise found to be a threat to national security or public safety. Beyond that though, we have found them to be actively serving their local communities and economies. In short, they have proven to be an important asset to our society. They need and deserve our support.

We look forward to working closely with our university administrations and with policy makers who will stand for and favor a fair policy treating these students with the respect they have earned.

Sincerely,

Dan E. Krane, 
Chair, Ohio Faculty Council

Beth Quitslund, 
Vice Chair, Ohio Faculty Council

cc: The Honorable Sherrod Brown, United States Senate
The Honorable Lindsey Graham, United States Senate
The Honorable Richard Durbin, United States Senate
The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, United States Senate
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, United States Senate
The Honorable Jeff Flake, United States Senate
The Honorable Charles Schumer, United States Senate
Shawnee State University  
University Faculty Senate  
Treasurer's Report

As Of:  
2017-09-24  
Budget Period:  
2016-17  
Budget Accounts:  
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END OF YEAR

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Notes:

Respectfully Submitted  
James M. Reneau – Treasurer UFS
Shawnee State University  
University Faculty Senate  
Treasurer's Report  

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Respectfully Submitted  
James M. Reneau – Treasurer UFS