Call to Order

UFS President Andrew Feight called the meeting to order.

Roll Taking

Secretary Janet Feight recorded attendance as follows:

Absent: Ginny Pinson, Isabel Graziani.


Minutes

Patric Leedom suggested the specific inclusion of the bookstore’s desire for an accurate graduation regalia head count. If faculty order regalia they should attend as indicated by their order. Approved as amended.

Agenda

Approved by acclamation.

UFS Officer Reports

President’s Report: UFS President Andrew Feight’s opening remarks included a reminder about the deadlines for getting GEP course proposals to GEAC. The first is upcoming Thursday, Dec. 3. This will enable proposals to go to EPCC for the January meeting. GEP Reform is on schedule, overall. President Feight then offered a report from the November Ohio Faculty Council meeting - OFC members received two
presentations, one from the Director of STRS on "mitigating factors," a charge that is applied to state institutions to make up for lost contributions due to the offering of ARPs — alternative retirement plans, such as Valic or TIA-CREF. The other presentation was on Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) and the Department of Higher Education’s draft guide to evaluating and crediting prior learning. The draft guide included a rubric for evaluating portfolios for course credit. The guide is meant to help standardize the award of credit across the system and guard against one institution or another becoming a PLA diploma mill, as PLA credit for courses in the OTM would have to be accepted by all Ohio institutions. The OFC continues to collect data from the different campuses that will allow for comparison of adjunct compensation, university debt, and athletic budgets.

The next UFS meeting is set for the last Monday of January, which is the 25th; as with past practice, we do not have a December meeting.

Treasurer's Report: (Attached) Balance of $2,850. OFC expenses not yet posted. Accepted by acclamation.

Administration Reports

University President: President Kurtz provided a detailed presentation/slide show to the UFS entitled "The Murky Middle." Highlights included: a graph demonstrating enrollment numbers (indicating a rise and subsequent drop) from 2007 to 2015, retention percentages (54% rather the 74% of comparable peer institutions) and other relevant data. A multi-year study indicates that the "murky middle" of students with GPAs of 2.0-2.9 should be a focus for us as an institution. President Kurtz also addressed our status as "open access" and how we define it. He noted that there may need to be a bridge from deficiencies to matriculation.

More information is available on the Strategic Planning Website.

Provost's Report: Dr. Bauer addressed Prior Learning Assessment, including exam, portfolio, and military credit, and he summarized what we do so far. He made note of HB 64 - noting that it is significant legislation for Ohio institutions. He also addressed the low enrollment formula and the viability of some "low" enrolled programs and courses. Some have few faculty and some are economically sound. Internal program reviews - A five year cycle, 7-8 programs the first year. There will be notifications
before the end of the year. Provost Bauer then called on UFS members to attempt to maximize student evaluations. Time in class to complete them seems to be crucial for a reasonable percentage. Finally, he noted that Strategic Planning forum information, dates, and invitations will be forthcoming.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee: Andrew Feight noted that a new pool of faculty volunteers (in place by next fall) will substitute for the old, unwieldy committee nomination system. These will be smaller project teams developed by President Kurtz. Some governance committees will be on hiatus until the strategic planning process has advanced. A call for names to go into the pool will go out in the upcoming week. The project teams currently active will be: Enrollment Management/Student Affairs, Marketing and Recruitment, Technology, and Veteran’s Affairs.

Old committees: Some didn't meet, others did but didn't provide a record of their activities, others met but pursued no goals (President Kurtz referred to them as "window dressing"). People will now be charged with roles/responsibilities. Strategic initiatives for the next two years must be effective.

A list of action teams can be included when the call for pool volunteers goes out.

EPCC: UFS Vice President/EPCC Chair Mike Barnhart summarized the items on the agenda, revisions and warehousing. Motion to postpone processing of the huge volume of GEP reform proposals due to scant message traffic, lack of review, more time needed to fully address number of proposals. Eighty proposals are posted and available for open hearing.

New Business

A. EPCC Items - Bundled and unanimously approved.
   1. Fine, Digital, and Performing Arts
      a. Courses to warehouse – MUSI 1113, 1121, 1321, 1331, 3441, 3451, 3461, 3491
      b. Enhancement – minor in music
   2. Allied Health Sciences
      a. New Courses – BSHS 3100, 3332, 3343, 3400, 4100, 4200, 4250, 4300, 4400, 4500, 4600
      b. New Degree Proposal – Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences
   3. Social Sciences
      a. New Courses – HIST 2223, 4500
b. minor course change – HIST 1200

B. UFS Ad Hoc Committee on Hiring Procedures - competency bank, procedure, approaches. Approved unanimously.

C. Appointment of Faculty Party Committee - Cathy Bailey, Sarah Minter, Maggie Selby. Approved unanimously.

Discussion Item - Patric Leedom suggested discussion at our last meeting following Mike Barnhart’s report on the October meeting of the OFC, which included a discussion of adjunct faculty participation in shared governance structures on Ohio campuses. Adjunct pay raise? Discussion postponed until OFC Report.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.
Shawnee State University  
University Faculty Senate  
Treasurer's Report

As Of: 2015-11-30  
Budget Period: 2015-16  
Budget Accounts: 10-3620-*

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**Notes:** One or more trips to the OFC and name plates have been encumbered but have not been posted by the administration.

Respectfully Submitted  
James M. Reneau – Treasurer UFS