

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES: April 3, 2009

All members present or represented except John Cooley, Nagalapura Viswanath, and Michael Meyers.

1. Call to order and Welcome at 12:20
2. Minutes of March 13, 2009 motion to approve Darlene Pulliam, second Keith Price; approved.
3. Comments from Dr. O'Brien
 - a. The commencement speaker for May is Karl Rove and this has prompted many emails and much discussion. The original speaker invited for the commencement was George H. W. Bush who had recently declined. Dr. O'Brien met Karl Rove recently and when a speaker was needed he was contracted and agreed. There was much discussion about the speaker being controversial. Dr. O'Brien stated that as a University we should be the one setting that free exchange ideas should be able to take place without censors. Dr. Calvi stated that he agreed with Dr. O'Brien but that people also had the right not to listen. There was discussion from other faculty senator members about their thoughts on Karl Rove being the commencement speaker and mainly related to him speaking in that venue. Dr. O'Brien explained the process of obtaining speakers for commencement. He also noted that many of the speakers in the past have been local or regional and he is wanting national speakers. There was discussion about budgets for speakers and two other committees that choose speakers for the University.
4. Comments from Dr. Hallmark
 - a. The Fixed Term Faculty policy is moving forward throughout the system. The Faculty Development Leave had two faculty members who submitted applications. Both of the applicants have been sent forward in the system to the Board of Regents for final approval. The applicants were Dr. Frank Landram and Dr. Alex Hunt. One leave request was for the Fall 2009 semester and the other was for Spring 2010.
 - b. Karl Rove is the commencement speaker but will be speaking on Friday May 7, 2009 at 07:00 p.m. at the First United Bank Center. The faculty will be on stage in regalia and the students will be in the audience. All faculty are strongly encourage to attend. On Saturday, May 8, the degrees will be awarded.
 - c. Reminders about upcoming faculty development programs such as the Fullbright presentation on April 14.
5. Old Business
 - a. Senate Constitution approval
The information will be sent out electronically for approval by submitting a yes or no vote from the departments and bring back to faculty senate on April 16.
 - b. Tenure and Promotion Policy recommendations: A report from the university committee meeting was reported by Darlene Pulliam.
 - i. Faculty senate presented eight recommendations to the university committee. All the recommendations were discussed except the first one, regarding the constitution of departmental tenure committees, which will be discussed at a later date.
 - ii. Changes made to the policy in the university committee meeting will be presented to the Provost and then back to faculty senate. Approvals will be made in the faculty senate. Discussion about the unanimous vote by faculty senate to remove collegiality and the university's committee to keep it in the policy was discussed. Ultimately the decision for changes to the policy will be by a vote of the faculty senate.
 - c. Regents Professor Award: nominees are Darlene Pulliam, John Pipkin, and Robert Hansen. The nominees will assemble a book similar to tenure. The Faculty Senate will determine the nominee from WTAMU. More information will be provided in two weeks. The voting will start in two weeks and continue until April 30, when the applicant will be notified.

- d. Nominations for Optimus Magister Award
 - There is only one nomination for this award which is for outstanding teaching. The faculty senate is to try to get more nominations. These nominations need to be sent to Bob along with a brief paragraph by the nominator about why they deserve the award so that the senate can vote in two weeks.
- e. Report on ratification of FDL was done earlier by Dr. Hallmark.
- 6. New Business
 - a. Grade Appeal Policy
 - A copy of the grade appeal policy was sent to the faculty senate. There was a great deal of discussion. It was decided that the suggestions for changes will be sent to the faculty senate before the next meeting at that time recommendations will be made for changes. Dr. Loya presented suggestions for changes to policy and the Academic Integrity Policy.
 - b. Academic Integrity
 - The faculty senate was sent a copy of the policy along with suggested changes to the policy. There was a great deal of discussion and it was decided to have the recommendations discussed presented to the senate in writing for voting decisions. This will be presented again at the next meeting.
- 7. Other Business/Future considerations/Announcements
 - a. Commencement was discussed earlier by both Dr. O'Brien and Dr. Hallmark
 - b. Resolution on ARFP (form and evaluation) and Sedona
 - This will be discussed at the next meeting.
 - c. Appointments to university standing committees
 - Names are need for appointments to standing committee. The vacancies and appointments will be done on April 17.
 - d. Senate Elections
 - Senate elections need to be done by April 30. List was given indicating the needed senate positions. Information about when the elections will take place in the Colleges and what senate members need to help with the elections will be discussed next meeting.
 - e. Election of Senate officers will take place by April 30.
 - f. The constitution states that a faculty senate member must attend 75% of the meetings or they can be removed by voting. Dr. Cooley has not attended any meetings. A motion was made by Linda Chenoweth, seconded by Theresa Trela to removal Dr. Cooley from senate. Passed. This opens another senate position for the College.
- 8. Adjourned – 2:10

Submitted by Marietta Branson for secretary Jean Stuntz.

These minutes have not been approved.