

Minutes
SPSU General Faculty Meeting
August 14, 2007

1. Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 11:07 with the moderator declaring that a quorum was present.

2. Introduction of New Faculty

Department Chairs introduced all new faculty members in their respective areas.

3. Election of Secretary to the Faculty

A motion to nominate Briana Morrison to the position of Secretary to the Faculty for AY 2007/2008 was approved. As no other nominations were presented, Briana Morrison, CSWE, was elected.

4. Approval of Minutes to General Faculty Meeting of July 17, 2007

The Minutes were approved.

5. Acceptance of Recommendations Contained in Committee Minutes

Faculty Senate: April 20, 2007

The Minutes were approved.

Motion for Study Day

A motion was made and passed to direct the Registrar to use a “compression technique” (only seniors have finals on the first day of finals) for the Fall 2007 semester but the Spring 2008 semester calendar should be adjusted to include a study day (a day between classes and finals) for all students.

6. Faculty Forum on Issues for the Year

The Moderator asked faculty for issues to be addressed by the Senate and Faculty Forums. Issues requested include:

- How minutes from committees are handled and archived
- P&P’s need to be updated; specifically P&P on grade policy (304.0)
- Training needed for committee chairs; possibly online
- Smoking on campus
- Current governance is geared toward business, not leadership; suggestion of an executive board to create new business and direction for senate and faculty
- Use of +/- grades (Zvi commented that current use of +/- grades at other USG institutions was an experiment only and SPSU is not currently authorized to use +/- grades)
- Update campus on master facilities plan
- Review policy of recruiting international students by offering discounted tuition while current non-resident students are not offered such discounts
- Review the GPA forgiveness policy; some students are repeating courses to enhance their GPA while not making progress within their degree
- Review the support and incentives offered to faculty to support the study abroad program

- Review workload and compensation policies
 - Report on the status of the committee (comprised at the USG level) that is looking into the ORP (optional retirement planning) versus TRS funding disconnect
 - Look at maintenance concerns and to have them establish a regular schedule of changing light bulbs, etc rather than placing work orders that go unanswered
- Any other issues can be sent to Moderator or Secretary via email, phone, or in person

7. VPAA's Comments

Information on New Degrees

- Degree in Chemistry approved by BOR
- Psychology degree should go before BOR in October
- Pursuing evening degree programs for Electrical, Civil, and Mechanical Engineering
- Beginning discussions on bringing a Science Education program to campus
- Discussion of a "regionalization" approach to take advantage of SPSU's statewide mission

Master Plan Update

- BOR released first of 6 year cycle and SPSU has been allocated \$38 million for construction of an Engineering Technology Center Building. Pending approval by the legislature and governor, construction could begin in 08-09.
- Lodge renovations almost complete; ELS and EU to move into Lodge
- Archive area in library complete
- MMR money to renovate Burruss Auditorium and H200. Ideas and input to be sent to Zvi on how to best utilize space.

Presentations

Zvi summarized two presentations from a recent conference he attended:

- [Helping Students Reach Their Potential](#) (Constance Staley from Univ. of Colorado, Colorado Springs)
- [Purpose of Scientific Education](#) (Carl Weiman from Univ. of British Columbia)

8. Announcements

- A. US Constitution Day on 9/17 at noon in the Ballroom
- B. National Anthem Day on 9/14 at 9AM at the Globe
- C. Kick-off tomorrow (8/15) at 9 AM

9. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at noon.

Submitted by: Briana Morrison, Secretary to the Faculty

Approved by: Lance Crimm, Faculty Moderator