

Minutes
SPSU General Faculty Meeting
11 am Tuesday, August 12, 2008
Student Center Ballroom

1. Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 11:02 am with the moderator declaring that a quorum was present.

2. Introduction of new folks to the SPSU family

(see handout)

3. Election of Secretary to the Faculty

Briana Morrison was nominated and elected to the position.

4. Approval of General Faculty Meeting minutes of July 10, 2008

The minutes were **approved**.

5. Acceptance of recommendations contained in Committee Minutes

- **Faculty Senate:** April 29, 2008

Minutes **approved**.

6. Introduce Teaching Fellows

- Background (Marietta Monahan); sponsor is Dawn Ramsey
 - Teaching Fellows for 08-09 are Lance Crimm, Joyce McGriff, Becky Rutherford and Marietta Monahan
- 4 Areas (Becky Rutherford)
 - Marietta – Orientation for new faculty, sessions throughout fall semester, all faculty invited
 - Lance & Becky – Teaching & Learning, several mini-projects: best practices on campus, encourage exploration in classroom, study & identify teaching assessment methods; teaching & learning champions in each department
 - Joyce – faculty development (count as professional growth & development)
 - All – recognition and incentives for faculty
- Faculty Development workshops (Joyce McGriff)
 - 3 series of workshops: Promotion & Tenure Preparation, Getting Your Research Done, Instructional Design Tools

7. Faculty Forum on Issues for the Year

- grading policy out of date
- how to get ADA help, ADA committee, etc. Do we need a P&P? How to include facilities?
- faculty workload for intern and special project / independent study
- graduate assistants – hiring, evaluation
- clearer policy for student appeal of academic policies
- facility design standards (green book?); sustainable committee
- putting all forms online and in one place

- facilities – connectivity between buildings, parking lots, etc., campus resources; (faculty) not consulted
- automated promotion, tenure, reappointment package to reduce redundancy (Zvi reports software developed at UT Arlington which Deans will look into)
- readjusting reappointment time table to coincide with annual review
- better access to office PC from home / off campus
- experiment with remote access to faculty meetings

8. SACS Update (Becky Rutherford)

This is it. Report due Sept. 10th. Becky writes statements, Mark Stevens edits, then goes to Zvi for final editing, then posted to website. Everything is being done online. Thanks to everyone for their hard work last year. On site visit March 23-25, please be on campus those days. Bob Brown in charge of Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) which is due February 2009. We are creating new learning communities through SPSU 1001 and pairing them with program orientation classes, intro math and English courses. Implementation of QEP begins in Fall 09. SACS will approve QEP with self-study. December 2009 is vote for re-accreditation.

9. DLTF Update (Dawn Ramsey)

- Marketing subcommittee released RFP for marketing for distance programs; proposals due 9/8; funds may be used this fall for marketing
- 8/25 – email with URL for faculty development series and link for registration. Registration will be done online.
- David Stone chair of Second Life group – purchase of Second Life island completed this afternoon. Video shown illustrating academic uses of Second Life. Looking for faculty to be part of a pilot using Second Life.
- David gave a talk in China on learning technical terms in a foreign language.

10. VPAA's Comments

- Welcome new faculty to community
- Faculty – 185 members including libraries, deans, and VPAA (last year 168); 12 temporary faculty; 28.6% female, 7% African American 5.9% Asian; 2.7% Hispanic; 48.6% tenured
- Thank everyone who are working so hard on all the stuff that has been introduced and worked on this year
- New facilities, parking lots, enrollment up 6+%, many sections closed, need to add capacity or sections...remember tough fiscal year ahead and we need to increase efficiency.
- Need stronger fiscal base not dependent on state funds (grants and other projects to bring in additional resources)
- Number of new academic programs either in the works or ready to go downtown
- Continuing to implement strategic goals
- SACS – just need to fill in a few additional items for the reports; review information once posted online (no make-up SACS....bad pun)
- Reaccreditation for 6 programs this year

- Reorganization – will hear more during the year; contingent upon funding situation
- Academic Plan will be out soon for review
- Fabulous year, fabulous faculty, fabulous study body

11. President's Comments (time stood still for Lisa....)

- Welcome to new faculty, largest group in many years.
- Most of what would be said will be covered tomorrow at State of University address, but a few things for now:
 - Coming to conclusion of paving project for new entrance; should be done by Friday...paid for by infrastructure project from 4 years ago
 - Burruss should be done in 30 days; repair and maintenance money from 08
 - Closing in corridors in buildings D, G, F for energy efficiency should be complete by September. Installing ways to measure energy usage for each building; money from year end last year.
- Renovations in building M (completed?)
- New parking deck near new building paid for by bond from student fees and transportation fees; should be approved at BOR meeting in August; groundbreaking in October
- Budget: not much concrete information to share. All state agencies asked for budget reductions of 6, 8, and 10%. System office looking at how to reduce amount of reduction for each campus. Submitted preliminary plan of a 5% budget reduction, other options may be considered.
- Instructed to establish spending constraints; must be able to document that expenditures are critical to mission of university
- Will be notified of open sessions to discuss how university will address budget reductions; senior staff looking at strategies for reducing expenditures. Also looking at increasing revenue and ways to increase flexibility in how money is used.
- Fellow from American Counsel on Education spending fellowship year with us, Margaret Venable Asst VP of Early Colleges and Academic Initiatives at GA Perimeter. First Year Experience Programs, Recruitment & Retention of Faculty from under-represented groups.
- Reminder tomorrow is the State of the University address at 9:30 am followed by external speaker, followed by lunch sponsored by Carlyle's

12. Announcements

- Reception for new faculty this afternoon at 4 pm
- 2 presentations on new building at 2 and 4 tomorrow

13. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 12:16 pm.

Next General Faculty Meeting: Thursday, October 2nd at noon in Burruss Auditorium

Submitted by: Briana Morrison, Secretary to the Faculty

Approved by: Lance Crimm, Faculty Moderator