

11-9-2009

November 9, 2009 AASU Faculty Senate Minutes

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**Armstrong Atlantic State University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes of November 9, 2009
University Hall, room 156, 3:00 p.m.**

I. Call to order

3:12 p.m. Please see Appendix A for a roster of attendees.

II. Approval of Minutes from the October 19, 2009 senate meeting.

Senator Scott moves to approve: approved.

III. Old Business

- a. The Senate Resolution (FSR 003.0/10, App H at Oct. Minutes) on re-zoning application was forwarded to, and approved by, President Bleicken. However, the appeal for re-zoning was approved by the Savannah Zoning Board of Appeals.
- b. Resolution on Summer Schedule (FSR 004.09/10, App E at Oct. Minutes) forwarded to President Bleicken, awaiting approval.
- c. Committee placement of examining the GPA and cum laude designations: University Curriculum Committee.
- d. Ad Hoc Committee charged to create resolution regarding furloughs. Committee members: Mrs. Angela Ryczowski, Dr. Stephen Primatic, Dr. Michael Mink, Dr. Clifford Padgett, Dr. Hans-Georg Erney, and Dr. Peggy Mossholder. The committee is requested to issue a preliminary report at the December senate meeting, with a final report at the January meeting

IV. New Business

- a. Constitution and Bylaws Committee
 - i. Reapportionment of the senate for 2010 – 2011 (App B)
Senator Carpenter moves to approve: approved, 26 vs. 1.

Discussion:

Senator Mincer: what will happen if CSDS faculty roll increases, with specific regard to how long the department would have to wait for another senator, five years? When the next reapportionment is scheduled?

Sen Knofczynski: no, only one year. The new spot would be filled at the next year's senate election cycle.

Sen Mahan expressed dissatisfaction with the unfair distribution

Sen Logan would like access to the formula use to determine distribution, Sen Knofczynski will make it available.

- ii. Reapportionment Method: Huntington-Hill. (App C)
Sen Knofczynski moves to accept this edit to the Senate Bylaws, to accurately reflect the method: approved.
- iii. Modification of Senate term lengths (App D)
Sen Hollinger moves to accept: approved.

Discussion

Sen LeFavi: so how do non-“departments” (demoted like CSDS) get represented?

VP Whitford: that was an oversight. We’ll need to get that corrected for next year.

- iv. New distribution/rotation of term lengths (App D)
Sen Moore moves to accept: motion withdrawn

Discussion

Sen Knofczynski states his committee (Constitution & Bylaw) doesn’t necessarily advocate this option. They simply make it available.

Sen Scott details the complications this option may incur with regard to Elections Committee operations.

- v. Alternate Senators (App E)
Sen LeFavi moves to approve change to Section G Article I of the senate constitution: approved 31 v. 1.

Sen Carpenter moves to approve change to Section V Article A of the senate bylaws: amended via Sen Skidmore-Hess: approved.

Amendment: When necessary, a new alternate will be elected to serve the balance of a one year term.

- vi. Ex Officio member status (App F)
Sen Hollinger moves to accept: approved 25 v. 3

Sen Todesca moves to see the results of the survey Constitution & Bylaws Committee performed: so moved. Constitution & Bylaws Com is requested to bring the results to the December senate meeting.

V. Announcements

Sen Knofczynski: requests emeritus status examined (App G), requests graduate faculty status granting process examined (App H).
Motion to pass the items to the Steering Committee: approved.

Sen Moore: presents a letter of concerns for senate consideration from a part-time faculty member (App I)
Motion to pass the item to the Steering Committee: approved

VI. Adjourned 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Jewell Anderson

Appendix A

Senators Present	Senators Absent
<p><u>College of Education</u> Linda Ann McCall Marsha Moore Greg Wimer Brenda Logan Michael Mahan Beth Childress</p>	<p><u>College of Health Professions</u> Helen Taggart, Alternate Linda Tuck</p>
<p><u>College of Health Professions</u> April Garrity Bob LeFavi Joey Crosby Laurie Bryant Michelle Butina Pam Mahan Carole Massey Andi Beth Mincer Gloria Strickland Rhonda Bevis</p>	<p><u>College of Liberal Arts</u> Richard McGrath, Alt. Yassaman Saadatmand</p> <p><u>College of Science and Technology</u> Frank Katz, Alt. Azita Baharami Delana Nivens, Alt. Catherine McGowan Daniel Liang, Alt. Joy Reed</p>
<p><u>College of Liberal Arts</u> Kevin Hampton John Jensen Becky daCruz Daniel Skidmore-Hess June Hopkins James Todesca Karen Hollinger Jack Simmons Hans-Georg Erney Kalenda Eaton</p>	<p>Guests Christopher E. Hendricks</p>
<p><u>Library</u> Jewell Anderson Kate Wells</p>	<p>Ex-Officio Present Shelley Conroy, Dean COHP Laura Barrett, Dean COLA George Sheilds Dean, COST Patricia Wachholz, Dean COE</p>
<p><u>College of Science and Technology</u> Kathryn Craven Scott Matteer Suzanne Carpenter Daniel Liang Priya Goeser Sean Eastman Greg Knofszynski Vann Scott</p>	

Appendix B
Reapportionment of Senators

Department/Program	Number of Faculty	Number of Senators for 2009-10	Number of Senators for 2010-11	Gain/Loss of Senators
AMT	19	2	3	gain 1
BIOL	20	2	3	gain 1
CHEM/PHYS	16	2	2	
CJPS	11	2	2	
CSDS	3	1	0	loss 1
DHYG	5	1	1	
ECE	14	2	2	
ECON	5	1	1	
HIST	15	2	2	
HPED	5	1	1	
HSCI	12	2	2	
ICE	16	3	2	loss 1
LIBR	10	2	1	loss 1
LLP	30	4	4	
MATH	18	2	3	gain 1
MEDT	4	1	1	
MGSE	10	2	1	loss 1
NURS	25	3	4	gain 1
PHTH	7	1	1	
PSYC	8	1	1	
RADS	9	1	1	
RESP	3	1	1	
SPED	4	1	1	

269

40

40

Appendix C

Reapportionment of Senators – Method

Amendment to the Bylaws to correct apportionment method name.

Bylaws, Article III.

Section B.

There will be forty Senators. Apportionment will be calculated using the ~~Hill/Henderson formula~~ **Huntington-Hill method** with each department. . . (rest of section remains unchanged).

Rationale: The Hill/Henderson formula does not exist. Per Dr. Brawner who performed the calculation for the original apportionment of the Senate, the formula used was the Huntington-Hill method.

Appendix D

Proposed Plan to Modify Term Lengths of AASU Faculty Senators

Proposal from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee
October 1, 2009

A reapportionment of the Senate was needed after the departments of Computer Science, Engineering Studies, and Information Technology were combined into one department, ICE. This reapportionment will go into effect for the 2010-2011 school year. As a result of this reapportionment four departments will gain an extra senator while four will lose a senator. This proposed plan declares how this exchange of senators will occur.

Departments Losing a Senator:

ICE With the combining of the three aforementioned departments, the new department ICE currently has three senators. One senator, Senator Katz, is scheduled to complete his term at the end of the 2009-2010 school year. He will not be replaced.

CSDS This department became a program and is not currently affiliated with any other department, therefore the faculty members in this program are not entitled to representation on the senate according to Article III, Section B of the AASU Faculty Senate Bylaws. Senator Garrity, the one senate member currently serving from this program, is scheduled to complete her term at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, but instead will be excused of her responsibilities at the end of the 2009-2010 school year. She will not be replaced.

MSED This department currently has two senators. One senator, Senator Logan, is scheduled to complete her term at the end of the 2009-2010 school year. She will not be replaced.

LIBR This department currently has two senators. Neither is scheduled to complete their term at the end of this school year, therefore the one with the shorter term left, Senator Anderson, will be excused of her duties at the end of the 2009-2010 school year, terminating her term of office one year early. She will not be replaced.

Departments Gaining a Senator:

AMT, BIOL, MATH, and NURS All four of these departments have one senator completing his/her term at the end of the current school year. Therefore, each department will elect two new senators, each serving a 3 year term.

New Distribution of Term Lengths:

With two senators leaving one year early and being replaced with senators starting a three year term, the number of senators rotating off the senate each year is slightly affected. According to Article V, Section A of the Bylaws, one third of the senators should be newly elected each year. With the above mentioned plan, at the start of the 2010-2011 school year, there will be 12 senators with one year remaining in their term, 13 senators with two years remaining in their term, and 15 senators starting their three year terms.

Proposal for Redistribution of Term Lengths: If so desired, one reasonable option to redistribute the number of senators with 1, 2 and 3 years remaining in their terms to 13, 13, and 14 senators respectively is described here. At the start of the 2010-2011 school year the department of Biology will have one senator with two years remaining in his/her term and two senators starting three year terms. The senator with two years remaining will have their term reduced to one year left and one of the newly elected senators would only be elected for a two year term. This would give the Biology department three senators with one being re-elected each year. It would also redistribute the number of senators being re-elected to the senate to 13, 13 and 14 every three years.

Appendix E

From the Minutes, Constitution & Bylaws Committee Meeting 9/19/2009:

Term Limits for Senator Substitutes

Appendix C of the 9/14/09 Senate Meeting Agenda contains a proposed constitutional change from the Senate Steering Committee. The proposal was not previously reviewed by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee as required in the Bylaws (Article IX, Section D). After discussion and slight modification, the Committee agreed unanimously to accept the modified proposal (below) and will recommend its approval to the full Senate at its October meeting.

Constitution, Article I.

Section G. Terms and Elections

Senators ~~and alternates~~ shall ~~each~~ be elected for a three-year term **and alternates shall be elected for a one year term**. Each department shall have ~~an~~ **one** alternate for each Senator. The alternate may vote only when substituting for the Senator. Should a Senator be unable to fulfill his or her duties, ~~an~~ **the** alternate will replace that Senator for **the remainder of their the Senator's** term. (Remainder of the section remains unchanged.)

Bylaws, Article V.

Section A.

Item 1. Senators shall be elected for a three-year term. Each department shall elect ~~an~~ **one** alternate for each Senator with each alternate elected for a ~~three-year~~ **one-year** term. **When necessary, a new alternate will be elected to serve the balance of a one year term.**

(Remainder of the section remains unchanged.)

Appendix F

The History Department unanimously requests that the faculty senate clarify the status of its ex officio members. We ask clarification of three issues:

1. Which members of the administration hold ex officio status according to the current constitution?
2. Of those administrators who currently have ex officio status, how many enjoy faculty status as well?
3. If they have faculty status, administrators are already recognized as non-voting members of the faculty (Constitution, article 1, section D) and as such can attend open meetings of the senate (By Laws, article 8, sections A-C). Why, then, are some administrative personnel also given ex officio membership? What is it about the duties and expertise of their office that warrants them sitting as ex officio members? We ask that this be addressed on case by case basis, i.e., a rationale for each administrator deemed to hold ex officio membership.

The Senate Constitution and Bylaws Committee provides the following answers (see Committee minutes of 9/18/09, 9/23/09 and 10/1/09):

1. and 2.

According to Article I, Section F of the Constitution, the following administrators hold ex officio status. Dr. Whitford provided the faculty status information.

VP for External Affairs	Dr. Donahue	Has faculty status
VP for Finance	Mr. Carson	Does not have faculty status
VP for Student Affairs	Dr. McNeil	Does not have faculty status
VP for Academic Affairs	Dr. Whitford	Has faculty status
Assoc.VP Acad.Affairs	Dr. Murphy	No longer in this position
Dean of Health Prof	Dr. Conroy	Has faculty status
Dean of Education	Dr. Wachholz	Has faculty status
Dean of Science & Tech	Dr. Shields	Has faculty status
Dean of Liberal Arts	Dr. Barrett	Has faculty status

Added to the list by VP Whitford:

Assoc. VP for Enrollment Management*

Dr. Watchen **Does not have faculty status**

*According to the Organizational Chart on the AASU President's web page, this office is in Academic Affairs

3.

With reference to the interpretation of Item #3 on the request from the History Department to clarify the status of ex officio members of the Senate, it was determined that two questions were actually intended. They are:

a) For those ex officio members without faculty status, what expertise warrants their (ex officio) Senate membership?

The Committee agreed that each of the three ex officio members who do not have faculty status brings a unique expertise to the Senate meetings. Mr Carson brings budgetary information. Dr. McNeil brings the student perspective and Dr. Watchen brings information regarding registration and admission.

b) Why are administrators holding faculty status also given ex officio status?

The Committee concluded that it is reasonable to award ex officio status to the administrative office since it is not necessarily true that the occupant of each office will always hold faculty status and the unique expertise provided by the occupant is of value in Senate discussions.

Appendix G

It is requested that the faculty senate examine the issue of emeritus faculty status benefits and make the faculty's recommendations known to the party in charge of deciding such benefits. The faculty handbook outlines the method of securing emeritus faculty status, but it does not delineate the rights and privileges of such status. Other universities provide items such as lifetime use of library, an email account, web presence, and parking stickers. Some even provide office space and computers.

Appendix H

It is requested that the faculty senate examine the method currently used to establish and maintain graduate faculty status. There are two issues of concern: 1) the amount of paperwork required appears excessive and 2) why not let the decision to grant graduate level status occur at the departmental level? (for example: the graduate faculty of a department could vote on graduate faculty status of the other members within the department)

Appendix I

Margarete Froelicher-Grundmann
Department of Languages, Literature and Philosophy

Franz Froelicher, PhD
Department of Chemistry and Physics

Oct. 27, 2009

Dear Ms. Moore,

We are very pleased to learn that part-time faculty has a liaison to the faculty senate. It is surely a step in the right direction to acknowledge the existence of a sizeable faculty body that otherwise has no voice and very limited rights.

We feel compelled to answer your e-mail of Oct. 23 since there are not many opportunities where direct input from part-time faculty is possible, desirable, or asked for. Although statements directed to part-time faculty members always contain a sentence stating how valuable the contributions of part-time faculty are to the overall functioning of the university, part-time faculty members are treated and regarded as second or even third class members of the faculty. In a research report issued by the Cornell Higher Education Research Institute in June, researchers describe part-time faculty as “peripheral academic workers” who hold “core positions.”

We would like to share some considerations:

- * Part time faculty are mostly excluded from the information flow of the department and/or the university.
- * Part time faculty have very often no working space or must share office space with as many as three other part-timers and thus have very little or no place to meet with students.
- * Part time faculty are not allowed in the decision making process, even though the decisions will ultimately affect them.
- * Part time faculty are denied financial support to travel to conferences and/or professional meetings, although quality of teaching and up-to-date professional knowledge is and should be expected. Consequently, part-time faculty need to dip into their own wallets for journal subscriptions and travel to conferences to stay current in their fields.
- * Demands of part-time faculty for necessary teaching material are often denied.
- * Employment of part-time faculty is on a contingent basis depending on class enrollment numbers, but the number basis is not the same as it is with full-time faculty.
- * In other words, in some departments part-time faculty teach classes with exceedingly high student numbers due to unlimited enrollment or a high enrollment cap without additional proportional compensation.
- * In addition, part-time faculty have to endure a pay cut, if they are willing to teach classes with low student enrollment.

- * If part-time faculty are asked to teach independent study classes, there is no payment for those classes, even though students have paid for the classes in order to receive credit. It is sometimes left to the moral consideration of a part-time faculty member to agree, uncompensated, to teach an independent study class, i.e. if class is needed for graduation.
- * Part-time faculty have to pay full tuition, if taking classes on campus.
- * After the semester has finished, part-time faculty are not allowed to lend books and/or other material from the library. If working on a certain research project or preparing a paper, it makes working difficult and is certainly aggravating.
- * The pay scale is grossly inadequate and does not reflect the workload that part-time faculty are asked to master. There has been no raise for several years. It qualifies for substandard living and ranks on the poverty scale.
- * Part-time faculty are not eligible to receive gratis AASU business cards.

In addition, part-time faculty are not eligible for benefits, i.e. health insurance and other benefits. **NO SOCIAL SECURITY** is deducted from their paychecks. For part-time faculty employed for a longer time, it can mean no social security benefits upon retirement age. Should it not be the right of every lawfully employed person with a sufficient work record to receive social security benefits? It is discriminating and humiliating.

According to the AASU Human Resource department, a deduction to the Georgia retirement system is taken out and therefore no social security is deducted. That is a slap in the face, because the retirement is so minimal that it can under no circumstances replace any social security benefits, nor can it even be considered a sufficient supplement. Additionally, if social security can be received under a spouse's benefits, the retirement payments can reduce those social security benefits.

For faculty with advanced degrees, teaching demands and the level of responsibilities, this treatment is insulting. It reduces part-time faculty to seasonal or piece workers. If part-time faculty are counted as valuable members of the faculty body, their concerns and employment conditions as well as their treatment need to be seriously considered.

Sincerely,

Margarete Froelicher-Grundmann
Franz Froelicher, PhD