

EOU Faculty Senate
Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2011

In attendance:

Doug Briney, Frank Bushakra, Jeff Dense, David Drexler, Darren Dutto, Leandro Espinosa, Mary Fields, Heidi Harris, Rebecca Hartman, Mike Heather, Colleen Johnson, John Knudson-Martin, Charles Lyons, Elwyn Martin, Donna Rainboth

Visitors:

Bob Davies, Steve Adkison, Jeff Johnson, Ken Watson, Allen Evans

Meeting was called to order at 3:02

Previous meeting minutes were not approved because they were not yet generated.

Introductions commenced. Officers were announced.

John Knudson-Marin—Vice-President
Heidi Harris--Secretary
Elwyn Martin--University Council Representative

President's Update:

President Davies gave the President's Update. Pres. Davies indicated that he and Jeff Dense had discussed shared governance. The President's Council will now meet the 3rd Friday, and the President of the University Council and Faculty Senate will meet on that council. Dense is now formally a part of the Dean's Council and Provosts Council chaired by Provost Adkison as well. The Shared Governance Coordinating Committee includes Faculty Senate President, University Council Chair, and ASEOU President. The President wants to evaluate this model of shared governance to see if it can be improved.

SEN 242 has passed and will be implemented. This bill removes the OUS system as a public agency and makes it a public entity. So we are no longer a state agency. With that comes autonomy and nuances for issues such as insurance, purchasing, and risk management. The heads of each university will go to Corvallis to participate in a workshop regarding the changes in the system. Institutional boards are being discussed, both for the system and for individual schools. President Davies will be presenting his ideas on boards on October 20. He does not necessarily believe an institutional board would assist in the efforts to increase enrollment and best serve students here at EOU.

President Davies then reported that enrollment totals are a little below where we projected. First time freshman number have dropped. Transfer student numbers have skyrocketed. These numbers are not unique to EOU...almost every university is seeing the same trend. Growth

percentages show us doing better than most schools. What it means this year is that we're ok. Of concern are long-term projections. The numbers show that first-year students are going to community colleges, to less expensive universities or not choosing to go at all. EOU is reaching out to those who did not select EOU to ask why and is going through the clearinghouse to see where students ended up if they went to another school. The key numbers are fourth week, when hopefully we will be a little better off than other institutions, relatively speaking.

We have been asked to handle 3.5%, 7%, and 10.5% budget cut projections.]This situation is not "do or die," but it is something that we need to go through for proper management. Budget and economic forecasts do not look good.

The EOU Foundation secured EOU's first endowed professorship (\$200,000 total) to augment teaching and research that develops agriculture and business opportunities. The Provost and committee will be making the ultimate decision as to the faculty who will receive the Glen and Jean McKenzie Professorship.

Provost's Update:

Provost Adkison reported that he intends to charge Senate to charge FPC to pick up the revision of the Tenure & Promotion handbook. They will not overhaul the criteria but rather revise the handbook itself to make it more clear, to address content that doesn't exist and to revise building off of previous FPC efforts under Jodi Varon. The revision would affect those going for tenure and promotion in 2012-2013. Emeritus faculty criteria and procedures need to be created and codified. Distinguished Teaching Faculty Award should move beyond a single generic award for teaching to make it three (Teaching, Service, Scholarship), and the process for those awards should be developed.

Provost Adkison has a set of concerns with the university grievance process in that the staff and student processes are mashed together, which he would like the Academic Standards Committee to address. The university-specific OARs need to be cleaned up, and the staff and student grievance process need to be separated and clarified.

Provost Adkison indicated that EPCC will continue to address issues with DPD and UWR, along with streamlining the process and functions of the group.

The Provost received a heads up from Chancellor regarding changes from International Baccalaureate in how they transfer and articulate. This information is an FYI for ASC. But also EPCC might need to come up with some kind of oversight to help guide the registrar to understand IBC credits.

Provost Adkison indicated that the online course evaluations had a miscue that resulted in students being able to submit them after grades were submitted. The problem has been fixed. Course evaluations will close on the last day of classes (before finals week). The issue of

whether or not to make evaluations mandatory should be addressed ASC, although the issue will face some legal issues regarding making evaluations mandatory.

An additional charge for Faculty Senate would be to look at the course evaluation tools that we use. What we have is a mash of learning evaluation and faculty evaluation. Some of the questions assess issues that students can't necessarily know. Also, the evaluations process could be turned around more quickly with the evaluations possibly being disseminated through Angie Adams and Beth Upshaw. The place of the student evaluation in faculty assessment is tenuous considering the unreliable nature of the student evaluation instruments.

Provost Adkison discussed Eastern Promise, which is a vision that has support from Board of Higher Education. It is a K-20 education project with K-12 and community colleges, starting with Blue Mountain Community College and Treasure Valley Community College. Eastern Promise looks at ways to leverage traditional dual credit and also college credits offered for high school credit. AP and credit by proficiency would be controlled by the faculty involved working in professional learning communities with community colleges and Educational Service District (ESD) to set standards area by area. Eastern Promise is consistent with the state's requirements for college completion following the 40/40/20 model. One advisor formerly focused on Native American advising, Jackie Grant, is now assigned to be the rural access coordinator in the advising office.

After the Provost talks to four more people, the College Task Force and be charged and announced. The task force recommendations cannot cut faculty FTE and any savings must come from administrative infrastructure. There are four boundary conditions: college administrative structures need to manage workload and faculty load issues effectively, distance education must be integrated with the larger academic enterprise, the advising continuum must be integrated and streamlined, and administrative resources, not faculty capacity, must be flattened. EOU will start a search in November, either a search for Dean of CAS, for two deans, or a single search for CAS and with the search for a Dean of Business and Education occurring next fall. The task force recommendations will be considered by the faculty at large.

Senate Committee Reports and/or Information Items

State of the Senate

Jeff Dense

Dense's theme for this year is "Effective and Efficient." Over the summer, he took a look at the bylaws, and found a need to address a few issues over the coming year:

- 1) Clarifying the role of the committees that report to the Senate. Faculty Senate spends roughly 40% of its time micro-managing EPCC. The Senate needs to work on the development of a consent agenda in terms of EPCC to lessen the incongruity of time we spend on other committees. Questions that need to be asked are: What should be on a

consent agenda? What should be discussion items (i.e., programs with fiscal implications)?

- 2) One mandate in the current bylaws is regular reporting by the University Council Representative. The Faculty Senate can reconsider a University Council element if we know what is going on, so Elwyn Martin, our current representative to University Council, has an important role in reporting from University Council.
- 3) We don't legally need to provide a public access period, although the Senate Bylaws stipulate this. However, there is no stipulation for the five-minute access that has been part of Faculty Senate practice in the past. So the language needs to be clarified
- 4) Faculty Senate needs to do a general review of the governance structure, including the roles of the Faculty Senate and the University Council. There is currently a lack of alignment with Faculty Senate and CAS bylaws, including a mandated college council that consists of the division chairs and discipline reps to be shared governance link.
- 5) Terms of office for the officers need to be revisited. Most officers in similar faculty senates serve multiple terms with a vice-president-elect rotation into the presidency. President Dense's goal is to have the Faculty Senate President serve an important role in shared governance and university decisions, giving faculty a seat at the table, as well as having an open, transparent, and regular communication stream essential in the shared governance structure to make it effective.

The issue was raised about term length of the President and about senators in general, which would be part of a review of the bylaws and structure.

Academic Standards Committee

Chip Ettinger—absent

No report.

Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee

Sally Mielke--absent

No report.

Faculty Personal Committee

Allen Evans

Dr. Evans restated the tasks before FPC outlined by Provost Adkison (see **Provost's Update** above).

- 1) Policy on Emertius Faculty needs to be clarified.
- 2) Distinguished Teaching Faculty modification will be next.
- 3) Revision of promotion and tenure handbook, which will be mostly procedural.

Concerns were raised about issues regarding language in the handbook that pertains to faculty whose primary teaching assignment is online, particularly to a lack of clarity in the language and guidelines for what constitutes an online course review.

University Council

Elwyn Martin

Senator Martin reported that the first University Council meeting is Oct. 11.

Inter-institutional Faculty Senate

Jeff Johnson

Dr. Johnson clarified that the IFS is composed of faculty representatives from all seven OUS institutions and a legacy seat for OHSU. Four regional institutions have two senators. Research institutions have three senators. The IFS meets five times during the academic year. Those meetings coincide with meetings of the state board, and the Chancellor and Vice-chancellor have been regular attendees at the meetings.

Current EOU representation on IFS includes two regularly elected members of IFS: April Curtis (who was either elected to 3-yr-term or replaced an existing term member) and Shari Carpenter, who is serving her last year on IFS. In the IFS constitution/bylaws, if someone is President-Elect, they can be a full member of IFS even if their term has expired. So currently, EOU has three voting members of IFS for two years because the immediate past president, Jeff Johnson, is also on the board.

EOU elects an official alternate to the IFS with no requirement that the person moves into a seat. Dr. Johnson hopes a formal alternate would be elected from EOU soon.

Faculty Senate will need to put on the agenda the election for IFS by December 1 to address both April's seat and the alternate. Any member of the teaching faculty can be elected. We might want to discuss mandating the Faculty Senate President as one of the members of the IFS.

Discussion Items:

Student Evaluations of Faculty Teaching

Charles Lyons

Dr. Lyons would like the online student evaluations to be addressed at some point. The issue will be placed on the Faculty Senate agenda so we can proceed with the issues raised by the Provost regarding the evaluation, in particular the online evaluations.

Another issue raised by Senator Dutto is adjunct faculty evaluations, particularly online adjunct faculty. President Dense asked that Jodi Varon present the evaluation criteria previously

pitched. Dense will inquire regarding the status and nature of the evaluations in regards to the Provost's vision.

Faculty Release Time

Colleen Johnson

Dr. Johnson and other faculty received an email from the dean asking for faculty release agreements. She believes that there is an equity issue involved; does everyone get similar release time for similar duties? When release time is granted, money is not necessarily put into the program to hire a replacement for the release time. Longer-term implication is that the loss of Student Credit Hours affects a department's argument for a new position, should that take place. Dr. Johnson would like to see Faculty Senate talk about making release time transparent, setting criteria for release time, and ultimately having programs reimbursed for the release time. President Dense indicated that this should be on the agenda at the next meeting.

Good of the Order:

- President Dense will get an update on the student evaluations issue from the Provost.
- If anyone has an item of concern that should be raised at Dean's Council, send them to President Dense before Nov. 8 tentatively.
- Faculty Senate will meet in the Dixie Lund Board Room whenever possible.
- Webcasting is on hold because of Elluminate Issues. President Dense is talking to the radio station about possibly broadcasting Faculty Senate meetings over the radio.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.