

Eastern Oregon University – Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2009 3:00 p.m., Huber Auditorium

Presenter and/or Time	Agenda Item	Discussion	Action and Outcome
President DeAnna Timmermann, 3:03 pm	Call to Order and Welcome		None.
	In Attendance	DeAnna Timmerman, Ruth Davenport, Kathleen Dahl, Jeff Johnson, Leandro Espinosa, Allen Evans, Richard Croft, Frederick Pratter, Jodi Varon, David Drexler, Rosemary Powers, Ted Atkinson, Beth Upshaw, Michael Jaeger, Rebecca Hartman, Chrystine Brown, Karyn Gomez, Kerri Wenger	
D. Timmermann	Minutes Approval	Minutes approved for June 2, 2009, and October 24, 2009, the latter amended to correct the spelling of Leandro's last name.	
D. Timmermann	Officer Elections	Kathleen Dahl approved by acclamation for Senate Secretary. Jeff Johnson approved by acclamation for Senate Representative to the University Council. (There were no additional nominations for secretary, and two people withdrew from consideration for council rep.)	Dahl and Johnson approved for Senate vacancies.
D. Timmermann	Ad hoc Committee: Improving recommendation/resolution process	Discussion of Senate Routing Form developed by ad hoc committee. Senate decided that it needs a title of project line and check boxes instead of short lines. Form will be presented for approval next time, with changes.	Kathleen will make changes to form.
Irene Jerome (for herself and Stephen Jenkins)	Action Items—New Business	<p>Discussion of and invitation for input to upcoming changes/revisions in EOU's sexual harassment policy. Irene and Stephen both field complaints. For formal proceedings, Irene steps back to avoid conflict of interest. Background: Irene, Stephen, and Camille Consolvo drafted new policy, will soon be soliciting comments. For now, will answer general questions. Senate will ask constituents for specific questions/comments, and DeAnna will collect comments for President Davies.</p> <p>Irene: biggest revisions in complaint procedures. Informal complaints would be handled same way, but formal complaint process will change to not "scare off" plaintiffs. Currently, the process seems too onerous for students, especially prospect of a "faculty review panel," and all potential plaintiffs have ended discouraged and refused to proceed.</p>	DeAnna will collect comments from Senators and/or faculty to forward to President Davies. No other action at this time.

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		<p>Rebecca Hartman: Suggested revisions a “vast improvement,” but need other changes. Should have more of a “paper trail,” even for informal complaints, should be written into policy itself. Rebecca will submit additional comments to DeAnna.</p> <p>DeAnna: policy needs to deal with academic freedom issues. Even material in the classroom has been/could be misinterpreted as “sexual harassment,” policy should be clear.</p> <p>Rosemary: there should perhaps be a conduct hearing body beyond individual institutions for some cases, especially for appeals, etc. Maybe some sort of Board-level committee.</p> <p>DeAnna thanked Irene for presentation.</p> <p>Senators will collect input from constituents and send to DeAnna.</p>	
<p>D. Timmermann, et al</p>	<p>Information Items</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Clements will serve as Business Faculty member on Research and Development Fund Committee (formerly RAG) • Rosemary—Senate Bylaws (handout): Possible changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Senate Membership. Do we want to keep representative membership, expand it, go to membership of the whole? Ruthi: Representative system has worked well, Allen Evans has been good Senator for his unit. Frederick: Senate of the whole would be “unworkable,” like Assembly often was. Leandro: would help Senators to have information posted at least 24 hours before meetings to allow for better input from constituents—not sure we truly represent them very well. Rebecca: Senators need to be more diligent about issues, more pro-active. Allen: do we represent only our constituents or also the university as a whole? Rosemary: sometimes you need to “vote your conscience,” especially if we receive new information during Senate meetings. Jodi: division’s meetings don’t always synchronize well with Senate schedule—hard to get timely input. Rosemary: we should broadcast the “to do list” and other issues earlier so people can have time to think about/discuss them. b) Relationship with University Council. Chrystine: UC has instituted a rotation of 	

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		<p>Council people to attend Senate meetings to improve flow of information. Beth: there have been issues where bodies tried to work together but proposals got stuck or lost in the process, especially over the summer. Leandro: good to have better flow of information, but the two bodies need to preserve their independence as well.</p> <p>c) Committee reports: should we incorporate these into agenda? General agreement it would be good. Rosemary: Need to revise by-laws to include RAG committee and human subjects committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Ethics. Rosemary will bring this back later. • Liberal Studies degree: Dr. Jaeger has created task force. He agrees Senate should have more input/oversight, etc. • Change in Senate meeting location (DeAnna): we will be meeting in another room next time (tba) and will use Elluminate to broadcast audio of meeting. People will be able to send in questions/comments during meeting. Several people had responded to query, saying they do listen to webcast. 	
D. Timmermann	Five Minute Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of new FAR (faculty athletics representative): Peter Diffenderfer. Athletics program part of EOU's mission and quest for excellence. • Michael Jaeger: at IFS, students expressed desire for class time to promote voter registration (okay) and discuss issues (problematic). DeAnna: suggested Senate reaffirm earlier resolution to encourage (but not mandate) faculty to allow students to visit class rooms to register students to vote. Passes by voice vote. 	Voter registration resolution reaffirmed by voice vote.
Michael Jaeger	Discussion Items	<p>Enrollment Issues (graph handouts—see agenda): increasing percentage of on-campus students taking online courses. Explanation/discussion of graphs.</p> <p>Students taking online courses across the board—not limited to just handful of classes.</p> <p>Problems: 1) On campus courses are being cut, consolidated, etc, and are losing students. 2) Faculty are “paid twice” for some students if online courses are</p>	None at this time.

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		<p>overload and paid in addition to faculty salary. Becoming more expensive for EOU.</p> <p>Need different advising processes, collecting data through student survey, see who's doing what with their classes.</p> <p>Possible measures? a) Forbid first year students from taking online courses or allow it only for good GPA. b) Develop cohort model where they have to take certain courses, cannot substitute online courses.</p> <p>Kerri: are onsite courses counted as face-to-face or online? If counted as online, this may be distorting the problem. Michael: No, different budget for onsite/weekend courses, not counted in same category as online, not counted in data here.</p> <p>Question about how hybrid courses figure in. Unclear (or no) response...?</p> <p>Discussion of "swirling" where students take online courses from several schools, transfer credits to EOU.</p> <p>Other comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should EOU offer more evening classes to tap into new audiences (community people, etc)? • Students seek courses anywhere nowadays, not as loyal to one institution. • Cohort model not good for transfer students or even young students who already have college credit through AP, etc. • Michael: EOU spending more for teaching overall, but with declining number of on-campus students. Long discussion ensues of the usual on-campus/online issues. • Jeff: Some funding problems could be eliminated if more online courses taught in-load. However we address these issues, we should take "baby steps," not just jump in with draconian measures. 	

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	Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosemary: Alliance for Social Change presenting speaker from Colombia on campus to discuss impacts of free trade agreements on local/indigenous populations. • DeAnna: no overload business, so will not need second October meeting. 	
	Good of the Order	None	
	Next Meeting	Next Meeting is November 3, 2009, at 3:00 p.m. Location TBA.	

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Dahl