

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
November 28, 2016

The Pittsburg State University Faculty Senate met at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, November 28, 2016 in the Sunflower Room of the Overman Student Center with Janice Jewett, President, presiding.

Past Minutes

Minutes approved.

Announcements

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs – Dr. Lynette Olson

Dr. Olson advised she had nothing to share.

General Education Review Committee – Phil McNew, Mike Carper, Steve Horner and Katherine Hooey

Mr. McNew advised that focus groups had begun and a session with Kelce College of Business faculty was scheduled for Wednesday. He described these sessions as brainstorming and laying the foundation of General Education perceived needs. Participation is needed and there are plans to make two visits to each college. The committee has also started a CANVAS group for input and review of materials collected on the subject.

PSU/KNEA – Dr. Khamis Siam, President

Dr. Siam indicated the latest was an offer had been submitted and no counter had been received, which was disappointing. Dr. Siam believed that the governor was not going to do anything pertaining to the budget until January, but had hoped that campus administration would have something to say before then. He announced plans for a Happy Hour at 5:00 on Thursday, December 1st at 5th Street.

Student Senate Remarks – Nathan Diddle, Senator

Mr. Diddle spoke of a recent meeting with Drs. Scott and Olson and Chris Kelly wherein they discussed parking, future courses, general education, and the gun policy. He believed the meeting to be very insightful. SGA is preparing for higher education meeting next semester and is asking that the gun policy be left to each college and thus allowing PSU to adhere to a policy most appropriate for our campus.

He thanked those who submitted recommendations for his proposed grant from SGA. He is to submit the concept of the grant in a meeting on Wednesday. The proposal allows for \$1500 to be allocated for several \$200 to \$500 grants from the SGA account. If the resolution is passed, proposals would be submitted at the beginning of next semester to be awarded next year. The objective of the resolution is to encourage university professors to take their curriculum beyond the classroom.

University Support Staff – Michael Woodrum, President

Mr. Woodrum shared on the work by he and his counterparts from other Kansas colleges on no or low-cost incentives for University Support Staff as perks for continued employment satisfaction. It is very exploratory at this point, but a lot of good ideas being suggested, but too early to discuss further at this time. He also reminded the group of the Voya Employee Recognition Award and the deadline for nominations is Monday, December 5th.

Faculty Senate President – Dr. Janice Jewett, President

Dr. Jewett advised that she was unable to attend the November BOR meeting due to illness, but has received an update from the chair of Council of Faculty Senate presidents and read the minutes. The meeting mainly consisted to discussion on the AP/CLEP standardized minimum score of 3, which PSU has accepted, but other Kansas universities are looking at raising the score to a 4 in some areas (Art History, Physical Science, Biology and Psychology). In order for the minimum score to be raised to a 4 all universities must agree. Dr. Jewett promised to provide updates as the discussion continues. Dr. Jewett reminded the group that the Faculty Senate executive committee meets monthly and is presently looking at the constitution and by-laws. She asked that each committee continue to review their constitution and by-laws and bring any changes through the senate and constitution committee.

Committee Reports

Undergraduate Curriculum – James McBain, Chair

Curricular items, as found in the agenda, included three new courses in HPASS (Political Science) and a new teaching emphasis in Mathematics. All items were approved by committee and submitted as a package for senate vote. Passed unanimously with no discussion pertaining to proposed items.

Student Faculty, Barbara McClaskey, Chair

Dr. McClaskey reminded faculty of use of Maxient to report academic dishonesty concerns. There had been some questions raised if an incident should be reported even if the instructor and student were able to work out the concern without taking it to committee. She noted there are advantages in doing so, partly in order to have a complete record of incidences. For sake of transparency, Jason Kegler will notify the student of a report being submitted.

Faculty Affairs – Susan Schreiner, Chair

Dr. McBain stated that approximately \$23,000 of the original \$90,000 budget remains. For those with Spring expenses who have not submitted a request, be aware of the depleting budget and file your request quickly.

Constitution Committee – Mark Johnson, Chair

Dr. Johnson asked that each committee look over the makeup of the committee and make sure it matches with current practice. If not, send it through for corrections.

Budget Committee, Kristen Maceli, Chair

The committee has met with John Patterson and learned that not only declining enrollment but reduction of revenue from the state is impacting operating funds. Minutes of the meeting were submitted to Dr. Jewett (see attached).

Unfinished Business None

New Business None

Open Forum

Dr. Myriam Krepps raised her concern on the planned personnel changes within the International Program and Services Office not being made public. Dr. Olson provided a very thorough explanation on the reality of decreased IEP enrollment which lowered IEP revenue that supported many operations within this office including multiple staff positions. She assured Dr. Krepps and others that she is very committed to study abroad; wishing that there were even more experiences for our students and views our international students, programs, and services as vital to this campus.

She advised that last year she created a work group directed by Dr. Pawan Kahol that included two members of the International Office as well as faculty representation. These changes were developed from that work group. Dr. Howard Smith is now acting director for International Programs and Services. The plan is to not renew two IEP instructor positions beyond this academic year, combine two administrative positions into one and one University Support Staff employee has been reassigned. Dr. Olson clarified that these employees were notified in November, just prior to Thanksgiving and the importance of relaying this to impacted employees first.

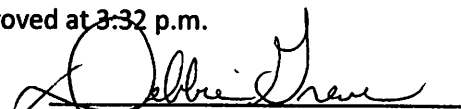
Mr. Diddle of SGA reminded the group of the finals overload policy and appreciated faculty cooperation where possible when a student has 3 or more finals in the same day. He also offered to share the drafted grant policy.

Dr. Li-Lin Tseng raised a question about submission of final grades by Monday afternoon with two finals on Friday. Faculty present were able to offer suggestions and there was discussion both within the meeting and after to provide options.

Dr. Jewett reminded those present that the next meeting will be December 12th.

Meeting Adjourned

Motion to adjourn was approved at 3:32 p.m.


Debbie Greve, Recording Secretary

**FACULTY SENATE MEMBERSHIP
(2016-2017)**

	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May
Book, (Women's Studies)	X	X	X						
Bowman, (Art)	X	X	X*						
Butler, (Physics)	X	X	X						
Clanton, (Music)	X	X	X						
Cooper, (At-Large)	X	X							
Cox, (At-Large)	X	X	X						
Daley, (At-Large)	X	X	X						
Elliott, (Technology & Workforce Learning)	X								
Fincher, (Teaching and Leadership)	X	X	X						
Franklin, (English and Modern Languages)		X	X						
Gupta, (Chemistry)	X	X	X						
Hendershot, (Family & Consumer Sciences)		X	X						
Herring, (At-Large)	X	X	X						
Hite, (Nursing)	X	X	X						
Hudiburg, (At-Large)	X		X						
Huffman, (Graphics and Imaging Tech)	X								
Jewett, (President)	X	X	X						
Johnson, Mark, (At-Large)	X	X	X						
Kehle, (At-Large)		X	X						
Krepps, (English and Modern Languages)	X	X*	X						
Lawson, (History, Philosophy & Social Sci)	X	X	X						
Leon, (Library Services)	X	X	X						
Livingston, (Communication)		X	X						
Maceli, (Management and Marketing)	X	X	X						
McBain, (History, Philosophy & Social Sci)	X	X	X						
McClaskey, (At-Large)	X	X	X						
McKinnis, (Economics, Finance, & Banking)		X	X						
McNew, (Engineering Technology)	X	X	X						
Morris, (School of Construction)	X	X	X						
Norman, (Automotive Technology)	X	X	X						
Peterson, Mark, (At-Large)	X	X	X						
Runyan, (At-Large)	X	X	X						
Samuels, (Past President)	X								
Schiefelbein, (At-Large)	X	X							
Shay, (Military Science)									
Shewmake, (Health, Human Perform & Rec)	X	X	X						
Siam, (At-Large)	X	X	X						
Snow, (Biology)	X		X						
Spera, (Psychology and Counseling)	X	X	X						
Thuong, (Mathematics)	X	X	X						
Yarick, (Accounting & Computer Inf Systems)	X	X	X						
Univ Support Staff Senate Representative	X	X	X						
Unclassified Senate Representative									
Student Government Representative	X	X	X						

*Brian Moots substituted for Myriam Krepps at the October meeting. Li-Lin Tseng substituted for Portico Bowman at the November meeting.

Lindsey Taggart and Susan Schreiner attended the October meeting.

Faculty Senate Budget Committee Meeting

November 11, 2016

Members present: James Patterson, James Green, Keith Runyan, Kristen Maceli

Dr. Patterson updated the committee on the current State General Fund. While there are no major changes since last year, the decreasing budget, coupled with increasing expenses, will be a problem.

State tax revenues have been down since the change of state tax laws. Mainly, LLCs no longer have to pay income tax and individuals' income taxes were decreased. If individual state income tax returns to previous rates, tax revenue could increase by \$500-600 million.

Part of the funding problem Pittsburg State University will face is due to decreased enrollment. In the past, about 70% of funding came from the state and 30% from student fees. PSU is currently on track for about 70% of its budget to come from student fees. (It is currently receiving less than 50% from state funding.) Enrollment has been down 200-300 students per semester and high school graduation rates have been flat. So, as the state budget has tightened, so has funding provided by student enrollment. Increasing and maintaining student enrollment is necessary. About 70—80% of the budget is spent on salaries and wages. Because of this, many positions may not be filled as they are vacated.

FY2017 will have an extra pay period, which comes to about \$900,000. The following is taken from a memo to Governor Sam Brownback and the Legislative Coordinating Council from the Kansas Division of the Budget and the Kansas Legislative Research Department:

“For FY 2017, the budget estimate was decreased by \$345.9 million, or 5.5%, less than the previous estimate (made in April and subsequently adjusted for legislation enacted during the veto session and special session). The revised estimate of \$5.980 billion represents 1.5% below final FY 2016 receipts.

“A more detailed memo will be available soon which contains the economic forecast for Kansas upon which the estimates are based, as well as a discussion of other factors influencing the individual source estimates,” stated the Kansas Division of the Budget and the Kansas Legislative Research Department.

Even though a more detailed memo will be available in February 2017, the budget recommendations will be somewhat behind, as the year will already be underway. The Governor is going to be presenting a rescission bill to allow institutions to plan earlier.

As stated above, revenues are decreasing for PSU. Some increased expenses and areas of concern for PSU are:

- Health insurance rates keep increasing
- Cost of utilities keep increasing
- KPERS rate is going up because retirement wasn't funded the way it should have been previously
- PSU has more competition
- International enrollment was down by about 90 students (each student pays about \$15,000 a year in tuition)