

University Undergraduate Council
December 11, 2015
Minutes

PRESENT (voting): Deborah Tollefsen (A&S), Judy Brown (MIS), Lloyd Brooks (FCBE), Stan Walls (SHS), Joanne Gikas (UNIV), Jennifer Nelson (EDUC), Russ Deaton (ENGR), Jeff Marchetta (ENGR), Shirleatha Lee (NURS), Radesh Palakurthi (HPRM), Peggy Quinn (UNIV) Barbara Taller, (BIOL), Firouzeh Sabri (PHYS), Mate Wierdl (Faculty Senate), Laurie Snyder (CFA), Helen Sable (PSYC), Sandy Utt (JOUR),

PRESENT (ex officio): Dick Irwin (Academic Aff), Carl Chando (ACC), Bess Robinson (Libraries), Karen Thurmond (Acad Advising), Melinda Jones (Honors), Barbara Kyker (Recorder)

ABSENT: Steve McKellips (Registrar), Raven Douglas (SGA)

GUESTS: Dr. Karen Weddle-West, Dr. Andrew Olney, Dr. Michael Hutchinson

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Irwin at 1:00 pm when a quorum was achieved.

Provost Karen Weddle-West reported on a recent meeting with several members of the Faculty Senate – Jeff Burman, Wade Jackson, Michael Gkolias, and Thomas Banning – who are requesting 4 additional members from the Faculty Senate for the Undergraduate and Graduate curriculum councils. Their concerns were:

1. Belief that the University Undergraduate Council is not governed by faculty members.

The Senate's Constitution defines its purpose as follows: approve graduation and general education curriculum requirements; (2016 Faculty Handbook, p. 45.)

2. That they do not have adequate representation.
3. Lack of shared governance.
4. The process for selecting council members.

Dr. Weddle-West is recommending that each college's policy for selecting UUC members be shared and published on the college's website (copies to Dr. Weddle-West and Dr. Irwin.) She wants to ensure that these policies are always "transparent and available."

She then asked for questions and comments–

Stan Walls (SHS) – Why 4?

KWW - No answer to that question has been given.

Russ Deaton (ENGR) – Could proposals be sent to the Faculty Senate following approval by the UUC?

KWW - Our procedure here is to have the representative from the Faculty Senate review proposals in advance, as do all the council members, so that questions may be addressed in advance.

Lloyd Brooks (FCBE) – It was our understanding that everyone, including the Faculty Senate representative, would report to the Senate any issues that may come up. If this is not happening with the one representative, why would 4 be any better?

Mate Wierdl (Faculty Senate UUC Representative) said that he was not familiar with the Faculty Senate's request for additional seats. He wondered whether the issue is a matter of information not trickling down to faculty, or does the Senate want more authority.

Radesh Palakurthi (KWS) – This is counter to us trying to expedite this process.

Karen Thurmond (Advising) – The new software, Curriculog, will help speed up the process.

Deb Tollefsen (A&S) pointed out that according to the Faculty Handbook, faculty may not serve on more than one committee. (Handbook language has been inserted below.)

Recognition of Service

- *The President and the Secretary of the Senate shall receive from the University, not their departments, at least one three hour course equivalent release time each semester in order to perform Senate duties.*
- *Senators shall be recognized for their participation in the Senate by being relieved of all departmental committee duties unless they voluntarily decide otherwise. Service in the Faculty Senate shall be acknowledged as University service.*

Sandy Utt (JOUR) said that all departments have faculty senate members and information “trickles up.” She said that everyone, including senators, need to be involved in the process. If they were more involved, they would be more aware of issues and changes.

Mate Wierdl noted that issues might be brought up in another department, so information may not be shared, but several pointed out that curriculum is handled at the college level.

At that point, Stan suggested that each department’s senator be also appointed to the curriculum committee. The Provost agreed that this might be a good solution so she proposed the following:

- (1) Departments be required to appoint their senator to the curriculum committee OR
- (2) Sub-committee will be formed to make a recommendation.

Dr. Weddle-West said that she would present these two proposals to the Faculty Senate when she meets again with them. She then expressed her appreciation to the UUC members for their work.

Submission of Proposals by College:

Fogelman College of Business & Economics – Lloyd Brooks pointed out that Item 47 (MIS 3845, Mobil Application Development), should have been a course number change rather than a course termination. The college would like to make this a 4000/6000 level course in the future. All proposals passed.

School of Health Studies - All proposals passed.

College of Communication and Fine Arts – Michael Hutchinson expressed concerns about JOUR 4703, Issues in Sport and Media. Sandy Utt said that Tim Ryan had reviewed the course, but KWS requested that this request for the new course be tabled until a new syllabus is made available. All other proposals passed.

KWS – All proposals passed.

Arts and Sciences – Andrew Olney presented a proposal for a new interdisciplinary minor in Cognitive Science which will be administered by the Institute for Intelligent Systems. Proposal passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Kyker, Recorder