

Faculty Senate Minutes
Minutes of January 18, 2008

FACULTY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

PROXY

Louella Moore—Chair		P
Shivan Haran- Vice-chair of the Senate		P
Bill Humphrey—Past President		P
Lillie Fears —Secretary Faculty Association		P
Judith Pfriemer—Secretary of the Senate		P

AGRICULTURE (1)

Bert Greenwalt	Spring 08	A
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BUSINESS (3)

Mark Foster	Spring 09	A
Richard Segall	Spring 08	P
Ahmad Syamil	Spring 08	A

COMMUNICATIONS (2)

Pradeep Mishra	Spring 08	P
Mary J. Pitts	Spring 09	P

EDUCATION (5)

Andy Mooneyham	Spring 09	P
Daniel Cline	Spring 09	P
Tom Fiala	Spring 09	P
Stephanie Davidson	Spring 09	A
Amy Claxton	Spring 09	P

ENGINEERING (1)

Shivan Haran	Spring 09	P
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FINE ARTS (3)

Stacy Alley	Spring 08	A
Ron Horton	Spring 09	P
Bill Rowe	Spring 09	P

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (6)

Robert Baum	Spring 08	A
Win Bridges	Spring 08	P
Richard Burns	Spring 09	P
Peggy Robinson-Wright	Spring 09	P
Alex Sydorenko	Spring 09	P
Richard Wang	Spring 09	P

LIBRARY (1)

Myron Flugstad	Spring 09	P
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MILITARY SCIENCE (1)

Jeffrey Helms	Spring 09	P
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NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS (4)

Donna Caldwell	Spring 09	P	
Richard Freer	Spring 08	A	Proxy Loretta Brewer
Mike McDaniel	Spring 09	a	
Judith Pfriemer	Spring 08	P	

SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS (4)

Richard Grippo	Spring 09	P
Jeff Jenness	Spring 08	P

Jie Miao	Spring 08	P
Open	Spring 08	P

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE (1)

Gloria Bridges	Spring 08	P
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Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

I. MINUTES:

Minutes from November 30, 2007 presented for approval. Approved

II. OLD BUSINESS

None

Announcement

Safety Seminar 1/23/08 or 1/24/08. This will be a 90 minute presentation that was started at the Fall Faculty meeting and has been brought about by a number of items such as the Virginia Tech shooting. Faculty is encouraged to attend.

The accreditation and focus revisit by HLC will be March 3 and 4, 2008. They will not really be reviewing the assessment issues as they have found difficulties across most campuses and as satisfied with ASU assessment plan.

ASU official calendar lists the Faculty Association spring meeting for April 8th. We will need to elect a new president elect this spring. The past few years this meeting has been tied to the retirement reception and the presentation of awards for faculty. There has been some discussion about moving the association meeting to increase attendance, possibly even having it off campus. But no matter when the meeting is any by law changes will be needed to be submitted and voted upon prior to the meeting.

III. NEW BUSINESS

No Shared Governance items had been submitted to the Senate

Senate task force on Faculty Association Bylaws presented their report with recommendations and a motion to eliminate committees that are no longer in existence or are under AGOC or shared governance. These committees are Calendar (under AGOC/SG), Fringe Benefits (IGOC), Financial Aide and Scholarship (IGOC), Library (AGOC). Vote will be completed at next meeting

Louella turned the meeting over to Shivan Haran- Vice-chair of the Senate for the remainder so she could present information on the content and rationales from the Background Task Force committee report. Louella distributed a 10 page synopsis of the report.

Richard Wang, while stating he had not yet read the report, did express his concerns about ASU even having a policy to complete background checks and stated he felt that the administration has a reason that they are putting forth background checks and including so many items that may but not necessarily be checks. He expressed doubt that the department chair really will have the last say as to what checks if any are performed.

Louella explained that the language from the taskforce that was only making recommendations was left broad so the policy could be developed through the shared governance process.

Alex Sydorenko questioned the inclusion of financial records for faculty

Louella reported that only individuals who have fiscal duties will need financial background checks.

Bill Rowe stated that the report estimates the cost at \$20,000 and if we include GA \$40,000. A large expense when we cannot give insurance to our GAs and many of our students do not have health insurance.

Louella reported that the committee did look at the cost and did include it in the report. The checks will be done by a software package and only those needed will be billed.

John Pratt (visitor) stated faculty does not trust administration so you cannot leave this document this open.

Louella again explained this is the report and Shared Governance will set the policy. Examples of when checks occur may be new hires, promotions with sensitive duties; there is a provision for last minute hires. Checks will only be completed on individuals who have been offered a job not on the entire applicant pool and there are check and balances in the report.

Alex: What would be checked for an individual in my department? Are faculty expected to inform the individuals that they will be subject to a background check? Are you concerned about Virginia Tech then you need to include the mental institutions?

Louella: The campus will need to work on this issue and set the policy

Win Bridges stated we cannot expect all departments to do the same thing.

John Pratt stated I'm confused, does each department decide or will there be the same rules for each department or will it be up to the chair?

Louella: The campus will need to work on this issue and set the policy

Richard Wang expressed concerns about the storing of the documents and the freedom of information act. Federal government is requiring us to maintain these records so if we do a search we have to maintain the results but if we do not search there is nothing to retain.

Lori Roach (visitor from Human Resources) stated the all hires information is maintained in a folder that is separate from the employees' personal folder. This is done to complete mandated reports etc.

Mary J. Pitts stated if you separate the items then they are subject to FOI because they are not in the employees personal folder.

V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:53 pm.