

Faculty Senate Minutes November 1, 2007

Call to Order:

Call to order: 4:15 pm; Riggle Room; ADUC.

Senators Absent: Marcia Cooper, Layne Neeper, David Smith, John Warber

Minutes: Senator Chatham moved to delete the sentence "The meeting will end at 6:00 p.m." from the ninth paragraph on Page 4 of the minutes. Motion passed. Senator Breschel moved to approve the minutes of October 18, 2007, as amended. Motion passed.

Committee Review:

Academic Policies: The committee has been divided into two subcommittees. One subcommittee is reviewing the Academic Advising Policy and will report at the next meeting. The second subcommittee is reviewing the Laptop Initiative and will work with the CTL to conduct training workshops for faculty. Beth Patrick would like to work with any departments and/or programs interested in being part of the Laptop Initiative.

Communications: No Report

Evaluation: No Report

Fiscal Affairs: Reviewing faculty salaries

Governance: Ballots have been sent out for the revised Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee elections; Discussing with the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee changes to their committee description; Will be conducting a replacement election for the Graduate Committee from the College of Business; One appointment to be presented during Committee Reports.

Professional Policies: Continue discussion on PG-61 today; The committee has begun review of PAc 27.

Reports:

Chairs Report:

- Chair Jerde stated that the fourteen members have been elected to the General Education Faculty Council. At the conclusion of the elections, the list of members will be posted on the General Education Web page.

A Senator stated that there were rumors of interference by Department Chairs in the elections to the General Education Faculty Council. The Senator's understanding from the Executive Council was that the election would be conducted strictly by faculty. The Senator asked the members to inform the Executive Council if they felt the election in their departments should be reviewed. A Senator stated that the relationship between the General Education Faculty Council, the Provost and the Task Force needs to be clarified, in that this is a Senate committee. A Senator stated that the intent of the Executive Council to have tenured faculty on the General Education Faculty Council was to insure that the Council would consist of experienced faculty members and that having non-tenured faculty on the Council is a concern. A Senator stated that they had heard that the Provost said that fixed term instructors could serve on the Council. The Provost stated that since the faculty asked for an open and inclusive process from the Provost's office that the faculty should also be open to an inclusive and transparent process. The Provost stated that there were some instances where only tenured and tenure track faculty should have a voice, but that if there was experience in a department, especially

in General Education, and those faculty were not tenured or tenure track that there was nothing that precluded them from being considered. The Provost stated that General Education at this Institution is an inclusive process and that when you send the message to people who have been here a number of years and have responsibility in General Education that they are not of the correct stature to be involved in the discussion, you are sending the wrong message. The Provost stated that tenured faculty with experience should be used, but stated that in an open process; going into a meeting excluding people did not serve the purpose of the Institution. A Senator asked if the Provost was rejecting the resolution passed by the Senate. The Provost stated that she did not reject the resolution and asked if it said should or must. The resolution passed by the Senate said "should consist of tenured faculty." The Provost stated that the Department can debate and decide who the best faculty member is to represent them and that if that is not a tenured faculty, then that is acceptable. The Provost stated that she was hearing that the vote would not be inclusive, that only tenured and tenure track faculty would be allowed to vote on the representative. The Provost asked if the resolution stated that. A Senator stated that the resolution did not say that only tenured and tenure track faculty could vote. The Provost stated that part of an open process is not making up the rules as you go and only allowing tenured and tenure track faculty to vote, which was the message she was getting. The Provost stated that since she has been asked for an open and inclusive process, that an open and inclusive process from the faculty and the Faculty Senate is appropriate. A Senator stated that the Executive Council never said that instructors should not be allowed to vote, but the intent of the Executive Council was that, if there were experienced tenured faculty available and willing to serve, that they would be a better choice than instructors, and for Department Chairs to add names goes beyond the intention of the Executive Council. The Senator stated that when the process is tainted by a Department Chair, then the faculty feels that they are being excluded. A Senator stated that they were concerned that they heard that, in at least one department, possibly two, a tenured faculty ran and was willing to serve but was beaten by someone who was not tenure track and at least one of those was a name that was added by a department chair. The Provost asked if this was a nomination process. The Senator stated that they did not know the process—they were just hearing rumors, but the intention of the Executive Council was for this election to be a faculty process. The Senator stated that the idea that a tenured faculty member couldn't represent an instructor is very concerning, but that an instructor could represent a tenured faculty, when they have never gone through the tenure process, is very difficult. The Senator stated that it was never the intention to exclude anyone, but that the members of the Council should be tenured faculty who understand the process and have been here for a long time. The Provost stated that she did not know anything about the rumor of the department where the Chair may have added a name to the list. The Provost stated that the Chair and the Executive Council may want to look at the final list of members to determine if there were instances of coercion in any department. The Provost stated that open and inclusive is not coercion and that she never told anyone that they could add names to the nominations. A Senator asked the Provost if there were tenured faculty who were willing to serve if she would support having an instructor serve instead. The Provost stated that if a department had a process where names were nominated by the faculty that represented all groups regardless of rank, and the faculty voted then that was not tainted. If the faculty nominated a slate of faculty and then there were names added by the Chair, then that is a different situation. The Provost asked if the faculty had a copy of the resolution when they conducted the election. The Senators stated that some departments did and some did not. The Provost asked the Senators what the role of a Faculty Senator is in the departments. A Senator stated that the intention was not to exclude people but to protect them. A Senator stated that the reason the resolution said "should" was in case there were not any tenured faculty in the department willing to serve, but the intention was for tenured faculty to be on the committee if they were available and willing to serve. A Senator

stated that it is not the job of the members of the General Education Faculty Council to make all the decisions for that department but to make sure that as many people as possible have input into General Education Reform.

Provosts Report:

- The Provost talked to the Senators about the need for faculty and administrators to work together in the discussion of how to develop Morehead State University into the best University it can be.

Regents Report:

- The Board of Regents will have a work session on Thursday, November 8, 2007. Discussion will include presidential evaluation.

Senate Actions:

Governance:

- The committee recommended Teame Ghirmay from the College of Business to fill a vacancy on the Student Disciplinary Board. Recommendation passed.

Professional Policies:

- The committee presented the revised version of PG-61 – Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct - to the members for discussion and a vote. Hearing no discussion, Chair Jerde called for a vote. The members approved the revised version of PG-61.

Announcements:

- Regent Irons asked the Fiscal Affairs committee to review the development of an Ad-Hoc committee to bring together the various groups working on faculty compensation.
- Maurice Manning will be reading poetry at the Folk Art Center tonight at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment: 5:10 pm.