

**MINUTES**  
**Faculty Senate Executive Committee**  
**Monday, August 29, 2005 3:30 pm**  
**K-State Union, Room 204**

Present: Adams, Brockway, Clark, Cox, Gehrt, Herald, Moore, North, Prince, Ransom, Schumm, Shultis, Spears, Spikes, and Stockham

Absent: DeLuccie, Knapp, Rolley, Schultz, and Trussell

Guests: Al Cochran and Trent Smith

I. President Tom Herald called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

II. The minutes of the May 23, 2005 were approved.

III. Reports from Standing Committees

A. Academic Affairs Committee – Alice Trussell –nothing to report

B. Faculty Affairs Committee – Frank Spikes

Senator Spikes reported that the committee will be discussing many topics in the next few months and he will report progress on each topic throughout the year. One of the first agenda items is the policy on Spoken English Assessment. The second item is the proposal of a professorial performance award coming from the Compensation Task Force. The committee will continue to discuss faculty compensation for study abroad courses. Members were invited to attend Faculty Affairs committee meetings. Senator Spikes will introduce Curtis Kastner for an update on the Targeted Excellence program at the September Faculty Senate meeting.

C. Faculty Senate Committee on University Planning - Walter Schumm

Senator Schumm reported that their first meeting will be held this Thursday with a presentation by Gary Leitnaker on the proposed parking garage. He also reported that the University of Florida site on ranking of universities is located at: <http://thecenter.ufl.edu/mission.html>

Al Cochran reported that the dean's council discussed using the University of Florida ranking system as well as other systems to rank ourselves and monitor our progress towards our ranking in the top 10 land grant institutions without a medical center.

D. Faculty Senate Committee on Technology – Michael North

Senator North reported that the committee will be meeting on September 7 and will meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month ongoing. They will be discussing the portal project, electronic dissertation and thesis, new IT ethics policies, SPAM issues, educational issues, wireless infrastructure, network repair issues, online grade submission, teacher evaluation website by students, security issues, and online plagiarism issues. Dr. Beth Unger, will be providing an overview of many of these issues at the next Faculty Senate meeting.

IV. Announcements

The K-State Child Development Center has requested that Faculty Senate appoint a member to their Board. A request for a volunteer will be made at the September 13<sup>th</sup> Faculty Senate meeting.

The Royal Purple will be taking a photograph of Faculty Senate at the September 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

A. Faculty Senate Leadership Council

President Herald reported that he has been meeting regularly with Provost Nellis. The tuition reduction program for employee dependents and spouses became a reality for fall 2005. The professorial award will be going forward for further discussion by Faculty Affairs. Faculty Senate committee chairs have been assigned and are

available on the website. <http://www.k-state.edu/academicservices/univcomm/fsc.html#fac>. Dr. Briana Nelson-Goff will be the new ombudsperson to replace Betsy Cauble. The City/University funds placed new lights on north Manhattan Avenue this summer. Gary Leitnaker and Darwin "Ace" Abbott met with leadership to discuss the proposed parking garage. The council attended the department heads' retreat regarding the university's priority setting process. President Herald announced that he met with Donna Shank, Chair of the Kansas Board of Regents, regarding the university building maintenance needs. The leadership was involved in the new faculty luncheon and orientation. Faculty Senate leadership plans to host a luncheon with both the classified and student senate leadership to partner on future initiatives. The leadership will meet with the President's staff on Thursday, September 1. President Herald met with Bernard Pitt, director of the K-State Student Union to discuss the Union's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in March 2006.

B. Kansas Board of Regents Meeting - no report

C. Report from Student Senate

Senator Tyson Moore announced that Student Senate will be discussing the proposed parking garage at their next meeting. Childcare is one of the issues they will be discussing. The university's 5-year tuition plan ends this year so they will be working on developing a strategy for the next few years. The Student Senate plans to increase their presence in Topeka, particularly since 2006 will be an election year. They are working with administration to improve multicultural activities in the classroom. Senator Moore announced that the president of the student body is Michael Burns, the vice-president is Grant Groene, and he (Senator Moore) is the Student Senate Chair. The Student Body President at Salina is Brendan Haiduk. Senator Clark asked if the 1<sup>st</sup> day class attendance policy would be on the Student Senate agenda this year. Senator Moore reported that this issue was resolved to Student Senate's satisfaction last year so they have no plans to address it again.

D. Other - none

V. Old Business - none

VI. New Business - none

VII. For the Good of the University

Senator Clark indicated that he is responsible for room scheduling in his department. They are having much difficulty in scheduling classes and must schedule in numerous locations throughout the campus. Because they are scheduling in so many different buildings, they have to coordinate the use of audiovisual equipment in each building. He would like to see a more centralized audiovisual equipment approach at the university. Senator Ransom indicated this is a problem for general use classrooms where no central office is responsible for audiovisual equipment. Senator Ransom suggested that this topic be placed on the President's staff meeting. Senator Spikes suggested that we focus on our high-tech needs but we still need to support our low-tech needs. President Herald agreed to take this issue up with the President's staff this week. Past-president Spears indicated that she had the same problem with Women's Studies and iTAC assisted in resolving their problem.

Senator Shultis mentioned that the air conditioning was not properly cooling in his classrooms. He understood that the university contracted with a firm to review and make recommendations on university energy use and that they are reaping the benefits from reduced energy use at the expense of the faculty and students. He would like the leadership council to discuss this with President's staff. President Spears reported that the university did contract with a consulting firm and that perhaps we need to provide feedback on the current heating/cooling systems. Other faculty, particularly in Bluemont Hall, indicated that their air conditioning cools too well.

Senator Shultis discussed the university policy on charging the summer health insurance premiums to faculty grants instead of to the benefit pool as is done for those faculty members who do not receive summer grant funding. He indicated that this was taking away from other expenses that could be charged to the grant. Senator Schumm reported that FSCOUP looked at this some time ago. Spears recommended that he discuss this with Brian Spooner who chairs a committee to look at alternative solutions for funding research. It was discussed that this health insurance cost should be budgeted into their grant. He believes that many faculty members do not know about this and it should be more widely known. Senator Gehrt stated that this policy has been in place for many years and that grants are expected to fund the faculty members' total compensation, not just salary.

Senator Cox reminded the committee members that unclassified professionals are represented within each college caucus and the General University caucus represents all other unclassified professionals. She distributed a chart that indicates that 47.3% of the unclassified professionals are represented by the General University caucus; the rest are represented by each caucus.

Senator Clark discussed waitlists and how each department or college may have different rules for implementing their waitlist policies. Senator Herald met with CAPP this summer to discuss how CAPP is structured and their need for on-going support. Candace Ortega will be providing some support at least through December for CAPP. Al Cochran will be a permanent member of CAPP. CAPP made a proposal to the Provost to fully implement the features available in the new Student System, particularly for pre-requisite checking and waitlists. There is an option where individual units could decide to avail themselves of these features. He mentioned that CAPP has asked each of the colleges to make the determination on their pre-requisites for this new system. With the implementation of the new student system, the waitlists should be handled more uniformly.

Al Cochran reported that law brought forward by Senator Robert Byrd now requires every university receiving federal funding to have some acknowledgement of the U.S. Constitution. On September 16 there will be activities held at the university to address this requirement.

Al Cochran reported that also on September 16 will be another meeting in Wichita to continue addressing the core competency requirements for students attending the Board of Regents institutions and colleges.

Senator Clark reported that Senator Cia Verschelden will be replaced by Donna Potts, because of her job change to administration and Senator Phil Anderson will be replaced by Lori Bergen, because of his phased retirement.

Al Cochran thanked Senator Gehrt for the fine work she is doing directing the LASER Project—Financial and Student Information System.

VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.