

MINUTES
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
Special Meeting
Tuesday, February 14, 2012 3:00 pm
Union Big 12 Room

Present: Bennett, Bloodgood, Cauble, Hornsby, Hosni, Hughey, Keen, Kellett, Moser, Rauth, Rintoul, Sump, Young, Vontz

Proxies: Rintoul for Condia

Parliamentarian: Spikes

1. President Vontz called the special meeting of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to order at 3:01 p.m.
2. Honorary Degree Policy

President Vontz reported that a nomination for a candidate for an honorary degree has been received from administration. He provided the background regarding honorary degrees, stating that this has been an interest of President Schulz since his arrival. When the concept was first discussed, Faculty Senate did not have an honorary degree procedure in place. Through collaboration with administration, one was developed and approved by Faculty Senate in December 2010. This is the first time the procedure has been put into practice. Protecting the identity of the nominee is important. The procedure calls for the nominated candidates to be evaluated by a committee of six, per the Procedures For Selection of a Candidate section of the Honorary Degree policy/procedure. The committee met to evaluate the candidate that was nominated and some issues with the process to date and Faculty Senate's honorary degree policy/procedure were identified.

The Board of Regents requires two months for its approval process; hence, time is of the essence. Therefore, President Vontz brings to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee three recommendations for changes to the procedures so they can be acted upon during today's (02-14-12) Faculty Senate meeting:

- 1) Under "Eligibility," the 2nd and 3rd bullets appear to contradict each other.
- 2) Under "Eligibility," 4th bullet, insert the word "Kansas." The statement would read, "Holders of *Kansas* elective or appointive public offices..."
- 3) Under "Policies for Nomination Process," insert the word "administration." The statement would read, "A nomination may originate from an individual faculty member, from an academic unit, *administration*, ..."

Senator Keen moved to place the Honorary Degree Policy with these three recommended changes on the February 14, 2012 Faculty Senate agenda. Senator Cauble seconded. Discussion followed pertaining to the re-wording and/or deletion of either the 2nd or 3rd bullet under "Eligibility." President Vontz noted that the insertion of *Kansas* in the 4th bullet brings Faculty Senate's policy in line with the Board of Regents' policy and will impact the nomination of the candidate that will be voted on next month. Discussion regarding the insertion of the word "*administration*" included whether this was necessary as

most, not all, administrators are faculty members and that if an administrator wanted to nominate someone, they could easily find a faculty person who would willingly make the nomination. Senator Hughey moved to amend the original motion to completely delete the 2nd bullet under “Eligibility.” Senator Cauble seconded. Motion carried. The original motion, with the approved amendment, was voted on. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Submitted by Loleta Sump
Faculty Senate Secretary