Faculty Senate Faculty Affairs Committee Minutes for October 19, 2010

Secretary: Hsu

In attendance: Kaleen Knopp, Judy Hughey, Carol Kellett, Valerie Evans, Donna Fullmer, Karen Schmidt, Elaine Johannes, Melia Erin Fritch, Donna Potts, Beth Davis, William Hsu, Rebecca Gould, Kyle Reynolds

Visiting: Betsy Cauble, President of Faculty Senate, KSU; Cheryl Strecker, University General Counsel, KSU; Pete Paukstelis, Associate General Counsel, KSU

Agenda Item 1: Approval of October 5, 2010 Minutes

MOTION: to approve minutes of 05 Oct 2010 meeting

- moved: Senator Reynolds

- seconded: Senator Gould

Discussion regarding concerns about level of detail, accuracy of minutes (2010) MOTION: to table motion to approve minutes of 05 Oct 2010 meeting

moved: Senator Gouldseconded: Senator Davis

- in favor: unanimous (motion passed)

There was discussion among FA, university attorneys, and President Cauble regarding 29 Apr 2010 meeting with FS LC and Provost Mason Recommendation by Faculty Affairs to revise the minutes:

- from: "Provost agreed"

- to: "Upon discussion with Faculty Senate Leadership Committee, Provost agreed to remove policymaking flow from University Handbook web site"

MOTION: to approve 21 Sep 2010

moved: Senator Evansseconded: Senator Davis

- in favor: unanimous (motion passed)

Agenda Item 2: "Policymaking Flow Revisions"

Issues discussed

There was discussion regarding expedited status. Comments initiated by University Office of General Counsel regarding the definition, rationale, turnaround time, (discussion and voting latency) for potentially time-critical policy changes, and conditions for the revisions. There was further discussion regarding two items posted over the summer without Faculty Senate approval. The transmittal sheet did not go through FS (nor did it have the signature of the FS president). It was suggested to attach blank sample routing form to FS.

The communication route of the Revised flow (copies of 30 Apr 2010 e-mail distributed) was reviewed. Concerns raised by President Cauble (anticipating discussion in next FS general meeting).

Questions were raised regarding the 90-day deadline: difficulties in getting discussion among FS members over summer (when many faculty and staff not present but Leadership meets weekly). Other concerns regarding the Policymaking Flow include conditions around financial exigency

and Appendix B & N issues (e.g., elimination of departments or colleges). Options being discussed include possible exceptions to policymaking flow for certain exempted sections of UH. Office of General Counsel recommendation is for the designation of expedited status to be made by the Provost.

FAC and other interested faculty are asked to provide feedback and suggestions for revisions to Senators Hughey, Knopp, and Gould

The Policymaking flow appears on FS EC agenda.

Agenda Item 3: "Appendix G Revisions / Update"

Issues discussed the request by Senator Hughey on behalf of the University Handbook Committee for data on numbers and cost of grievance and administrative hearings.

The Handbook Committee discussed the dichotomization of dispute resolution process: a possible two-tier procedure. A problematic issue is determining eligibility for the cases; those that would be excluded from Appendix G grievances under new policy. The current proposal under consideration would deny faculty a hearing for promotion.

The question is what constitutes "thermostat cases" and who are those deemed eligible for grievance process and those for which administrative appeal is the only avenue.

Agenda Item 4: "Change in Ombudsperson"

There was a resignation of an ombudsperson. The application process will open quickly.

Agenda Item 5: "ePortfolio"

There has been a discussion between Senator Knopp and Provost Mason. In addition, FS LC met with Provost and the Provost's staff including the CIO. A decision made to move to next phase of discussion regarding possible implementation.

It was decided to share with the Provost that FAC had made a positive decision on the continued study of the implementation of e-portfolios.

FAC wishes to again acknowledge and thank the ePortfolio Taskforce for a job well done.

Agenda Item 6: "Dispute Resolution Group Report"

Senator Hughey presented a report on the Dispute Resolution Meeting and Luncheon. She discussed the meeting agenda, attendees, and the role of the varying conflict mediators on campus. In addition, it was discussed that ombudspersons are in need of professional development opportunities for enhanced understanding of the position description.

Agenda Item 7: "Open Access Week, Oct. 18-22"

The week will focus on awareness. Faculty and staff are asked to announce the Open Access Week. Students will wear orange Open Access T-shirts. There will be presentations on Open Access Week and how it can help faculty.

Resolved: FA committee did not approve any draft today; documents are a work in progress.