

MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING
September 4, 2003 3:30 PM Room 204, K-State Union

Present: Cochran, Oberst, Rowlett, Schumm, Spikes, Stadtlander, Watts, Youngman

Absent: Behnke, De Bres, Hassan, Jones, O'Hara

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Walt Schumm, Chair, at 3:30 p.m.

II. Approval of minutes

A motion was made by Spikes and was seconded to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2003 FSCOUP meeting. Motion passed.

III. Announcements

A. Faculty Senate Leadership

Schumm reported that administration is convinced that K-State will not have any budget reductions this year. A proposal has been made for a 6% salary increase for faculty/unclassified. They are not optimistic that the legislature will bring back Senate Bill 345, but that would give faculty/unclassified another 6% salary increase.

Schumm also reported that there was discussion at the June Faculty Senate meeting about having the UN flag somewhere on campus after City Hall took it down. It was discovered that the UN flag has been displayed in the K-State Union for many years and everyone agreed that this location could be the official site.

Schumm reported that Provost Coffman sent out a letter in July regarding assessment. Departments are to list program objectives and how they can be assessed by December 1st. One objective is not to cover all courses. There is no official format for the assessment.

Schumm said that classroom space was also discussed. With Denison Hall being torn down in the near future, there will be a shortage of classroom space. K-State is reported to use space better than any other Big 12 university.

B. Other

The Calendar Committee will be meeting to discuss calendar issues, but the final decisions are left up to the Provost. The committee has been restructured to include two students, three faculty, and the Registrar will serve as chair.

Cochran reported that the Compensation Task Force will soon be named. Bob Zabel, Faculty Senate President, is asking for recommendations of younger faculty to serve on it and they will join faculty/unclassified that have been at K-State for a longer period of time. The task force will be looking into salary increases, awards and recognition, and tuition waivers.

IV. Effects of Budget Reductions

- A. FSCOUP members should be ready to informally discuss any continued effects of last year's budget reductions on this year's operations.

Spikes reported that money has been taken out of the base budget that has not been replaced and that their OOE money was a small amount to start with. Spikes said that the masters program in Kansas City was discontinued and a graduate degree program in Educational Psychology. The College of Education needs faculty to go out and do clinical instructorships and supervision for the undergraduate programs. Since they have faculty vacancies, there is no time for faculty to continue doing research and keep up with teaching and supervision duties. K-State wants to be known as a research institution and yet faculty do not have time to devote to research with their teaching loads and other duties. Research is what sets us apart from most of the other state institutions.

Watts said that phased retirement is bad for departments and colleges because part of the benefits for those on phased retirement has to come out of the departmental budget so they do not get to use the entire amount left from the salary money to hire another person. No one wants to come and work here for the amount they can offer. Watts also said that what they saved by faculty going on phased retirement disappeared with budget reductions. The College of Architecture, Design, and Planning has given up voice mail and getting printer cartridges in order to stay within their budget.

Youngman reported that they lost a total of eight positions in the library with the budget reductions. They have reorganized those positions and will be hiring for a couple of positions. Because of the cuts, the digital library development has been tarnished. They don't have time to get people trained to do the job. Many journals were cut for this year. Youngman said the hours the library is open has stabilized but some areas do not have staff there to help people.

- B. Assessment Issues

Schumm reported that the NCA assessment is a big issue and has to get done this fall. NCA wants programs to say that if a student comes into their program, they will learn a list of outcomes. The next step is for departments to be able to measure whether the student achieved the outcomes. NCA wants an assessment plan all the way down to syllabi. Many departmental programs go through an accreditation process anyway and this will not be a difficult process for them. It will be harder for the departments who do not go through an accreditation process. On the NCA report, K-State got the worst rating possible overall - a rating of one with four being the best. The NCA report can be found at the following website:
<http://www.ksu.edu/provost/NCA/>

V. Old Business

A. Intellectual Property Policy

Cochran asked if faculty thought the Intellectual Property Policy was working well in the colleges. Oberst said that there is a disconnect from the university after it goes to the Foundation. He felt that they need to make it more attractive for faculty to come here and have inventions. The Foundation doesn't make a decision until pressure is put on them. The money is not getting back to the departments or researchers. It takes a long time to get anything patented and licensed. The faculty are used as a resource but they are not allowed to be involved in the process. Once a faculty member gets something is copyrighted or patented, it is only as strong as you can enforce it. The faculty need to have their rights protected. Rowlett suggested taking these issues to the Intellectual Property Advisory Committee. Membership of that committee can be found on the following website:

<http://www.k-state.edu/academicservices/univcomm/pcac.html#ipac>

VI. New Business - none

VII. For the Good of the University

Schumm said that he was not planning to have FSCOUP meet on September 19th unless something came up that needed action. The next FSCOUP meeting will be on October 2nd.

Cochran reported that the proposals for targeted excellence went out last week. FSCOUP will need to have input on this issue. The pre-proposals are due November 1st. Targeted excellence called for 20% tuition increases for several years and students may be resistant to that.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.