

MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 6, 2007
OAKWOOD ROOM
2:30 – 4:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE:

CHAIR: Forrest Schultz

VICE CHAIR: Len Bogner

SECRETARY: Anne Hoel

PAST CHAIR: Steve Schlough

PRESENT: S. Cole, K. Doll, J. Dzissah, B. Finder, B. Flom, K. Parejko, G. Ruenger, S. Schlough, J. Watts

EXCUSED: D. Albrecht, A. Hoel, K. Martinson, B. Murphy

GUESTS: Chancellor Sorensen and Provost Furst-Bowe

I. Call to Order – 2:30 p.m.

II. Announcements and Information – Chair Schultz announced that he and Chancellor Sorensen were on the radio (The West Side) last evening, and the interviewer used the Faculty Senate Minutes as a reference.

III. Minutes of January 23, 2007 (Attachment 1)

Motion: Bogner/Doll moved to approve the Minutes of January 23, 2007.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

IV. Chancellor's Report – Chancellor Sorensen announced that he would be meeting with two Regents this week regarding questions UW-System President Kevin Reilly and his staff have concerning Stout's proposed engineering programs. He would like to bring Stout's Polytechnic designation to the Board of Regents in March. The Chancellor reported that there is a UW-System budget lapse for 2007.

V. Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs' Report – Provost Furst-Bowe asked that the following three items be placed on the Faculty Senate Agenda for February 13.

A. AQIP Quality Check-up Site Visit on May 2-4, 2007 (Provost Furst-Bowe)

B. Room Scheduling Software (Jeff Kirschling)

C. Dunn County Visioning (Juliet Fox)

VI. Vice Chancellor for Administrative and Student Life Services

VII. Committee Reports

Committee chairs are requested to give oral reports to the Executive Committee and prepare brief written reports for Faculty Senate meetings. Committee chairs who are not Senators should attend Senate meetings, especially when there is an agenda item. Items should be submitted by e-mail to Joy by noon on Thursdays. All standing committee chairs are expected to attend the Executive Committee Meetings, since they are voting members of the group.

A. Curriculum & Instruction (Steve Cole) – Cole reported that CIC would meet on February 8 regarding digitizing the curriculum process. It is hoped that the process will be completed by this fall.

B. Educational Activities (Donna Albrecht) – No report.

C. Elections (Len Bogner) – Bogner reported that two call for nominations to fill current and upcoming vacancies on university committees were sent out to all faculty.

D. Finance Committee (Bill Murphy) - No report.

E. Graduate Education Committee (Gene Ruenger) - No report.

F. General Education (Ken Parejko) – Parejko stated that GEC would meet on February 9.

G. Personnel Policies (Karen Martinson) -No report.

H. Planning & Review (Brian Finder) – Finder distributed his PRC report to the group and

reminded them that PRC was still in desperate need of members.

I. Other

VIII. Old Business

A. Learning Values/Culture of Affirmation at Stout (Attachment 2) – Chair Schultz explained that this item was presented to the Faculty Senate by Hector Cruz last fall. Cruz took the Senate’s recommendations back to Dan Riordan; they revised the document and were bringing it to the Senate again for approval. Schultz noted that this was one of the University Priorities from last year.

B. Other

IX. New Business

A. University Priority Development (Forrest Schultz) – Schultz explained that this item will be kept on the Agenda as a place holder while University Priority Development on campus moves forward.

B. Alignment (Self-review Committee (Forrest Schultz & Len Bogner) – Chair Schultz explained that the Faculty Senate has a great opportunity to be proactive and participate in the process for alignment changes on campus. Over the years, faculty have discussed different barriers occurring between departments and colleges. Realignment could be a way for faculty to submit various ideas and guidelines that could help break down these barriers. Parejko asked the Chancellor to please define why it was being done. Chancellor Sorensen replied that it would create a campus curriculum that could address current and future needs of the 21st Century. When students graduate from Stout, most are hired in very complex careers. The realignment process would examine the various careers currently available and align Stout’s courses and majors with them to provide students with the best opportunity to be hired when they graduate. Parejko recommended that this would also be a good time to examine how the General Education programs and objectives could interlace with the programs. Ruenger added that it would also enhance the operations between the colleges and other units on campus. Schultz said that he would like to form a subcommittee that could examine various alignment ideas and options. Bogner recommended to have a shorter timeframe, noting the process could get bogged down if it was dragged out.

Schultz said that he wanted to learn from the last time the Senate met on this issue, as the recommendations were not received very well. However, he added that he felt energized because faculty will be working as partners with the administration during the process. Cole recommended organizing the campus realignment by its programs and then determine how to feed into them. Chancellor Sorensen agreed. Schultz said that the committee would initially need some direction from the Chancellor and recommended that everyone meet for the first time to put all ideas on the table. Parejko added that the design would also provide agility and flexibility to meet Stout’s needs for the future.

Chair Schultz asked how the Faculty Senate could provide input. Chancellor Sorensen replied that he desires to move forward as a university as a whole, not as split entities, to bring about a good high-quality result. Discussion ensued and focused on the realignment model that was brought to the Faculty Senate three years ago. At that time, the model was too defined and descriptive. It was agreed that a key lesson learned from that is to be all-inclusive and include everyone in the models. Schultz suggested perhaps three-to-four people from each Senate could serve on the committee and work with the Provost. It was agreed that the Chancellor and Senate Chairs would work together to form the committee’s structure.

C. Faculty Workload (Forrest Schultz; Attachments 3 & 4) – Chair Schultz stated that the 1994 Workload Policy in the Faculty Handbook was never approved by the Chancellor and recommended that the Faculty Senate address the issue. The group agreed for Schultz to charge the Personnel Policies Committee to examine the issue and bring a recommendation to the Faculty Senate.

D. Other – Chair Schultz said that the SSA would like to set up some listening sessions and said representatives would be invited to attend the February 13 Meeting of the Combined

Senates.

Chair Schultz explained that the Faculty Representatives discussed sick leave and collegial coverage during their February meeting. Dennis Shaw serves as an academic staff representative on the Board of Regents Committee on the LAB Audit of Personnel Practices and would be the official contact person for Stout. However, this committee won't meet until April when it will discuss a variety of possibilities regarding a standard sick leave reporting system for the campuses. Collegial coverage is a hot issue, he added. Discussion ensued regarding sick leave procedures on campus and the pros and cons of collegial coverage. Schultz recommended for Senators and faculty to contact their state legislators on the issue.

X. Adjournment – 3:37 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
Anne Hoel, Secretary**

**Recorded and prepared by,
Joy Evenson**