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Meeting of October 5, 2017, Faculty Senate Meeting

Members Present

[Senate President] Sarah Mergel; [Wright School of Business] Garen Evans, Bob Haverland; [Education] Anna Hart; [Health Professions] Donna Bledsoe (proxy for Gail Ward), Cheryl Grayson, Gene Powers, Deb Richardson; [Liberal Arts] Tammy Byron, Jenny Crisp, Christian Griggs, John Gulledge (proxy), Baogang Guo, Kent Harrelson, Matt Hipps, Cathy Hunsicker, Sarah Min, Lydia Postell, Tami Tomasello; [Library]; [Science, Technology, and Math] April Kay (proxy for Susan Burran), Norm DesRosiers, Nick Gewecke, Jean Johnson, Annabelle McKie-Voerste, Vince Postell, Chris Wozny; [Guests] Michael Hoff

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

Senate President Sarah Mergel called the meeting to order at 3:17 and established that a quorum was present. She asked for approval of the minutes of the September 14 meeting.

Senate secretary Kent Harrelson moved to amend the minutes, making two additions on pages 4 and 5 of the circulated minutes (additions are highlighted in blue):

Dr. Chute said that although she is aware that Dalton State faculty salaries are "abysmal," faculty who teach more than the number of courses they are contracted for are "overburdening" themselves; faculty shouldn't go over their assigned number of courses.

Lisa Hunt said that she would not be here at Dalton State without the extra income from teaching additional classes. John Gulledge said that he teaches one or more eCore

classes and overloads every semester and that it is "insulting" to say that he's not doing a good job, particularly seeing that he is tenured and was recently promoted to Professor. He added the question of why, if salaries at Dalton State are so low, the VPAA was seeking to limit our options for augmenting our earnings: "I would think the VPAA would be looking for ways to help us increase our salaries rather than decreasing them, especially when she has no data to support her recent policy decision on the matter."

The motion to amend the minutes was seconded and approved. The senate voted to approve the amended minutes.

Shared Governance and College Statutes

Sarah Mergel stated that she had asked Dr. Venable for the specific changes the administration would like to see made on the draft of the statutes. Sarah provided the senate with a handout listing the changes proposed by the Executive Cabinet, along with the relevant guidelines from the Board of Regents Policy Manual (please see the Appendix for this document). Sarah stated that she is not comfortable with the third item in the proposed changes; she asked for the senate's opinions on the issue.

Cathy Hunsicker asked for clarification on the nature of the proposed changes. Sarah said that it was a question of whether the Student Government Association and the Staff Council were to be regarded as part of shared governance. Matt Hipps stated that Jodi Johnson, Vice-President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, feels that faculty are overstepping their purview. John Gulledge stated that the Board of Regents' policy gives governance to the faculty of an institution.

Chris Wozny said that it is mainly a question of whether faculty should determine how student funds are distributed. Matt Hipps pointed out that faculty, not administrators, vote on the passage of the statutes; administrators should not be allowed to disrupt the process. Sarah Mergel said that the 2010 statutes remain in effect until they are replaced.

Nick Gewecke asked whether the vice-presidents had the opportunity to participate in the writing and wording of the proposed new statutes; Sarah said that they were part of the process and were members of the statutes committee.

Discussion followed on the meaning of the term "academic" in the proposed changes and on what action the Senate should take at the moment.

Kent Harrelson moved to postpone discussion of the matter until Dr. Venable meets with the senate to explain the proposed changes to the statutes. The motion was seconded and discussed.

The motion to postpone discussion on the statutes until Dr. Venable meets with the senate was approved.

Sarah asked the senate to meet on October 26 to meet with Dr. Venable. Chris Wozny moved that the senate meet on that date for the sole purpose of discussing the statutes with Dr. Venable. The motion was seconded and discussed.

The motion to hold a senate meeting at 3:15 on October 26 was approved.

Committee Reports

Welfare Committee

Matt Hipps said the committee was looking at faculty workload; he had asked Chris Bedwell of OCIS to analyze data about course loads, particularly in Health Professions and Education, to see how class hours correspond to course load. He said that according to Banner, it appears that science faculty are teaching twelve courses per semester.

Matt invited participation in the subcommittees; anyone interested in serving on the Calendar subcommittee should contact Annabelle McKie-Voerste; any interested in the Handbook subcommittee should contact Sarah Mergel.

Faculty Development Committee

Christian Griggs said that the committee had experienced poor attendance at its first meeting. He said that Dr. Chute would like some kind of teaching symposium at the end of the year and asked whether there was interest in participating in it. Sarah Mergel said that the School of Education will be hosting the Student Scholarship Showcase. Christian asked whether faculty would prefer that each school or department have its own event. Chris Wozny said that that would raise a concern about fragmenting the faculty rather than bringing them together.

Strategic Plan Monitoring Committee

Jenny Crisp said that the committee will be reading the relevant documents and providing feedback; committee members will also read the school reports from the Deans.

Sharepoint

Sarah said that the minutes of the various committees can be uploaded to Sharepoint; committees can upload the minutes directly or send them to Sarah.

Scheduled November 9 meeting

Sarah said that she and President-Elect Matt Hipps will both be away from campus on the scheduled date of the November meeting. Chris Wozny moved that the November meeting be held on November 16. The motion was seconded and approved.

The next two senate meetings are

Thursday, October 26 (to discuss the college statutes with Dr. Venable)

Thursday, November 16 (meeting moved because of schedule conflicts)

Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45.

Respectfully submitted by Kent Harrelson, secretary

Appendix: Board of Regents Policy and Dalton State Statutes

Institutional Governance: Dalton State Statutes

BOR Policy Manual - 3.2.4 Faculty Rules and Regulations

(Last Modified on May 24, 2010)

The faculty, or the council, senate, assembly, or such other comparable body at an institution (BoR Minutes, May 2010), shall, subject to the approval of the president of the institution:

- Make statutes, rules, and regulations for its governance and for that of the students;
- 2. Provide such committees as may be required;
- 3. Prescribe regulations regarding admission, suspension, expulsion, classes, courses of study, and requirements for graduation; and,
- 4. Make such regulations as may be necessary or proper for the maintenance of high educational standards.

A copy of an institution's statutes, rules and regulations made by the faculty shall be filed with the Chancellor. The faculty shall also have primary responsibility for those aspects of student life which relate to the educational process, subject to the approval of the president of the institution. (BoR Minutes, 1986- 87, p. 333; May 2010).

Current Statutes (Last Revised August 2010)

C. RULES AND REGULATIONS: ACADEMIC

The Faculty shall make, subject to the approval of the President of the institution, the Chancellor, and the Board, statutes, rules and regulations for its governance and for that of the students; provide such committees as may be required; prescribe regulations regarding admission, suspension, expulsion, classes, courses of study, and requirements for graduation; make such regulations as may be necessary or proper for the maintenance of high educational standards. A copy of the rules and regulations made by the Faculty shall be filed with the Chancellor. (http://www.usg.edu)

D. RULES AND REGULATIONS: EXTRACURRICULAR

The Faculty shall prescribe rules for the regulation of student publications, athletics, intercollegiate games, musical, dramatic and literary clubs, and all other student activities and affairs, subject to the approval of the President of the institution, the Chancellor and the Board.

E. COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

The Faculty shall act through a system of councils and committees established by these Statutes, subject to review and challenge as provided. The Faculty may accept actions of a council or committee by approving the Minutes of that council or committee, or may modify or reject any part of the actions of that council or committee, or may remand specific matters to any council or

committee for reconsideration in the light of faculty objections. No council or committee action changing College policy shall be implemented prior to Faculty approval. (p. 18)

Senate Approved Language (April 2017)

The faculty shall make, subject to the approval of the President of the College, the Chancellor, and the Board of Regents, statutes, rules, and regulations for its governance and for that of the students; prescribe regulations regarding admission, suspension, expulsion, classes, courses of study, and requirements for graduation; make such regulations as may be necessary or proper for the maintenance of high educational standards. The faculty, in consultation with the staff and student government, shall also prescribe, subject to the approval of the President of the College, the Chancellor, and the Board of Regents, rules regarding student activities as they relate to academic activities...

The administrative officers participate in the governance of the College through the President's Executive Cabinet and the President's Administration Cabinet (See <u>Article III</u> for more information on the membership and responsibilities of these cabinets). The faculty, staff, and students of Dalton State College participate in the governance of the College through the Faculty Senate, Staff Council, Student Government Association, and/or the committees to which they are elected or appointed.

- 1. The faculty act through a system of the Faculty Senate, councils, and/or committees, subject to review and challenge as provided.
- 2. The faculty may accept actions of the Faculty Senate, Staff Council, Student Government Association, or other committees by approving the minutes; may modify or reject any part of the actions of that council, committee, or the; or may remand specific matters to any council, committee, or the Faculty Senate for consideration in the light of faculty objections.
- No Faculty Senate, Staff Council, Student Government Association, or committee action changing policy shall be implemented prior to faculty approval. A copy of the rules and regulations made by the faculty and approved by the President shall be filed with the Chancellor.

Changes Proposed by Executive Cabinet (April 2017)

...The faculty, staff, and students of Dalton State College participate in the governance of the College through the Faculty Senate, Staff Council, Student Government Association, and/or the committees to which they are elected or appointed.

- 1. The faculty act through a system of the Faculty Senate, councils, and/or committees, subject to review and challenge as provided.
- The faculty may accept actions of the Faculty Senate, Staff Council, Student Government
 Association, or other committees <u>related to the educational process</u> by approving the minutes;
 may modify or reject any part of the actions of that council or committee <u>related to the</u>

- <u>educational process</u>; or may remand specific <u>academic</u> matters to any council, committee, or the Faculty Senate for consideration in the light of faculty objections.
- 3. No Faculty Senate, Staff Council, Student Government Association, or committee action changing <u>academic</u> policy shall be implemented prior to faculty approval. A copy of the rules and regulations made by the faculty and approved by the President shall be filed with the Chancellor.

^{*} Proposed Additions in Red