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Faculty Senate Monthly Packet October 1999

Portland State University Faculty Senate

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TO: Senators and Ex-officio Members to the Senate  
FR: Sarah E. Andrews-Collier, Secretary to the Faculty

The Faculty Senate will hold its regular meeting on October 4, 1999, at 3:00 p.m. in room 53 CH.

AGENDA

A. Roll  
*B. Approval of the Minutes of the June 7, 1999, Meeting  
C. Announcements and Communications from the Floor
   President's Report
   Provost's Report
D. Question Period  
E. Reports from Officers of the Administration and Committees
   *1. Report(oral) of Interinstitutional Faculty Senate Meeting of 2-3 October - John Cooper
   2. PSU Capital Campaign - Gary Withers and Barbara Richards
F. Unfinished Business
   *1. Proposal for January Response Date to ARC's Writing Proposal - Ketcheson
G. New Business  
H. Adjournment

*The following documents are included with this mailing:

  B   Minutes of the June 7, 1999, Senate Meeting  
  E1  Minutes of the IFS Meeting of June 4-5, 1999  
  F1  Proposal for January Response Date to ARC's Writing Proposal
What will the new budget model mean for PSU faculty?

PSU-AAUP is hosting a forum for PSU faculty on the new budget model. Joining with representatives from the Association of Oregon Faculties, the PSU Faculty Senate, and the Interinstitutional Faculty Senate, we will examine issues raised by the model from the standpoint of ordinary faculty. How will it affect our teaching, research, and service? How can we participate in the allocation process? How will it change our relationship with the Governor, the Legislature, and the Chancellor’s Office? After a summary of the model and a budgetary overview, a panel of faculty leaders experienced in budgetary issues will discuss faculty concerns and explore potential faculty contributions to the process.

Join us for a look at the issues!

Date: Saturday, October 2, 1999
Time: 9:30 a.m. (Continental breakfast provided)
Place: PSU Browsing Lounge (238 SMC)
RSVP: 725-4414; aaup@teleport.com by Wednesday, September 29
Minutes: Faculty Senate Meeting, June 7, 1999
Presiding Officer: Ronald C. Cease
Secretary: Sarah E. Andrews-Collier


A. ROLL

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m. The Minutes of the May 3, 1999 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as published.

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR
Election of Officers of the Senate

MACK, for the Steering Committee, nominated the following slate: Presiding Officer--K. Ketcheson, Presiding Officer Pro-tem--G. Farr; Members: M. Neal, David Johnson, J. Patton, D. Williams. BARTON nominated B. Sestak for Presiding Officer.

Presiding Officer: Barbara Sestak
Presiding Officer Pro tem: Grant Farr
Senate Steering Committee Members: Kathi Ketcheson, David Johnson, Judy Patton, Dilafruz Williams.

Senators are reminded that several divisions are required to elect new membership to the Committee on Committees during the meeting. In addition to those listed in the Agenda, All Others will need to elect a representative for one year, to complete the term of Sandra Franz, who steps down from Senate today.

Added To Today's Agenda:

Item E.5. Report of the Meeting of the Interinstitutional Faculty Senate, June 4-5, 1999
Item E.6. Addendum to Faculty Development Committee Annual Report

President Bernstine has approved the actions of the Senate passed at the May 3, 1999 meeting, according to normal governance procedures:

Approval of the Revision in the MA/MS in Education: EPFA Program, with corrections from the floor.

Changes in Senate/Committee Memberships since 3 May:

Ann Weikel has retired, resigning from Senate effective April 30, 1999. Her replacement, Dick Pratt, is listed on the 1999-00 Roster attached to today's Agenda.

Linda Parshall resigns from Senate Effective June 30, 1999. Her replacement, Paul Latiolais is listed on the 1999-00 Roster attached to today's Agenda.

Donald Moor has retired and Vasti Torres has resigned the university, effective June 30, 1999. Their replacements will be Gavin Bjork and Rowanna Carpenter, respectively.
Provost's Report

REARDON noted that the Council of Academic Deans established three subcommittees, which met most of the last two terms, to address issues of Faculty Development, University Studies, and Assessment, and summarized their reports. The subcommittee on Faculty Development examined all activities which could be put under this rubric and revenues which could be put against those activities. They forwarded a set of recommendations for collective bargaining in the areas of Sabbatical proposals and reporting, and Peer Review, in order to bring both items in line with new OUS board policy. This group also recommended reformatting the Advisory Committee on Institutional Technology, and OAA has proceeded to implement their recommendation. The subcommittee on University Studies examined issues of ongoing sustainability, administrative structure, and resources. This activity was based in part on a request from the Faculty Senate Steering Committee to examine these issues. They discussed curricular review of overall undergraduate curriculum vis a vis access and OUS. They discussed an incentive process to ensure appropriate resources to meet ongoing UnSt demands. They discussed sustaining the current structure versus establishing an administrative position in OAA for UnSt and other related programs. This group recommended decision be deferred on the latter item until the new Provost's arrival. REARDON stated he would be inclined to recommend a return to a previous situation, in which we had a Dean of U.G. Studies. The subcommittee on Programmatic Assessment and Review approved a proposal for an extensive process of programmatic review and assessment, which will be implemented next year. This activity is designed not to duplicate accreditation processes already in place. Review will include assessment of educational purposes and effectiveness of curricula. Next year will be the base year for all units to use. As much as possible, data will be centrally provided. An assessment council will oversee Learning outcomes and goals.

TOULAN moved the Senate acknowledge and thank Provost Reardon for his years of dedicated service to the University and his contributions to scholarship and curriculum reform. ENNEKING seconded

THE MOTION PASSED by unanimous voice vote, and was followed by applause.

CEASE noted that the Provost will also be honored by the Senate before graduation at the Faculty Breakfast.

D. QUESTION PERIOD

None.
E. REPORTS FROM THE OFFICERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND COMMITTEES

1. Advisory Council Annual Report

BULMAN presented the report for the council. CEASE accepted the report on behalf of the Senate.

2. Committee on Committees Annual Report

LALL presented the report for the committee, and solicited comment on item #3, changes in the Graduation Program Board, which were not communicated to the Senate. CEASE accepted the report on behalf of the Senate.

2. University Planning Council Annual Report

WELLS presented the report for the committee. CEASE accepted the report on behalf of the Senate.

4. General Student Affairs Committee Annual Report

TOSI presented the report for the committee. CEASE accepted the report for the Senate.

5. Report of the Interinstitutional Faculty Senate Meeting of 3, 4 June

COOPER gave an oral report and indicated that the written copy would be included in the Senate Agenda mailing for October 1999 (attached).

6. Faculty Development Committee Annual Report Supplement

FULLER presented the report for the committee. CEASE accepted the report on behalf of the Senate. WAMSER noted that some chairs have received award announcements today.

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. UnSt Task Force Recommendations - Report of the Senate Steering Committee

A. JOHNSON/BULMAN MOVED the Senate approve proposed items #1 and #2, page 4 in the Steering Committee report.

CEASE called Division of the Question, with no opposition.
THE MOTION PASSED TO APPROVE item 1, page 4, by unanimous voice vote.

THE MOTION PASSED TO APPROVE item 2, page 4, by unanimous voice vote excepting one Against.

G. NEW BUSINESS

Graduate Council Course and Program Proposals including Changes in the M.S. in Civil Engineering, approval of the Ph.D. in Technology Management, and approval of the Ph.D. in Civil Engineering

EDER presented the proposals and recommended Senate approval by separate motions for each item.

A. JOHNSON/BURNS MOVED the Senate approve the recommended course proposals, including changes in the M.S. in Civil Engineering.

THE MOTION PASSED by unanimous voice vote.

BURNS/BULMAN MOVED the Senate approve the Ph.D. in Technology Management.

BRENNER asked if all 72 hours are at the doctoral level, and if so, it would appear that $50,000 for assistantships is a low estimate. EDER stated that both Ph.D. proposals are entrepreneurial in spirit. Students could still use the Systems Science option, therefore they are both intended to be conducted with existing resources.

THE MOTION PASSED by unanimous voice vote.

BURNS/BULMAN MOVED the Senate approve the Ph.D. in Civil Engineering.

BULMAN asked if the Admission GPA is fixed, as it could intersect with grade inflation issues. DRYDEN stated that provisional admission is possible. EDER yielded the floor to F. RAD, EAS, who stated that this is a starting requirement which could be refined as the program evolves.

E. ENNEKING reiterated Brenner's concern regarding assistantship funds. EDER stated that the intent was to support a handful of students in both programs, over and above the number of current System Science students. Both programs expect to have students who are employed full-time while pursuing the degree, and both intend eventually to seek external funding.
MANDAVILLE asked how the program is differentiated from OSU's. EDER stated that the Graduate Council spent some effort on this issue, and again yielded the floor to Rad, EAS. RAD stated that the programs have been developed in response to rebuilding Oregon and Portland infrastructures. EDER added that every other city of Portland's size has such a program, and there appears to be demand for this program here.

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED by unanimous voice vote.

H. ADJOURNMENT

CEASE thanked the Senate Steering Committee and the Secretary to the Faculty for their work during the past year.

CEASE noted that as the new budget model has become a reality, the 1999-2000 Faculty Senate will have several critical challenges next year: 1) learning to operate within the new, more autonomous OUS system; 2) working with the Chancellor's office and the Board to secure PSU's fair portion of state Higher Ed funding; 3) leading the PSU faculty to take a larger role in budgetary matters; and, 4) dissuading the Chancellor's office from continuing to favor graduate programs at OSU and UO.

The meeting, and the 1998-99 Senate, were adjourned at 4:35 p.m.
For the third time this year, IFS met in Salem rather than at one of the campuses so that we could hear from persons directly engaged in the political processes of funding Higher Education. On Friday, we met in the State Capitol. We heard first from Senator Timms, a Republican whose district includes OIT, the official host of the meeting. Senator Timms discussed the current stand-off between the Republican legislature and the Governor over the Governor's veto of the higher-education budget. He said that the Republicans are holding firm on their support for higher education. He believed that, if the new budget model is not funded, it should not be adopted.

Our next speaker was Grattan Kerans, the government relations officer for the State System. The Governor, he said, wants to keep the controversy over Higher Education funding quiet, as it has been so far, and it is to our advantage that it be so. Without predicting what would happen, he outlined options facing the legislative leadership, including an attempt to override the veto (which will no doubt fail because the Democrats will not support it and will probably not be attempted), submitting a new budget of $1.00 less than the previous one, and delaying until they have a whole budget to submit. The legislature is already working on bills that would partially fund higher education, specifically a bill funding state-wide services for $13 million more than the Governor proposed and a bill funding state-wide engineering. Thus, we will likely have three bills, these two and a general higher education funding bill that together would fund us at $106 million over the current service level. When that bill emerges, advocates for higher education will go into high gear to support it. The hope is that there will be a bill that the Democrats can support. A bill has been passed and signed into law that, as I understand it, will allow state agencies to pay salaries more than once a month.

We were then addressed by Marilyn Lanier, the Associate Vice Chancellor for Administration and Loren Stubbert, the Associate Director of the Budget for the Oregon University System. They had a prepared slide demonstration on the new budget model and how it will be applied. Although the demonstration provided us with specific numbers as to how state funds will be distributed and the rationale for doing it in that way, we still felt uninformed, I think, about the level at which important decisions will be made. Under the new model, institutions will generate and retain about 80% of their operating budgets -- from tuition, grants and contracts, etc. -- but it remains unclear I think to the senators how much freedom the institutions will have in dividing the money. On faculty salaries we were told that the Chancellor's Office will issue guidelines, but we were not told how much force those guidelines will have. Senators are, I think, dissatisfied about the lack of clarity on the general issue of the extent to which the system will
remain a system given the greater autonomy of campuses and their being encouraged to be competitive. The Chancellor's office will present a budget to the Board in July and is poised to adjust it for distribution to campuses.

Jerry Kissler spoke to us representing the position of the Governor. Like the Governor, he said that the legislature has not produced a co-chairs' budget. Some Republicans want to give more money to K-12 than the Speaker. A key vote next week will be on House Bill 2007, which takes the entire tobacco settlement money and puts it into a trust fund for future health needs. That represents the last flexible source of revenue. He also mentioned Senate Bill 756, which will allow parents to put $2k a year into a trust fund tax free for a beneficiary's education.

Our final speaker on Friday was Dawn Billings, Coordinator of Curriculum and Instruction for the Department of Education who spoke to us about the CIM, CAM, and PASS standards. In general, she thought that these standards were working well. CIM standards are being introduced gradually. Those for Math and English are already in place. She denied that CIM and CAM result in teacher's teaching to the test, saying that they teach to the standards. PASS standards are compatible with CAM though more difficult in some cases.

On Saturday, we met at the Motel where we were staying. We had a joint meeting with AOF and heard from the AOF Lobbyist, Mark Nelson, who went over some of the same ground as Friday's speakers. He said that the Republicans held a nine-hour caucus out of which a budget will emerge that they have agreed on. He pointed out that the Governor has approved some increases for agencies greater than the one for higher education that he vetoed. He believes that individual campuses will have a great deal of discretion in distributing funds once they come and that faculty should try to participate as much as possible in that process. Senate Bill 722 will have the effect of reducing retirement benefits for faculty hired after 2000. He believes that the Governor will veto it in its present form. Both the Republican and Governor's budgets fund only half of a 2+2% salary increase. There followed a discussion of the effect of greater campus autonomy and the extent to which there will be a system and, indeed, an IFS under the new budget model. As I said before, vagueness about these issues is a continuing concern among IFS members.

Peter Gilkey of the University of Oregon has created a Web page for IFS, and he met with us to discuss what should be on it. We will publish minutes of our meetings and other items of general interest.

Finally, we addressed the fact that we have not maintained the constitution of the IFS, and we appointed a special committee to bring it up to date this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Proposal for January Response Date to ARC's Writing Proposal

Background: At the 7 June 1999 Meeting of the PSU Faculty Senate, the Steering Committee presented the Report on the University Studies Program, which included recommendations from constitutional committees participating in the study. The Faculty Senate passed the following motion: "Accept the reports of the ARC, UCC and the Budget Committee; adopt their recommendations (see below), and ask the Administration to respond at the meeting of the Faculty Senate in November, 1999."

The Academic Requirements Committee (ARC)

The ARC was charged with responding to the following from the Task Force Report: "Steps should be taken to assure that our students receive broad exposure to mathematics, science and writing, and other subjects important in a liberal education. Whether these issues of breadth can or should be addressed entirely within the University Studies program is a crucial issue for the university to decide."

The ARC addressed science and mathematics in its March, 1999 faculty senate report: Science and mathematics are addressed by the new BS requirements (math and science are required) and the new BA requirements (math or science is required). ARC recommendation: wait to determine the outcome of these new course requirements before taking any further action.

Regarding writing:

It is critical to recognize that the scope of this "problem" extends into all aspects of students' educational experience at PSU. We urge in the strongest possible terms that the University initiate a process of testing to determine the quality and character of student writing. Highest priority should be given to describing what we mean by merely acceptable to excellent writing and then testing incoming as well as exiting students. Assessment should have some payoff for the students who undergo it as well as the institution. If performance is lacking, courses must be made available that will invest students with the writing skills they need at PSU and beyond.

Preliminary steps might involve:

- In cooperation with high school and community college faculty, taking a look at samples of students’ writing when they enter PSU (entrants from high school as well as transfer students);
- Some systematic sampling of writing from FRINQ and SINQ courses, as well as from those taking part in CAPSTONES.
- Information regarding the resources and policies surrounding writing at "feeder" schools is a prerequisite to any action taken by PSU.
- Attention should be paid to special populations (non-native English speakers, speakers of nonstandard varieties).

PSU Faculty Senate Meeting, October 4, 1999