

Meeting Minutes – BSC Faculty Senate

Location: Google Meeting

Date: October 9, 2020

Time: 11:00 am

Attendance:

Geoff Hunter, Michelle Taylor, Tamara Ferguson, James Pruett, Rodney Montague, Vanessa Godfrey, Kelli Sarver, Amy Atwell, Bill Bennett, Mike Lilly, James Pruett, Tina Nicholson, Karen Grogan, D. Arachi, A. Berkoh, Debjani Chakrabarti, Roy Pruett, John Snead; BOG Rep., Scott Rasnick, Amanda Matoushek, Ted Lewis; Provost, Darrel Malamisura; Faculty Senate Chair.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Darrel Malamisura, Faculty Senate Chair at 11:02 am.

Dr. Ted Lewis:

Darrel Malamisura began the meeting by allowing Dr. Ted Lewis to address the Faculty Senate. He stated that if a faculty member decides to retire in the spring, they should let the school know by October 31st of the previous year to allow for sufficient time to post the job. He is currently in the process of hiring 5 new faculty members.

Vanessa Godfrey had a question concerning the new feedback system, Starfish. She states that she has a few concerns about the comments that are given to the students. More choices are needed for the comments given to the students. She also states that the email that is sent to the students has a comment that says “your classmates and I”, she feels that no type of feedback given to the students should have any comment concerning the student’s classmates. She also does not feel that an email containing the faculty member’s name should not be sent to a student without first being approved by the faculty member. Dr. Lewis stated that a committee has begun meeting about the components of Starfish and that the customization of what the students are receiving has come up many times. Vanessa states that maybe the email should be addressed from the Student Success Services and not contain the faculty member’s name. Dr. Lewis suggested that faculty come up with ideas for changes that can be made to the statements that students receive and send to the Starfish committee. Darrel asked Dr. Lewis if there would be videos posted on how to utilize Starfish and when will this become the only feedback system available. Dr. Lewis said that Early Alert/Faculty Feedback will be turned off at the end of the semester.

Michelle Taylor asked Dr. Lewis where the Winter Intersession classes could be found on the schedule. He said there are 19 courses offered and are on the spring 2021 dynamic schedule. Early registration will begin on Monday, October 19th to begin registering for spring and the intersession classes.

Rodney Montague asked how the search for coaches of the new athletic teams joining BSC in the fall. Dr. Lewis states that falls under Coach Price, Athletic Director. The football coach will

be announced today at 1pm and the college is close to announcing several of the new coaches coming to the college.

Old Business:

Darrel suggested that everyone read up on all the information that the faculty senate was given in the past few months on BStateNow and we will discuss this during the next meeting. No other old business was discussed.

Committee Reports:

1. **Academic Appeals:** No meeting.
2. **Assessment Committee:** Met on 10/1. The committee met and began looking at basic information. Tammy Ferguson stated that the college needs to assess cocurricular for HLC. Mike Smith has been named Chair and a meeting has been set up for 10/22. Meetings will be set up regularly to work on HLC accreditation. Sarita has begun choosing leads for subcommittees and people are beginning to reach out to the committee.
3. **Budget Committee:** No meeting
4. **Curriculum Committee:** Mike Lilly stated they met on 10/8 and the committee had 7-8 proposals. 2 proposals from Health Sciences: to create HLTH 301 and HLTH 305, these were tabled due to the fact the school had not yet voted on these. 3 proposals from Arts and Education: 2 physical education courses, PHYS 210 and PHYS 109 and were approved. 1 English class, ENGL 295 was approved. Proposal for SOSOC 341, course in gender studies was approved. Request by Social Science program to replace ECON 210 with SOSOC 230 Social Economic Processes was denied. Rodney Montague asked that the reasons for denying a class be sent to the Chair of that department to clarify the reasons is was not approved.
5. **P & T:** Will not meet until spring
6. **Faculty Rights and Responsibilities:** No Meeting
7. **College Council:** No Meeting
8. **Student Disciplinary Appeals:** No Meeting
9. **Student Academic Appeals:** No Meeting
10. **BOG:** John Snead stated that they have not met since our last meeting on 9/25. Special Planning and Policy Meeting for 10/15.
11. **Professional Development:** No Meeting
12. **ACF:** Mike Lilly stated they met on 10/8 by Zoom. Due to COVID, none of the major subcommittees are meeting and there are many restrictions about not letting the public into the capital. Also, they discussed what other schools are doing during COVID and he feels that BSC has better restrictions and policies than our neighboring schools.

New Business:

Proposed Amendment: The current new constitution on the Curriculum Committee says is to be comprised of 4 non-faculty senate members. There is a problem with this because anyone that is part of that committee from the School of Business is in some way a part of the faculty senate. Mike wants to propose that he be allowed to submit an amendment to the new constitution to

change that wording to four faculty members that may or may not be on the faculty senate. Darrel stated that we would vote on this during our next meeting.

Rodney Montague stated that he spoke with Dr. Lewis about enrollment numbers for the college. As of 10/8/2020, there was a 9 student increase from the previous year. We are down FTE's from what was predicted. Our enrollment is holding steady and not dropping as much as other schools in the state. There is hope that the winter intersession will give a boost to our numbers, also. When the sports programs begin the fall of 2021, there is an additional 360 students predicted.

Amanda Matoushek stated that she has spoken to Dr. Lewis about advertising the small number of COVID cases on our campus will all the surrounding schools having much higher numbers. She says that Sherri Williams informed her that there have only been 8 positive cases thus far on campus. Of the 8 cases, there have not been cases of the virus being spread throughout the campus. Rodney Montague says that he has heard that the governor will require random COVID testing of faculty, staff and students. That each week, 10% of the population will be tested. The new rapid testing has now been introduced which gives the results within 15-20 minutes. The BSC Health Center now offers the rapid tests.

Closed Session:

Michelle Taylor made a motion to go to closed session, Karen Grogan seconded the motion. All were in agreeance and the meeting moved to closed session.

Geoff Hunter asked how was the decision on the type of classes and those teaching the classes made for winter intersession. Rodney Montague stated that the college contacted the dean of his school and passed the information on to the chair. You were given a deadline to add your class to the intersession roster. Tammy Ferguson stated that she tried to add those classes that she felt would assist students in retention. Darrel stated that no one from the School of Business had been asked to teach for the intersession.

Another issue discussed during closed session was the concern with the self-study for the HLC. Tammy Ferguson stated we had lost a few of the key players needed to provide information for the report. Assessment from the different schools has not been either gathered or kept from the previous years.

Adjunct and overload pay information was analyzed from other schools in the area and BSC is by far the lowest pay in the state. If we plan to grow our enrollment next fall, we need to bring on more adjuncts and increase our overload pay to take on the workload.

Dr. Debjani Chakrabarty stated that the college needed to hire another foreign language instructor. That they can't consistently offer foreign language classes if there is not faculty.

Adjournment:

With no other business, John Snead motioned to adjourn, Michelle Taylor seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 12:32 pm.

