

CAMPUS SENATE MINUTES: January 5, 2017

Attendance: T. Allison, R. Bartell, J. Burkholder, W. Cantor, M. Casteel, A. Dietz, D. Eicher-Catt, B. Eshbach, A. Fetterman, D. Folkers, C. Gaston, J. Giguere, S. Gill, F. Haag, H. Hartman, A. Hasan, A. Kara, F. Lagemwa, K. Magni, M. Marcus, N. Muscanell, M. Nicholas, J. Petko, J. Price, M. Ritchey, A. Seidel, N. Sloboda, J. Smeltzer, S. Stelly, J. Sutton, K. Swalgin, K. Trout, A. Vardo-Zalik, E. Wenk, M. Wijesinha, V. Ganescu, S. Lentz, H. Gumke, S. Ruch, R. Service, P. Tanner, R. Archer-Clark, F. Baker, L. Brewster, B. Dennis, R. Farrell, S. Shaffer, and A. White

Called to order at 12:11 p.m.

I. Approval of minutes from the December 1, 2016, Senate Meeting – Minutes were approved.

II. Communications from administration, faculty, and committees

A. Announcements from the Chancellor, Dr. David Chown

B. Announcements from the DAA, Dr. Bob Farrell

1. Sabbaticals Awarded: Dr. Jennifer Nesbitt, Dr. Maureen Muller-Kahle, and Dr. Abdul Siddiqui.
2. Faculty searches are proceeding on schedule in business (FTM), accounting (TT), and HDFS (TT). On-campus interviews will begin during the first week of classes in January.
3. Faculty activity reports are due on Friday, January 20. Please be attentive to the instructions that were issued by email on December 16, 2016.
4. Pre-March conferences will be conducted February 1-28, 2017. Please use the doodle poll to schedule your meeting time if you have not done so already.
5. Nominations for the faculty scholar award are due in the Office of Academic Affairs by January 15, 2017.
6. Reminder: all employees traveling abroad on Penn State business need to file travel plans in advance through the Travel Safety Network. This is non-negotiable: reimbursement for expenses incurred will be declined by the University if this protocol is not followed. Visit tsn.psu.edu for details.
7. Academic advisers: please remind your students now about the absolute necessity of filing their intent-to-graduate at the beginning of their final semester. Many students have dropped the ball over the last couple of semesters, causing havoc as commencement approaches.
8. There is a new EPR tool that resides in Starfish. Please be attentive to the new reporting guidelines: (a) “Early Indicators” reporting period is January 23 – January 30, 2017, and (b) the “Mid-Semester Progress” reporting period is February 20 – March 13, 2017.
9. New N2 policy is in effect. This pertains to holds placed on the accounts of students with a cumulative grade-point average of less than 2.0. Students are now *required* to meet with their academic adviser to develop an action plan before the hold will be released by the campus Registrar, with the concurrence of the DAA.

10. The spring 2017 semester schedule of courses is showing a deficit in the percentage of classes offered on Friday. The requirement is for 15-30 percent; the campus is currently at 8 percent. This issue will be addressed during the development of the schedule for fall 2017.
11. Remind your students Monday, January 16, 2017, is a federal holiday and that there are no classes.
12. You should list the Title IX presentation that was given at spring orientation as a “professional development” activity for 2017. A follow-up event will be scheduled later this semester.
13. The annual Exhibition of Undergraduate Research and Creative Accomplishments will be held on Tuesday, April 11, 2017.
14. A National DNA Day celebration will be hosted by the Office of Academic Affairs on Tuesday, April 25, 2017. Details to follow.
15. Tea with the DAA: Thursday, January 19 at 3:00 p.m.; Wednesday, March 1 at 3:00 p.m.; Tuesday, April 18 at 3:00 p.m.; and Wednesday, May 10 at 3:00 p.m.

C. Announcements from University Senators

Dr. Jane Sutton’s term of service will be ending this semester. Volunteers willing to stand for the election to be held during the February or March meetings for this position should speak with her and Dr. Noel Sloboda.

Dr. Mark Casteel-the overall size of the University Faculty Senate will be reviewed by committee. The York Campus will likely not lose a Senate position due to retirements anticipated under the ERP.

D. Announcements from Senate Committee Chairs

Dr. Ali Kara – Faculty Affairs will be considering the current campus unit structure during the spring 2017 semester. Please send any thoughts or suggestions to him.

Ann Fetterman reminded the Senate members to review emails sent last semester and forward nominations for student awards mentioned in those emails.

E. Announcements from Faculty Council Representatives

Dr. Noel Sloboda’s term of service will end this semester. Volunteers willing to stand for election to be held during the February or March meetings for this position should contact him. Dr. Sloboda also encouraged Senate members to consider nominating a colleague for the University College Research Award. Contact Judy Bowman at jak8@psu.edu to make those nominations and for more information.

F. Announcements from Faculty

G. Announcements from Staff

Suzanne Shaffer provided an update on Canvas and on professional development opportunities during the spring semester. Shaffer reminded faculty that summer 2017 is the last semester to be able to teach using ANGEL. She also requested faculty teaching courses populated by seniors to consider allowing her to conduct a survey of their stud

H. Announcements from Student Governance

Andrew White, Student Government Association (SGA) made a report of SGA activities for fall 2016 and plans for spring 2017. The mental health campaign will be implemented in spring 2017.

I. Announcements from Senate Chair, Dr. Noel Sloboda

Dr. Sloboda thanked all committee chairs for their service in fall 16 and requested that each chair send a list of topics to be addressed by each committee be sent to him in the next two weeks. He also announced the resignation of Dr. Jennifer Nesbitt as Senate Chair-Elect due to her planned sabbatical for fall 17 and called for volunteers willing to stand for election to fill this vacated position. The election will take place at the February 14 meeting.

J. Announcements from Senate Chair-Elect, Dr. Jennifer Nesbitt

III. Unfinished Business

IV. New Business

V. Forensic Business

VI. Adjournment was at 12:40 pm.

VII. Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 14, 2017, 12:05 p.m. 107 Grumbacher

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Smeltzer
Secretary