

DRAFT
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
Meeting: October 7, 2008

PRESENT: M. Moosally, B. Belbot, T. Davis, J. Caro, B. Christmas, J. Creighton, M. Cunningham, J. Dutcher, J. Flosi, B. Gilbert, A. Gomez-Rivas, O. Gupta, T. Hale, S. Henney, L. Hignite, A. Kane, N. Leveille, P. Lyons, K. McLellan, C. Nguyen, D. Nino, J. Pavletich, K. Pinkerton, N. Rangel, T. Redl, A. Rejaie, R. Robbins, K. Robertson, D. Ryden, C. Stewart, H. Wang, J. Yoon

ABSENT: S. Penkar, P. Simeonov, Z. Zhou

GUESTS: Provost M. Woods, VP P. Williams, VP D. Bradley, VP I. Montalbano, Library Director P. Ensor, G. Evans, J. Schmertz, A. Sikka, D. TeDuits

President Michelle Moosally called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Senate President Moosally's Report

President Moosally made the following announcements:

- Elections for the new Grievance Committee are still being conducted.
- The Senate ad hoc committee that was created to look at assessment issues, i.e. to generate a new position description and to consider the reporting structure, had met last Monday and will report back to the Senate at the next Senate meeting.
- UFEC (University Faculties Executive Council) met on Sept 25 – primary topic was the possibility of downward expansion for UHV, with a special topic board meeting scheduled for October 10.
- Faculty Affairs Committee hopes to get a charge from Dr. Castillo on the workload issues next week.
- FSEC is working with Dr. Woods on selection of an ombuds. Due to hurricane circumstances, we have requested a deadline extension from Dr. Castillo. The policy requires that we bring a candidate to the Senate by October 15; Dr. Castillo has granted an extension and we hope to have a name to the Senate for approval by November 4.

President Moosally asked if there were any other announcements. Since there were no other announcements, the discussion moved to old business. Under old business, topics for future senate meetings were suggested as follows:

- workload (by N. Leveille),
- workload, pedestrian safety, and signage (by K. Pinkerton),
- the state of repairs on hurricane damage and the repair of the manhole cover (by J. Flossi),
- daycare (by D. Ryden),
- college readiness and student success.

Visitor J. Schmertz asked for clarification between workload and courseload. President Moosally said that courseload dealt with the number of courses taught and workload would include other assignments/responsibilities beyond teaching. President Moosally also announced that she had heard there are plans for a new building. R. Robbins asked where Career Planning and Placement would fit in. President Moosally suggested that perhaps that could be part of the student success initiative; she also said that Dr. C. Birchak had indicated that college readiness initiatives would be forthcoming from the state. President Moosally said she understands that the state has gathered college syllabi, etc, with the intent of aligning high school curriculum with core freshman courses, but this raises questions about how the state will move forward in terms of college standards in these courses. Dr. Birchak has some information and insight on this and on legislative initiatives and would be able to discuss with the faculty at a future Faculty Senate meeting. R. Robbins asked about the 6-course drop rule. President Moosally said her understanding is that after the 6th drop, a student cannot have any more drops; in other words, the grade for courses dropped beyond six would be an F. Provost M. Woods said that there are waivers that can be requested, but there are no guidelines or specifications for these waivers as yet.

R. Robbins asked if the faculty senate has completed its discussion of the name change. President Moosally said that the senate could create an opportunity to review/discuss this, if senators believed this to be necessary. President Moosally further suggested that perhaps the senate could discuss the name change after the survey results are available. Dr. Madeline Johnson from the College of Business is working with Public Relations Director S. Davis and with an outside firm to develop the survey. R. Robbins asked to put the name change on the agenda for a future meeting.

J. Dutcher asked that faculty parking be kept on the agenda for a future senate meeting. She said that for the third time this month she has taken the last spot in her lot. The Shea Street Building has plenty of parking but other areas do not.

R. Robbins brought up the topic of computer labs, especially in the library. President Moosally asked Library Director P. Ensor about the time line for the opening of the new library (computer lab) facility; P. Ensor said the new library opening would be around the last of October but the computer lab may not be ready for opening at the same time.

President Moosally said that she will send out a list of topics and ask for rankings. Senate Vice-President B. Belbot made a motion to do the ranking by email. The motion passed. Senator B. Gilbert made a motion that the Faculty Senate move into Executive Session; Senator B. Christmas seconded. The motion was approved by a vote of thirty-two with three abstentions.

All visitors were asked to leave and President Moosally reminded all participants that the executive session would not be recorded as part of the minutes.

The Senate came out of executive session at 4:15 p.m. and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy J. Davis
Secretary-Treasurer