

February 21, 2007

TO: Members of Faculty Council
FROM: Mark Popovich, Chairperson
SUBJ: Faculty Council Meeting #6
Thursday, March 1, 2007
4:00 p.m., AJ 175

AGENDA

Roll Call

Approval of the minutes of February 1, 2007

I. Announcements

A. Next scheduled meetings

Agenda Committee – March 26, 2007, 11:00 a.m., NQ 300
Faculty Council Meeting – April 5, 2007, 4:00 p.m., AJ 175

B. Provost's Question and Answer Period

C. Committee Reports/Items currently in committees

1. Evaluation of Teaching (Teaching Evaluation)
2. Grade Inflation (Teaching Evaluation)
3. Restructuring Ball State Health Care Plans – from Agenda Committee 10/4/04 (Salary and Benefits)
4. Definition of Creative Arts for Faculty Award – from Agenda Committee 3/21/05 (Creative Arts)
5. 1-2-1 Agreement (International Programs) – from University Council 9/15/05
6. Terminology of Contract Positions at BSU – from Agenda Committee 10/17/05 (Contract Faculty)
7. Athletic Funding – from Agenda Committee 11/21/05 (Financial and Budgetary Affairs)
8. Load credit for directing an undergraduate honors thesis or master's thesis – from Agenda Committee 8/21/06 (Salary and Benefits)
9. Major in Peace Studies – from Agenda Committee 8/21/06 (Undergraduate Education)
10. Load Issue regarding class size (Salary and Benefits)
11. Ten-month pay system and summer insurance payments (Salary and Benefits)
12. Expansion of retirement benefits for contract faculty (Salary and Benefits)

II. Unfinished Business

III. New Business

- A. Change in date of issue of paychecks for 10-month faculty (Enclosure #1)
- B. Computer Users Policy (Enclosure #2)
- C. Revision of InQsit Lab Procedures (Enclosure #2)
- D. Addition of description of retirement benefits for contract faculty (Enclosure #3)
- E. Life Insurance benefits for contract faculty (Enclosure #3)

IV. Question and Answer Period

V. Adjournment

/mt

Members Present: B. Adams, N. Ahmed, G. Crawley, G. Crawley, L. Deckers, I. DeOllos, F. Groom, D. Haber, D. Hahn, M. Harvey, M. Hawkins, J. Helton, B. Hozeski, R. Huffman, S. Islam, L. Johnson, K. Kabadaki, K. Kalumba, J. Ledbetter, J. McKean, W. Mucherah, J. Olesen, C. Payne, D. Pearson, M. Popovich, R. Rarick, G. Reid, J. Rybarczyk, R. Shackelford, R. Spangler, R. Stankewitz, A. Stegner, F. Suppe, B. Umansky, C. Updike, M. Walker, A. Wieseke, P. Wohlt, T. Wolner, T. Zivney

Substitutes: Richard Uggen for J. Cecil, Tim Lyon for J. Eflin, Robert Kvam, for M. Maggiotto, Larry Smith for B. Messner, Scott Rice-Snow for K. Neumann

Members Absent: E. Kelly, T. King, J. McClure, M. McGrew, H. Mortimer, P. Spengler, J. Vann, E. Whittern, E. Zygmunt-Fillwalk

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Mark Popovich, at 4:00 p.m., in AJ 175. Roll call was taken by initialing the roster.

A motion was made and seconded (Pearson/Crawley) to approve the minutes of November 2, 2006.

Motion carried.

1. Announcements

A. Next scheduled meetings

Agenda Committee – February 19, 2007, 11:00 a.m., NQ 300
Faculty Council Meeting – March 1, 2007, 4:00 p.m., AJ 175

B. Items currently in committees:

1. Evaluation of Teaching (Teaching Evaluation)
2. Grade Inflation (Teaching Evaluation)
3. Restructuring Ball State Health Care Plans – from Agenda Committee 10/4/04 (Salary and Benefits)
4. Definition of Creative Arts for Faculty Award – from Agenda Committee 3/21/05 (Creative Arts)
5. 1-2-1 Agreement (International Programs) – from University Council 9/15/05
6. Terminology of Contract Positions at BSU – from Agenda Committee 10/17/05 (Contract Faculty)
7. Athletic Funding – from Agenda Committee 11/21/05 (Financial and Budgetary Affairs)
8. Load credit for directing an undergraduate honors thesis or master's thesis – from Agenda Committee 8/21/06 (Salary and Benefits)
9. Major in Peace Studies – from Agenda Committee 8/21/06 (Undergraduate Education)
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12. Expansion of retirement benefits for contract faculty (Salary and Benefits)

C. Report of Special Leave Committee – Lisa Huffman, Chairperson, Special Leave Committee

Lisa reported that there were 47 applications for special leave and 44 met the criteria. The committee placed the applications in rank order and are prepared to submit them to the Provost.

A motion was made and seconded (Payne/Adams) to accept the report.

Motion carried.

D. Comments from current Student Government Association representatives regarding UCC-21

Asher Lisec and Ashley Johnson from the Student Government Association were present at today's meeting and discussed the student's point of view regarding the core curriculum.

They conveyed to the Council that the primary concern of the students is that they can graduate in four years. They also supported the inclusion of a diversity class in the new core curriculum

Discussion ensued regarding the general feeling among the students regarding the Strategic Plan and the addition of an immersive learning experience.

Juli Eflin attended a Student Government Association meeting last year to explain the proposed new core curriculum. The students would like to see change, but no additional hours added.

The Chairperson of the Council thanked the student representatives for attending the meeting.

II. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

III. New Business

A. Comprehensive Examinations for Master's Degree (Faculty Council Agenda 2/1/07, Enclosure #1)

Nancy Brooks, a member of the Graduate Education Committee, presented this item of new business.

There was a second to the motion by the Graduate Education Committee (S. Rice-Snow)

Discussion ensued.

The motion carried.

B. Addition of new faculty award

Motion approved by Instructional Media Support Committee 9/27/06 and Senate Agenda Committee 10/16/06:

“Add a “Teaching with Technology” award to come from the Provost's Office.” (For fall awards)

Dave Pearson, chairperson of the Instructional Media Support Committee, presented this item of new business.

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made and seconded (Pearson/Hozeski) to add the "Teaching with Technology" award.

The motion failed, after a hand vote: Yes: 11 No: 24 Abstentions

IV. Question and Answer Period

At this time, there was lengthy discussion regarding the Strategic Plan and the inclusion of an immersive learning experience.

Members were reminded to keep the Strategic Plan and the proposed revised core curriculum separate.

It was suggested that it was entirely appropriate to ask these questions to the Provost and the President at the next University Senate Meeting.

Mark Popovich will extract the seven item immersive experience checklist in the Strategic Plan and request assistance from the Undergraduate Education Committee.

V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ione DeOllos, Secretary

Change in date of issue of Paychecks for 10-month faculty

The Faculty Council requests that Ball State University issue paychecks to those faculty on the 10-month plan at the end of each month beginning on August 31 and ending on May 31, effective August 31, 2007. Additionally, monthly benefit payments required for the months of June, July, and August should be prorated across all 10 monthly checks rather than subtracted in a lump sum from the 10th paycheck issued on May 15 as is the current practice.

Rationale:

Currently, Ball State faculty on the 10-month payroll check plan must endure four months without a payroll check, unless they can teach summer classes. Summer employment is not guaranteed by the university. The last faculty check of the year on May 15 contains a triple reduction for monthly benefits to cover the university outlay for those benefits in June, July and August. This pay schedule presents a hardship to faculty on the 10-month pay plan, and an inconvenience for those that must meet their financial obligations on the first of each month, especially in September.

Indiana University, Purdue University and IUPUI pay their faculties on the last working day of the month, commencing in August. IUPUI and Purdue University prorate summer monthly benefits across each of the 10 payroll checks; however, Indiana University allows faculty members to write a personal check for summer benefits or to take a lump sum out of their first payroll check.

Motion #1:

Computer Users Policy

Access

Ball State University strives to provide privacy and a fair share of technical resources to all members of the University community whose work requires it. Fees may be charged for some services. All computer users have the responsibility to use these resources in an efficient, effective, ethical, and lawful manner. Faculty may limit the use of technology in their classrooms and laboratories. The ethical and legal standards come from standards of common sense and common decency that apply to the use of any public resource within the University and are documented in the local, state, and federal statutes and University policies, regulations and procedures.

(Online Computer Users Policy)

Motion #2:

Privileges and Responsibilities of Technology Users

Members of the University community must conduct themselves in accordance with high ethical standards related to use of technology. This policy applies to all forms of current and future technology capable of originating, storing, receiving, or sending alphanumeric data and photographic or other images. Faculty may limit the use of technology in their classrooms and laboratories. In addition to maintaining a high level of ethical behavior, each member of the University community agrees to abide by particular policies published elsewhere in this document, including the Student Academic Ethics Policy and the "Computer Users' Privileges and Responsibilities" document published on the University website. These policies are periodically reviewed and updated by the campus Council, the Faculty Council, and the University Senate.

(Faculty and Professional Personnel Handbook, P. 187)

Motion #3:

Revision of InQsit Lab Procedures

In order to discourage dishonesty in InQsit labs, the University Senate recommends the following actions be included in the InQsit laboratory procedures:

1. The InQsit examination will be modified to include a check-box statement at the beginning of the test stating that the student is aware of the Academic Dishonesty Policy of the university. A web link to the policy will be added for the student wishing to review the policy.
2. The InQsit examination will be modified to require faculty to respond to the instructions to the cyber proctor box before the module may be updated. This may include, but not limited to, a check list of items or directions in the comment section.

(InQsit Laboratory Procedures)

Motion #1:

Addition of Description of Retirement Benefits for Contract Faculty

The Faculty Council requests that Ball State University add a description of retirement benefits for contract faculty to the online Payroll and Employee Benefits Handbook.

Rationale:

Currently, the online Employee and Benefits handbook lists a description of retirement benefits for faculty/professional staff, and staff/service employees. Contract faculty payroll and employee benefits are not listed on the university website. This addition would bring equal recognition to the three groups which comprise the work force of this university.

(Payroll and Employee Benefits Handbook)

Motion #2:

Life Insurance Benefits for Contract Faculty

The Faculty Council requests that Ball State University extend to contract faculty retirees life insurance benefits similar to those already created for Faculty and Professional Personnel.

Rationale:

1. Contract faculty were awarded health care benefits by the Board of Trustees in 1999.
2. Contract faculty retirees were granted permanent university identification cards in 1997.
3. Cost to the university for contract faculty retiree life insurance benefits would amount to 21 cents per hundred dollars of coverage per month per retiree. (Contract faculty would pay 7 cents per each hundred per month as their portion of the cost.) This would amount to approximately \$80 per year per retiree. In the years 2004-2006, the university experienced the retirement of 15 full-time contract faculty. One year university costs for 15 contract faculty retirees would be \$1200.