Minutes  
Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
March 28, 2005

1. Chair-elect Mike Lastinger called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the President’s Conference Room, Stewart Hall.

Members present:
- Clark, N.
- Lang, G.
- Strife, M.
- Dean, R.
- Larrabee, J.
- Torsney, C.
- Elmore, S.
- Lastinger, M.
- Wilkinson, C.
- Hardesty, D.
- McDiarmid, M.
- Wilson, C. B.
- Jacknowitz, A.
- Nutter, R.

Members absent:
- Held, J.
- Hornak, L.
- McCutcheon, T.

Guests:
- Brown, P.
- Garbutt, K.
- Pitts, J. (DA)

2. President Hardesty suggested that at some point, job descriptions for the following positions should be discussed: president of the University, vice president of the University, dean, chair and faculty member. He said the president’s job description does not include supervision of the content of the work for faculty members, but he does enforce academic values. He said there is no, “all for one and one for the other” status, but everyone has stake in the action of activities. Chairs are those who do administrative work but they are also expected to teach in their fields of study. The President said interests are shared in academic life and should share in the support and management of the University.

3. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2005 meeting. Motion carried.

4. Chair-elect Lastinger said Ken Gray, Vice-President of Student Life, will give a report at the April 11, 2005, Faculty Senate meeting.

5. At the April 11th Faculty Senate meeting, senators will be asked to submit names of any current or former senators who will be retiring this year, so they can be recognized at the May 9th Faculty Senate meeting.

6. Professor Nigel Clark moved for approval of Annex I, New Courses and Course Changes. Motion carried. The Alteration Report listed in Annex II was presented for information.

7. Professor Paul Brown moved for approval of Annex III, LSP Report. Professor Brown will separate the new designations for LSP/GEC from the courses being audited and resubmit the report before it goes to the Faculty Senate. Motion carried.
8. Professor Garbutt led a discussion concerning the General Education curriculum. He recommended a special meeting be held in September 2005 to discuss courses that need to go through the GEC process, so courses can be put in the Spring, 2006 catalog as regular courses. Professor Garbutt said an audit has already taken place to review the objectives.

9. Professor Wilkinson reported that the Graduate Council has completed its principle work in reviewing 22 graduate programs and identifying programs of excellence. He said in April, a meeting will be held to discuss the process of evaluating programs.

10. Professor Parviz Famouri from the College of Engineering and Mineral Resources has agreed to be nominated for Faculty Senate Chair-elect. It was moved and duly seconded to accept the nomination. Motion carried. Additional nominations will be received at both the April 11th and May 9th Faculty Senate meetings, and the election will be conducted after all nominations have been received at the May 9th meeting.

11. Professor Larrabee led a discussion concerning the gathering of information for a faculty review process. She said the amount of documentation that is needed for evaluations takes an incredible amount of time to compile and causes a great deal of frustration. She asked if there would be a way to reduce the amount of evidence that is needed for the self-evaluations. Associate Provost C. B. Wilson distributed a handout titled, “Policies and Procedures for Annual Faculty Evaluation, Promotion and Tenure.” He stressed that when faculty are evaluated, it is essential for them to provide the appropriate documentation in their files. Associate Provost Wilson said he would discuss the issue with Bobbie Brandt about condensing materials and cutting down on duplicated articles.

12. Provost Lang reported on the status of the strategic planning process. He said he has asked that all input be given to the subcommittee chairs by today (March 28). He said the Steering Committee is meeting on Wednesday (March 30) to look at what the voting has been from the subcommittees to see if there has been overlap among the subcommittees. The Continuous Learning Group has gone through all the data to look for natural groupings. The Provost said after Wednesday, March 30th, objectives will be reviewed from the 5 subcommittees. The next step will be to have a smaller group draft a document that will lay out the various objectives under each of the goals and share it with the steering committee mid to late April and then the draft will be submitted to the campus by the first part of May.

13. Provost Lang said the honorary degrees will be announced toward the end of April or the beginning of May, 2005.

14. The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, April 25, 2005.

Mary Strife
Faculty Secretary