# FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Wednesday, October 12, 2011**

**2:30 - 3:30 p.m.**

<http://www.pennstatebehrend.psu.edu/faculty/council/>

In attendance, Dawn Blasko, Margaret Voss, Don Birx, Dave Christiansen, Gary Walker, Dave Causgrove, Ron McCarty, Mike Brown, Simon Fan, Courtney Nagle, Randy Brown, Dean Lewis, Zach Irwin, John Stone, Jeff Tseng and Jim Keeley

1. Meeting called to order at 2:30 p.m. by Dawn Blasko, Faculty Council Chair
2. Meeting minutes approved from September 21, 2011
3. Committee (and other) Reports:
   1. Dawn Blasko
      1. Website space has been created for all committees, please send approved minutes to Kathy Mauro to upload them to your page
      2. Faculty forum for Strategic Planning report out will be in McGarvey Commons on October 18th at 4:00 p.m.
      3. Should have received an email with a link regarding the report from the Core Council. Please take the time to review that.
      4. All chairs of the Faculty Organizations and Faculty Senates across all campuses are planning to meet to discuss best practices. This will probably be a polycom meeting. Will let you know when this is setup.
   2. Senate Representative Zach Irwin
      1. Some reports made to the senate regarded:
         1. Adjustments need to be made to courses that contain a travel component. Okay till December but next year needs to be adjusted to the academic calendar
         2. President Spanier reported out how great the enrollment of international students and why he thinks they are selecting Penn State. Also the extension of the World Campus and their high enrollment. He also brought up the fact that we will begin to decrease the offering of ENGL 004 and MATH 004.
         3. Senate also had a report out of the Faculty Senate scholarships and a report regarding the average student debt of Penn State students.
         4. The 3-Year Benefit Strategy - for the full report, go to the Faculty Senate website and see the presentation. Topics covered: premiums will be based on salary; the Wellness program; and life insurance premiums.
   3. Academic Computing Gary Walker
      1. J. Wilkerson will take over as chair of this committee in the spring semester.
      2. Committee has met and has started discussing the charges.
   4. Athletics Dave Causgrove
      1. Had their first meeting and have already begun working on their charges.
   5. Curricular Affairs Ron McCarty
      1. Committee has met and created sub-committees to start addressing their charges.
      2. Currently looking at the Finance course proposal.
   6. Faculty Affairs Mike Brown
      1. Have started having conversations and gathering information regarding several of their charges such as: the faculty incentive system, faculty workload policies, and the rate of faculty reaching full professor status at our campus.
      2. Also will be working with the Research committee regarding external funding and outreach.
   7. Research Simon Fan
      1. Committee will be meeting tomorrow and will begin to review sabbatical applications.
   8. Scholarships and Awards Courtney Nagle
      1. Will start to get the word out about the different scholarships and awards.
      2. Looked at the current web-based system; it may be a longer more involved project than previously thought.
   9. Student Life Randy Brown
      1. Created sub-committees to begin working on their charges.
      2. Ken Miller said a new student attitude survey will be sent out in December.
      3. Continue to work with Ann Quinn on sustainability issues.
      4. Will be creating a guide or student Bill of Rights regarding the relationship between students and Food & Housing and Police & Safety. This is to help faculty to be able to direct the students and understand the relationship between these units.
      5. Working with developers is currently on hold at the moment.
      6. Will be working on gathering information on what type of recreational space might be needed on campus.
      7. Want to work with Faculty Affairs regarding the attitudes of the SRTE system.
   10. Undergraduate Studies Dean Lewis
       1. Committee has met and has divided the charges and tasks up into sub- groups.
   11. Student Representative Jeff Tseng & Jim Keeley
       1. Mentioned that SGA is working on the new smoking policy and the dry campus issue.
4. Administrative Reports
   1. Chancellor Don Birx
      1. Penn State West was discussed as a concept that has been worked on for a year where the campuses on the west side of PA will cooperate, share resources and have more synergies between the locations. This may be discussed more at the faculty forum.
      2. Mentioned the Core Council reports. Links will be put up on the Faculty Council website and issues raised in the reports will start to be addressed. Overall, the reports are encouraging for Behrend and generally supportive of our strategy.
   2. Associate Dean Dave Christiansen
      1. Periodically administrators go through a review process known as AD-14. John Magenau is currently being reviewed.
      2. Looking at potential courses to be offered in the summer.
5. Meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m. Respectfully submitted by,

Melanie R. Ford