Minutes
Faculty Advisory Council (FAC) Meeting
02/25/05
Texas State University—HPER 115 (faculty lounge)

Members in Attendance: Steve Gordon, Steve Awoniyi, Bobby Patton, Deborah Buswell, Jennifer Battle, Moe Johnson, Greg Soukup, Colleen Connolly, Mike Boone, Marla McGhee for Sarah Nelson, Maria de la Colina, Shana Pate-Moulton

Chair Steve Gordon called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

I. Approval of minutes A few minor changes were made. Moe Johnson moved that we accept the minutes. Greg Soukup seconded the motion.

II. Discussion of Dean’s visit

   a. Questions were raised about where we stand on shared governance. Is there a constructive way to promote what FAC and Dr. Beck believe in for shared governance? Some possibilities included: Build a collegial culture, conducting a training session or activity to educate faculty about shared governance. Maybe it would be best to have someone from the outside come in and train. Maybe faculty could address opportunities for shared governance, and faculty could rate how much involvement they had in decision making. Maybe we could create a survey, and each item on the survey would be an opportunity of shared governance, and we could address areas that need improvement.

   b. The first step may be to get more information. It was brought up that new people don’t know what their rights are in the way of shared governance. We could ask if shared governance was present on particular issues and do you feel like you could have been a part of that shared governance. Perhaps this is a two-prong question: 1) do you want to have more shared governance and 2) are you willing to spend the time it will take. Additionally, people have to be willing to take the risk because it’s hard work. There’s a later pay-off for taking that risk because you decrease the risk of people sitting around complaining in their offices.

   c. Another question was raised: how much feedback do our chairs and deans want to know? Is it useful and helpful? The business college has a FAC as well. Interestingly enough, the college of business and the college of education have the two deans that are rated the highest at the university.

   d. Each dean and chair probably has his/her own personal philosophy about shared governance. Will this change with the new dean? Probably not—probably the first year will be a “honeymoon year.” Maybe the new dean would like to be involved with a survey of sorts to gather information.

   e. Gather the information this semester and share that with the new dean.

Shared governance: Is it here and to what level? Do we want it? If we do
want it, do we have the capacity? We want empowerment. We do not have a culture for shared governance.

f. The FAC has autonomy enough to create and distribute the survey. To create this type of instrument, we need a small committee to create a draft. Steve Gordon and Moe Johnson are willing to create a document. Maybe we should ask Dean Beck to help create the survey with an explanation of shared governance. C & I FAC members will ask around to other C & I faculty to see if anyone wants to serve on this committee. Some issues need to go in front of the whole faculty for a vote. Maybe we need to address this issue higher up before we distribute a survey.

g. Deborah Buswell moved that we create this survey. Marla McGhee seconded the motion. The motion passed.

III. Susan Waite will not be able to serve on the Committee on College Committees We need someone from C & I to serve on that committee. Jo Webber nominated Kathy Fite and will ask her if would like to serve. It would be good to have in place before the new dean takes over. If we do not get a replacement for Susan Waite, we will move ahead anyway.

IV. Follow-up assignment of Committee on College Committees and T & P Committee Chair Gordon will follow up with Dean Beck.

V. Continued discussion of Deborah and Jo’s report on College committees We reviewed the discussion and the pie graphs. Pie graphs are based on a 40 hour week. Even though the n’s were small, we think the information should be in the discussion. Assistant professors reported that they spend more time on service therefore inferring that they spend less time on scholarly development (see Appendix F). We discussed the statement about the disproportionate number of C & I and EAPS members. Deborah made some revisions and will distribute that to the FAC. The document was accepted last week. Deborah will send the revisions to Steve Awoniyi to post on the website. Additionally, Shana will include the document with the minutes from last FAC meeting.

VI. Temporary replacement on FAC for Marilyn Goodwin: (back surgery) for the rest of the semester (5 meetings). CI will nominate Kathy Fite. Jo will ask Kathy. Agreed to send her a get well card.

VII. Steve Awoniyi reported on update on FAC website: submitted mission statement and guiding principles for review. Suggested by Chair Gordon to change “priority” to “principle” and leave off “FAC.” Some other minor changes were discussed.

New Business:

Supporting New Faculty: host new faculty for lunch—new, full-time faculty (catered lunch) up through the 2nd year.

New election procedures: amendments passed 30-0. Election subcommittee should begin working on new election procedures.

Cancel Good Friday meeting.

Chair Gordon adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.
Respectfully Submitted,

Shana Pate-Moulton, FAC Secretary