

**Southwestern Community College
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Thursday, 3 January 2013**

Attendance: William Brothers, Jennifer Hippensteel, Danell Moses, Toni Knott, Amy Russ, Delphia Birchfield, Ceretta Davis, Ashley Cunningham, Sheri Turk, Penny Wells, Meg Petty, Dale Hall, Tony Belcher, Barbara Connell, Kelly Burch, Randy McCall, Pam Easley, Debbie Ray, David Myers

Called to order at 2:12 PM by President William Brothers

Approval of August Minutes

William Brothers called for approval of August meeting minutes; motioned by Barb Connell, seconded by Tony Belcher; motioned carried by vote

Faculty Evaluation Forms

President Brothers presented to the Senate an overview of what the subcommittee had discussed in the fall semester about the proposed faculty evaluation forms. He indicated that the sub-committee had unanimously approved the proposed form. Discussion in the Senate was positive. President Brothers called to approve the new forms; motioned by Toni Knott and seconded by Kelly Burch. After a unanimous vote, the motion carried. President Brothers will now inform the deans of the motion.

Overload Policies Update

President Brothers presented to the Senate an update on the discussions by the subcommittee on overload policies. The ISSA (deans) had suggested rewording the proposed policy in the following way: rather than stating a specific number of courses (2) or hours (6) and using the words “or at the discretion of the dean,” they suggested stating a percentage of hours.

The subcommittee will be meeting again to discuss these changes. The floor was opened for discussion.

One faculty member mentioned that limiting overloads may hurt instructors who depend upon them and it may also hurt the school. Would classes need to be canceled if there were no instructors to teach them (especially in highly specialized subject areas)?

Another faculty member mentioned that adjuncts aren't always available to cover extra courses because of specialized licensure needed or scheduling. Full time instructors in some areas would be required to cover all courses and be pushed into the overload zone.

The policy has currently been tabled for further discussion by the subcommittee. Everyone was reminded that ideas/feedback should be emailed to William Brothers or Jenn Hippensteel.

Timetable for Implementation of Multiple Measures for Placement

President Brothers indicated that he would like to gather all the information for the new Multiple Measures implementation. Once he has a document on the new policy, he will send it out to faculty along with a poll to determine what date would be best for implementation of the policy.

Faculty Advising Group

President Brothers proposed that the three Senate officers serve on this group along with three other faculty members (one from each division). This group will meet periodically with Vice President for Student Instruction, Thom Brooks, to keep communication flowing between faculty and administration. William opened the floor for volunteers for the group. Volunteers were Toni Knott, Barbara Connell, and Randy McCall.

New Business

William Brothers – mentioned the idea of administrative withdrawal for students who simply stop coming to class. Rather than failing these students, what do we think of having the power to withdraw the student after repeated attempts to contact him/her? Overall, discussion on the subject was negative. Most faculty feel that receiving a failing grade is a “life lesson” for students and good training for when they are in their professional careers. After all, a worker can’t simply stop showing up to work. Dale Hall mentioned that the school used to do administrative withdrawals years ago when W’s on transcripts did not factor into statistics. However, the new Performance-Based Funding policies do take W’s into account when looking at student success rates, so that point no longer applies.

A faculty member in Founders Hall requested that the idea be presented to the deans of making one set of bathrooms in Founders faculty only. Ideas were discussed about how it would be enforced (by key? how to distribute and manage keys?). President Brothers will take the idea to the deans.

Call to adjourn meeting, motioned by Barb Connell, seconded by Debbie Ray; meeting adjourned at 2:57