

Augustana College

Rock Island, IL

**MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
October 17, 2013
Hanson Hall of Science 102
10:30 AM**

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Faculty Senate chair, Wendy Hilton-Morrow. Roll call was taken by Brian Katz.

Members unable to attend: Lee Carkner, David Crowe, Dan Culver, Kelly Daniels, Laura Greene, Farah Marklevits, Joe McDowell, Paul Olsen, Jason Peters, Lori Scott, Susan Stone, Jim van Howe, Mark Vincent, Fred Whiteside

Members excused: Jennifer Burnham, Kurt Christoffel, Jeff Coussens, Anne Earel, Nina Ehrlich, Nathan Frank, Kevin Geedey, Steve Hager, Megan Quinn, Sangeetha Rayapati, Marsha Smith, Heidi Storl

2. **Approval of Senate Meeting Minutes**

“To approve the minutes from the October 3, 2013 Faculty Senate meeting.”

MOTION CARRIED

3. **Approval of Consent Agenda**

Motion-EPC

“To approve the following:

- **Accounting Minor Change in Requirements, dated 9/12/13**

MOTION CARRIED

4. **Reports**

4.1 Update on Strategic Planning

Dean Pareena Lawrence reported that on October 3, 2013, the Board of Trustees was presented with five strategic directions, with a recommendation by the administration to pursue the first three. The Board of Trustees endorsed that recommendation.

Strategic Direction #1: Earn recognition as a liberal arts college with a high (90%) graduate school admission rate and timely placement of students in quality first jobs and subsequent jobs.

Strategic Direction #2: Strengthen student accomplishments during college, and success after college, by fully integrating academics, residential life, athletics and co-and extracurricular activities.

Strategic Direction #3: Address affordability and increase Augustana’s value for families.

The fourth strategic direction: Build broader partnerships and opportunities beyond our campus to improve our value to students – was not endorsed by the Board, but they did indicate that pieces of this direction should be integrated within Strategic Direction #2 as it relates to “integration” (be innovative in forming relations with consortiums and other colleges, investing in technology in the classroom, consider study abroad relationships with other colleges, focus on ways to improve our students’ college experience).

A senator asked if the Board intends technology to be a revenue generator, to which Dean Lawrence replied that a small minority of Board members do, but the vast majority do not, and they do not wish to change our current direction. However, they do ask that faculty be innovative in considering online environments that are pedagogically based. They see technology more as a skill our students need entering the business world. Online technology or courses may offer convenience as well, especially for our students in the summer, who tend to take online courses elsewhere during that time.

Task Force 2 continues to meet weekly to discuss tactics and action plans and will complete the first draft of the strategic plan in November, which will be forwarded to the Strategic Planning Steering Committee for review.

Any faculty member with proposal(s) for innovative ideas should contact Pareena Lawrence, Mark Vincent or Margaret Farrar so that support structures can be put in place and priorities established. President Bahls plans to support new innovative pedagogies through fund-raising; existing funds may need to be re-allocated to accommodate innovations.

4.2 Documenting Student Research

Dean Lawrence reported that the college is currently implementing a co-curricular transcript, an idea which transpired as part of the strategic planning process. The co-curricular transcript is a representation of student involvement across the curriculum, including opportunities for participation and leadership beyond the borders of our campus community. These experiences are directly related to our mission and the goal of our student learning outcomes. One piece of that co-curricular transcript is research experience. The "Augustana Student Research Experience" form was developed as a tool for documenting research intended to be included on the co-curricular transcript. Faculty working with students on research will be asked to complete this and then forward the completed form to Bill Hammer. Faculty advisors may now begin informing their advisees that they can begin documenting experiences. At the January 20, 2014 winter Symposium, this topic will be discussed in more detail in advising sessions.

A concern was expressed that the co-curricular transcript still does not address the underlying issue of our students being unable to articulate to others how their college learning experiences contributed to their development. It was suggested that the faculty have a discussion about ensuring that every student leave Augustana with a statement of purpose that they can articulate. Dean Lawrence agreed that this is a wonderful goal, but it takes significant more time to accomplish. An immediate way and a place to begin this process is the co-curricular transcript.

A comment was made that the Music Department considers a wide variety of activities as professional activities, or research, but this form does not accommodate these. Dean Lawrence indicated that each department may use their discretion to report what they consider as authentic research. However, any paper writing/research as part of class assignment is not considered appropriate for reporting on this form.

5. Discussion of Certificate Programs and On-Line Courses

In light of recent discussions about possible online courses and certificate programs, Dave Dehnel, Chair of EPC, conducted a clicker survey about certificate programs and online courses to get a sense of what people on Faculty Senate think about these matters. Results of the survey will be used

as a starting point for conversations with EPC so that EPC can better discern its involvement with these new ventures. The survey is not a referendum on certificates and online offerings.

Survey Questions:

1. With respect to certificate programs, the Augustana faculty should:
 - a. (40%) approve certificate programs that are consistent with the mission of the college and that meet a set of general parameters.
 - b. (53%) approve a limited number of certificate programs where there is a strong need, but these should be exceptional cases.
 - c. (4%) not approve further certificate programs.
2. If Augustana approves certificate programs according to a set of general parameters, these parameters should be set by:
 - a. (31%) the Educational Policies Committee.
 - b. (51%) the Faculty.
 - c. (13%) Rather than general parameters, each proposal should be assessed on a case by case basis.
3. With respect to online courses, Augustana should:
 - a. (24%) explore the offering of online courses year round.
 - b. (47%) explore the offering of online courses during summer only.
 - c. (13%) explore offering only “synchronous” online courses.
 - d. (13%) Augustana should not offer online courses.
4. It is our practice that faculty can modify the modes of instruction in their existing courses without the approval of faculty governance. How should we handle online versions of existing courses?
 - a. (9%) faculty should be able to offer online versions of existing courses without approval by EPC and Senate.
 - b. (47%) faculty should be required to submit online versions of existing courses for approval by EPC and Senate during an initial period of experimentation.
 - c. (40%) online versions of existing courses should always be treated as if they were new course proposals.

Dave Dehnel announced that members of the Senate will have an opportunity to provide further feedback via an email survey within the next few days. Wendy Hilton-Morrow announced that discussions will be kept open, and once policies are drafted, more conversation will be planned for.

6. New Business

There was no new business.

7. Announcements

7.1 Deadlines for General Education Committee Approval

Carrie Hough, Chair of Gen Ed Committee, announced that all approval forms for spring term for new learning communities, learning perspectives or suffixes, or new LSFY 103 courses need to

be received through website submission by Monday of Week 1 of Winter Term (November 18, 2013). If received later than that date, the proposal will not be reviewed (exceptions are for new faculty offering new LSFY 103 courses).

7.2 Friday Conversation about Faculty Senate structure and roles

Wendy Hilton-Morrow reported that Senate Steering put forth a few models for “rethinking Faculty Senate” at the 10-11-13 Friday Conversation. Senate Steering will refine proposals based on feedback from that Friday Conversation will present them at the next Faculty Senate meeting on December 12, 2013.

7.3 A Conversation with Evelyn Campbell, Mark Anderson, and Christina Lorge-Grover

A reminder was given for all to attend “A Conversation with Evelyn Campbell, Mark Anderson, and Christina Lorge-Grover” on October 24, 2013 from 11:30 – 12:30 in Wilson Center.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:27 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Koski
Office of Academic Affairs