

FACULTY COUNCIL MINUTES
250 Student Union
March 10, 2009

Van Delinder called the meeting to order with the following members present: Avakian, Brown, G, Brown, J.D., Calhoun, Caniglia, Casey, Clinkenbeard, Comer, DeSilva, Gasem, Goetze, Hickman, Jordan P., Jordan T., Klatt, Lacy, McCann, Miller, R., Moberly, Osteen, Page, Perkins, Ramakumar, Russell, Spicer, Stadler, Suter, and Veenstra. Also present: Bird, L., Bosserman, D., Britt, J., Caneday, L., Diedrich, C., Eldevik, R., Elliott, K., Emslie, G., Gates, G., Good, B., Keener, M., Kithakye, M., Miller, Barbara, Polson, L., Seshadri, A., Setser, M., Shaw, M., Shutt, G., Weaver, J., and Wright, R.. Absent: Kirksey

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Van Delinder asked for approval of February 10, 2009 Minutes. Stephen Perkins moved acceptance of the Minutes. Pat Jordan seconded. The Minutes were approved. Van Delinder asked for approval of the March 10, 2009, Agenda. Gasem moved acceptance of the March 10, 2009 Agenda. Pat Jordan seconded. The Agenda was approved.

SPECIAL REPORT: OSU Student Foundation – Cowboy Spirit: Battle of the Bands 2009 — Michael Shaw, Caroline Diedrich and Jolie Britt

Michal Shaw, Advisor to the OSU Student Foundation and Director of Scholarship and Donor Relations at the OSU Foundation, introduced two of the students that work with her, Caroline Diedrich, majoring in Industrial Engineering and Jolie Britt, majoring in Biochemistry. They each discussed the different functions of the OSU Student Foundation, announced an upcoming scholarship fundraising event to be held April 17 at Tumbleweeds, and announced an upcoming campaign for OSU Faculty and Staff.

Information Regarding the OSU Student Foundation

The OSU Student Foundation (StuFu) is to serve Oklahoma State University by building, cultivating and sustaining relationships within the OSU community and to educate the student body about the impact and importance of charitable giving. StuFu acts as a bridge between the student body, community, donors and the OSU Foundation.

StuFu is composed of 50 students representing diverse areas of study, but sharing a common passion for the future success of OSU. To be eligible for membership in the Student Foundation, one must be a full-time OSU undergraduate student, maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.5, demonstrate a willingness to commit a minimum of one hour of service to StuFu per week and be in good standing with the university.

With committees focused on donor relations, membership and campus promotions, StuFu gives members an inside glimpse into the entire philanthropic process. The executive term consists of a chair from each of the three committees, the vice president and president. In 2008 StuFu formed a special committee composed of 10 outstanding freshman leaders who are charged with the task of developing creative ideas and initiatives that will add value to the organization.

Members are involved and provide assistance with numerous events in each college constituency. As members serve as active participants in the giving process, they have the opportunity to give back to the university as well as gain invaluable experience while interacting with donors and students.

The members of StuFu have developed a student endowed scholarship program. This annual “By the Students, For the Students” fundraising project allows students to give back to the university through a contribution, which gives other students, the opportunity to attend OSU.

Cowboy Spirit: Battle of the Bands 2009

Cowboy Spirit is the OSU Student Foundation's annual student scholarship campaign, which raises money for a student endowed scholarship fund. This "By the Students, For the Student" campaign is the first of its kind on the OSU campus.

Cowboy Spirit began last year with Whiteout – a campaign to educate the campus about philanthropy and to raise money for scholarships through t-shirt sales. The students sold nearly 450 T-shirts, raising more than \$4,200. One hundred percent of proceeds from this event went toward a student scholarship endowment, which awarded four scholarships to OSU students in January.

The goal for Cowboy Spirit: Battle of the Bands 2009 is to raise \$10,000 for the scholarship fund through T-shirt sales (\$15 each) and sponsorships while educating the OSU campus about the importance of charitable giving.

Battle of the Bands 2009 will showcase the best of Stillwater. The concert which will be held on April 17 at Tumbleweed, will feature local bands competing for the title of Cowboy's Choice. OSU athletes, administration and student leadership will judge the competition to determine which band will leave with the grand prize. Your T-shirt purchase will be your entrance into the concert.

With more than 20,000 students at the OSU-Stillwater campus, the possibilities for this event are endless. By providing quality entertainment at a convenient location, StuFu hopes to involve 3,000 OSU students.

Estimated cost for Battle of the Bands 2009 is \$60,000. Through sponsorships, companies and individuals have the opportunity to help students while receiving several benefits in recognition of their support.

Involvement in the Cowboy Spirit Campaign allows organizations and individuals to be a part of OSU's future. This campaign will allow today's students to receive much needed financial support while sparking a passion for philanthropy in the next generation, ensuring the prosperity of Oklahoma State.

The Family Campaign – A Campaign for OSU by OSU Faculty and Staff, Spring 2009

The goal of this campaign is to increase OSU faculty and staff participation and gifts to OSU academic funds.

The message is OSU is a family that cares about each student, faculty and staff member. And, OSU focuses on needs of our students and faculty/staff members, and these needs will be met by giving to OSU academic funds.

The objectives are to develop awareness of the greatest needs at the college and unit levels, create a positive atmosphere on the Stillwater campus towards giving to OSU, and to recruit current and new OSU faculty and staff to start, continue and/or increase their giving.

Co-Chairs for this campaign are Tara Gladden, Staff Advisory Council Chair and Jean Van Delinder, Faculty Council Chair. Debbie Nance with the OSU Foundation is the coordinator.

Timetable and Communication Plan:

March

Communicate the plan to Faculty Council members on March 10

Communicate the plan to Staff Advisory Council members on March 11

OSU Foundation communicate the plan to College Deans

The campaign will be announced via letter and/or e-mail; sent to every faculty and staff member, announcing the fundraising campaign, making the case for support.

Co-chairs will communicate via e-mail giving information, downloadable payroll deduction forms

April

Staff Advisory Council holds their annual Appreciate Picnic on April 2, OSUF is a sponsor of the picnic, participating with a booth and information about the Family Campaign.

Okstate.edu has a link to the Family Campaign website, hosted by the OSU Foundation; Family Campaign information, frequently asked questions and greatest needs list will be included

Co-chairs will communicate with the faculty and staff updates and progress.

Weekly e-mail updates in OSU Headlines

May

Thank you letters will be sent out to faculty and staff for their pledges/gifts.

Visit the OSU Student Foundation website at: <http://osustudentfoundation.com/> for additional information.

SPECIAL REPORT: Issues Related to the Graduate Council — Lowell Caneday

Caneday, Vice Chair of the Graduate Council, discussed two issues regarding faculty.

The first issue dealt with what he referred to as “Responsible Conduct of Research” commonly noted as RCR compliance. RCR includes proper citation of work, plagiarism, research misconduct, intellectual property and copyright, falsification and unwarranted editing of data, conflict of interest, authorship on manuscripts, ethical treatment of animals, human subject protocols, and handling of hazardous materials. In the notice, NSF outlines its proposed implementation plan. As required by the COMPETES Act, NSF will require the Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) to certify at the time of application that the institution has a plan to provide appropriate training in the responsible and ethical conduct of research to

undergraduate, graduates and post-doctoral fellows who will be supported by NSF funds. Institutions will not be required to submit the plan but will be reminded that the institutional plan is subject to review upon request by NSF. Institutions will be responsible for verifying that students and fellows supported by NSF to conduct research have received the training.

In the September 2008 Graduate Council Minutes the Graduate College agreed to provide a breakdown of all graduate degree programs by Subject Matter Groups and to distribute this to the Group Officers. Dr. Caneday took responsibility for the gathering of input and said he would report to the Council during its November meeting.

In the November Minutes Dr. Caneday reported he had sent to the individual groups information regarding each degree program represented in that group. The expectation was that every program identifies a course or alternative means (e.g., on-line courses, seminars, etc) through which students can gain documented training in the responsible conduct of research. This information will also be discussed at upcoming Graduate Coordinator meetings.

In the December 2008 Minutes Dr. Caneday indicated that he wanted this issue resolved by the end of the Spring, and encouraged the Groups to identify RCR training opportunities for each master's and doctoral program within their group.

Klatt asked, "Wasn't this a case for departments"? Caneday replied that departments were represented within the various groups in a variety of ways as were the degree plans and so it is really an issue of degree sequencing.

Van Delinder said she was assuming that the group officers were communicating with their constituents about this. Caneday replied he hoped that they were. If they are not there is a downside for faculty either that OSU will stop being eligible for certain kinds of funds or an administrator will have to take the responsibility on behalf of faculty. One option an administrator could pass as an edict would be "we shall have a university-wide mandate that you add this to every degree program in order to comply with this expectation". Caneday added he did not know of any administrator that would want to do that. He feels it is a critical issue to be addressed.

Dean Emslie said he feels this directive from the federal government should be interpreted more broadly. OSU is a research university and should impose criteria on all students whether or not they are funded from federal grants because the federal directive refers to post docs, graduate students fellows and undergraduate students. The NSF is meeting the end of March and will reserve a time period for public comment. Emslie added he thinks that before the end of the year there will be an institutional policy which is subject to scrutiny by NSF.

Caneday said the Graduate Council believes this is a faculty issue and there is urgency and the word needs to get out about the seriousness of this issue.

Caneday reported the second issue dealt with Graduate Council governance. Governance includes membership and privileges for an individual faculty member to become a member of graduate faculty. This is not automatic and there is a process by which it occurs. Currently

criteria for membership has been group based and the process for nomination and balloting has been within groups. Because of some criteria under which the groups are functioning, including abstinence from functioning, there are serious questions about how the groups should operate. Among the issues is the criteria for specific privileges (i.e. chairing doctoral committees, serving as research advisor). Their bylaws require for on-going periodic review for sustaining that status. They are also looking at revocation of status because they acknowledge that some peer institutions have had serious legal problems lacking revocation of status. Caneday said OSU could have a faculty member who is dismissed from the university for cause and there is no way of taking them off of graduate committees because there is no way of revoking their Graduate Faculty status. Current bylaws call for compliance of all six groups with Graduate Council bylaws and they are having to bring some of them into compliance even though their own group bylaws do not comply. As a result you will hear considerable discussion and most faculty will be asked to vote on a new set of bylaws. The bylaws were last modified in March 2006 with proposed 2009 amendments and modifications.

Melanie Page said she had heard a rumor that membership in Graduate Faculty would no longer be up to the groups but to the department heads and was that being pursued. Caneday replied there had been discussions for a purely administrative process and that is not the current proposal. They believe membership in Graduate Faculty is a faculty decision. Graduate Council is actually the voting body that confers that. The process to get to Graduate Council may change if the new bylaws and processes are approved. Instead of going through groups for nomination and balloting they are recommending a pattern by which the department head and individual faculty in a department would nominate and do an approval process both with an administrative and a faculty recommendation to advance to the Graduate Faculty. He added Council believes fervently that membership in Graduate Faculty is a faculty right and not an administrative right.

**REPORT OF STATUS OF FACULTY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS:
President Hargis, Provost Strathe, and/or Vice Presidents**

Gail Gates reported for administration there were no pending recommendations.

09-03-01-ASP/SALR *Attendance Policy:* To President Hargis

09-03-02-ATH *Appointment of an Emeriti Association Member to Serve on the
University Athletic Council:* To President Hargis

09-03-03-BUDG *Collegiate Academic Service Fees:* To President Hargis

ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND POLICIES — Mindy McCann

McCann reported the committee is looking at the feasibility of possibly having a January session and moving the main session back a little. They have been talking with Celeste Campbell as to whether this is a possibility. McCann will be polling some of the faculty teaching in May as to their feelings on moving the session back one week. She encouraged anyone in attendance at the meeting to send her an email regarding their thoughts on this issue.

McCann presented the following recommendation to Council which was accepted with two “no” votes. It will be forwarded to administration.

Title: Attendance Policy

The Faculty Council Recommends to President Hargis that: the administration adopt the following attendance policy:

Class attendance is a critical component of learning. Students are expected to attend and participate fully in all scheduled class meetings. A written attendance policy should be provided to students within the unrestricted add period of a semester. Faculty may choose to set a maximum total number of excused, sick, and unexcused absences. Faculty may also specify when absences will not be excused under any circumstance. If no policy is provided, no penalty may be assessed for class absences.

Faculty are encouraged to provide reasonable accommodation for students who are involved in sponsored activities of the University. For the purposes of this policy, a sponsored activity of the University includes any activity sponsored by an academic college or department, by an organization recognized by Campus Life, or by interscholastic athletics. Faculty may choose to define specific activities that do not qualify for accommodation, and/or require that the organization demonstrate that it has no reasonable option in scheduling the activity except during regular class periods. Instructors may require written documentation from the designated University sponsor for a sponsored activity.

Students that will be absent from class for sponsored activities shall provide prior notification of their planned absence to their course instructors as early as possible. Instructors at their discretion may require homework, reports, papers, compositions, and projects to be turned in ahead of the missed classes and examinations to be taken before the planned absence.

Rationale:

OSU currently has no official attendance policy. This policy will provide a framework for faculty to individually set their classes’ attendance policy. In particular, it addresses student absences resulting from University sponsored events.

Extracurricular activities are an important aspect of the educational process, particularly when they are associated with a University sponsored event. Most faculty members believe that a student’s chances of successfully completing their degree are greatly increased by participation in any of the sponsored groups on campus. Many of these activities also have direct educational benefits and build leadership skills. Their importance is demonstrated clearly by the fact that students are encouraged to list them on their resumes since employers are attracted to students with those experiences.

While most faculty members approach student absences from class in a reasonable manner, there are concerns that in some cases strict attendance policies are punishing students who participate

in University sponsored activities. Adopting this policy will provide a formal declaration of the value that we the faculty place on student participation in University sponsored events.

This policy will not restrict faculty from making reasonable policies on student absences, nor will it restrict the faculty's ability to determine what is reasonable for their own particular course. The instructor must continue to be given considerable latitude in the formulation of the class attendance policy. Additionally, we do not want to, nor could we, write a policy that covers every contingency. The policy should provide faculty with the flexibility they need while sending the message to faculty, students and the outside community that we value and encourage extracurricular activities.

Van Delinder asked if there was any discussion. Rob Miller said in the first paragraph it was stated, "A written attendance policy should be provided to students within the first three lectures of a semester" and in the last sentence it said, "If no policy is provided, no penalty may be assessed for class absences". He said it had been brought to his attention that sometimes during the course of a semester professors need to revise the syllabus and so did this say if you were to revise the syllabus during the middle of the semester you could not implement an attendance policy at that time.

Bruce Russell said he thought this was a terrific policy that protected a lot of the concerns heard as an Executive Committee about academic freedom on the part of the faculty members. He added that if a faculty member believes attendance is a critical part of the learning process then they can state that in their syllabus and at the same time there is the wording of a reasonable accommodation policy recognizing that the students are very engaged in extracurricular activities which is extremely important which goes to the bottom line of retention of students at Oklahoma State. He said he is somewhat uncomfortable about the discussion of changing the syllabus later in the semester because he thinks that syllabus is a contract with the teacher and students to a certain degree. He added he had revised his syllabus in the past but had done so in the first days or week. He feels the students deserve to know what the attendance policy will be when they are deciding whether to remain in a class or not.

Stephen Perkins introduced a friendly amendment to remove the wording "first three lectures" and replace with "unrestricted add period". McCann accepted this as a friendly amendment. Perkins moved acceptance and Ron Miller seconded.

Van Delinder called for a vote. As stated earlier, the amended version passed and will be forwarded to administration.

ATHLETICS — Pat Jordan

Jordan reported the committee continues to work on a survey they want to send out to faculty and staff about issues of concern regarding University Athletics.

Jordan presented the following recommendation:

Title: Appointment of an Emeriti Association Member to Serve on the University Athletic Council

The Faculty Council Recommends to President Hargis that: the University Athletic Council be expanded to include one member from the OSU Emeriti Association to serve a two-year term as a voting member. The Chair of the Faculty Council will put forward two names of OSU Emeriti Association members and the President of the University will select one of the two candidates to serve on the Athletic Council.

Rationale:

1. There are currently over 560 dues paying members of the OSU Emeriti Association and they should have representation on the Athletic Council.
2. As retired faculty/staff, many of the Emeriti members have several decades of experience at OSU and knowledge of the athletic issues facing the University and this expertise would serve the Council well.
3. Emeriti members support the Athletic Department and its programs in many ways such as tutoring athletes, buying season tickets, making donations, etc., and should have an active voice on the Council.
4. Emeriti members have membership in many committees and councils of the University and this should include the Athletic Council.

Van Delinder called for a vote which was accepted unanimously by Council. It will be forwarded to administration.

BUDGET — Ron Miller

Miller reported the committee was continuing to look at recommendations from faculty and staff on ways to improve cash inflows and decrease cash outflows.

The committee met on February 16th with President Hargis to discuss the \$944,000 payment to the Athletic Department. President Hargis expressed his commitment in principle to eliminating this payment when resources permit. To accomplish this goal, he will work with Athletic Director Holder to reduce and ultimately eliminate the payment. The Faculty Council Budget Committee supports the President's efforts to eliminate this payment.

Miller presented the following recommendation:

Title: Collegiate Academic Service Fees

The Faculty Council Recommends to President Hargis that: that all portions of the collegiate academic service fees created for a stated purpose be separately budgeted and accounted for by the University. It is further recommended that these revenues shall not be commingled with the general allocations for the colleges.

Rationale:

Under the current system, the level of specificity on how the funds for the various service fees are used varies from fee to fee and college to college. The tech fees are already separately budgeted and monitored. A similar budgetary separation of the other fees would make tracking the use of the funds much more transparent for internal and external constituents.

	Total Amount	College Portion	GU Portion
A&S Collegiate Excellence Fee	\$3,307,549	\$957,730	\$2,349,819
HES Collegiate Excellence Fee	\$543,271	\$208,050	\$335,221
SSB Collegiate Excellence Fee	\$979,233		\$979,233
COE Collegiate Excellence Fee	\$489,084	\$88,344	\$400,740
SSB Instruction Infrastructure	\$489,616	\$489,616	
CEAT Facilities & Equipment	\$452,458	\$280,000	\$172,458
ASNR Facilities & Equipment	<u>\$417,282</u>	<u>\$129,980</u>	<u>\$287,302</u>
		\$2,153,720	\$4,524,773
ASNR Tech Fee	\$284,510		
A&S Tech Fee	\$2,157,097		
SSB Tech Fee	\$816,027		
COE Tech Fee	\$516,256		
HES Tech Fee	\$368,649		
CEAT Tech Fee	\$972,786		
CVHS Tech Fee	<u>\$156,069</u>		
Total	\$11,949,887		

Miller said Joe Weaver had met with the Budget Committee several times during the year to discuss different fees and they asked the different colleges how they used some of the money and it became clear in these discussions that depending on the fee the level of specificity on how it was accounted for varied from the Tech fee which is pretty well defined to the Excellence fees which is a grey area. The committee felt that if there was a standard approach to how this money was accounted for and allocated when anyone asked about the fees they could actually say how the money is being used. All have specific items they are to be used for. He added the majority of the college excellence fees were for the Reward, Restore and Grow program.

Van Delinder asked if there was any discussion. Spicer asked about Engineering and Agriculture because they were not listed as an "excellence fee". Joe Weaver replied CEAT and CASNR had those fees in place prior to the collegiate excellence fees and they did not want to layer an excellence fee on top of what they called a Facilities & Equipment fee. He added it is just a little different but effectively it is all the same and no college is being charged both fees.

Caniglia asked to what extent this would restrict the flexibility with which these funds can be applied. Miller used his School, the Spear's School of Business, as an example. On the table they had \$489,616 for instruction infrastructure and he is sure they had thought about how they were planning on spending that money ahead of time and it was just a matter of that money coming in. The problem will be if you set a budget and then you do not have the enrollments. Weaver said that was already the case.

Russell asked if it was fair to ask the administration, "Since the students pay the fees, specifically, that we would like to have an accounting of how the fees are used instead of it just rolling into the budgets of the colleges and it disappears and gets spent with the rest of the money". Miller replied he thought that was probably a fair statement. Weaver added if the administration were to adopt this the way it would be implemented, "separately implemented" would mean the fee would be budgeted in separate accounts in each college and each program as appropriate and the funds would be spent in those accounts.

Brown called the question.

Van Delinder asked for a vote which was accepted unanimously by Council. It will be forwarded to administration.

CAMPUS FACILITIES, SAFETY, AND SECURITY — Tom Jordan

Jordan reported the committee had met twice since their last report and they are continuing to have committee members serve or attend numerous University and City meetings on any topic related to their committee. Campus buildings are on or slightly ahead of schedule. The University Avenue project lost ten days due to weather and there have been some changes in the construction schedules, notably that the intersection of Monroe and University will reopen April 1, 2009. Drain work will now start at Monroe and continue to Knoblock rather than starting at Washington and going both directions. Some maps will be affected by this. The committee will make every effort to keep Faculty Council up-to-date on any changes concerning University Avenue. Their next meeting is March 18 at 1:30. Mike Shuttic will be their guest and anyone that would like to join them is invited to do so. They will be discussing ADA issues focusing on handicapped parking.

Page said there had been discussion about a crosswalk on Hall of Fame north of Gallagher/Iba and had the City talked anymore about that. Jordan said the City is in the process of eliminating crosswalks rather than adding more. Russell said he was also concerned about the crosswalk by the Colvin Center. He said the Faculty Council officers asked the Provost to look into this matter last year and they were told Weaver talked to the City. Weaver added he provided the Provost with a response. He explained that the City's position is they believe the interpretation of code of crosswalks is that you should not put a crosswalk in a place where you do not have traffic controls, either a stop sign or a light. And, if you put one in a zone without either of those things you are accepting a certain amount of liability because a person would act on faith that they would be walking into a crosswalk and it would be safe. If they get hit the City feels there would be some liability there. He added the City wants the crosswalk at the Colvin Center removed, which he is against, unless a traffic light is installed. Russell said he believes there should be a

“red/green” stop light at that point and it would prevent students and others from walking when they do not have a walk sign and allow traffic to proceed in a normal flow.

Van Delinder asked Jordan for the CFSS committee to look into that matter and bring it to Council as a specific recommendation. He replied he would add it as an agenda item for the committee’s next meeting.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY — Khaled Gasem

Gasem reported the committee is continuing to review the academic ledger entries and are hoping to present suggestions in the future.

RULES AND PROCEDURES — Stephen Perkins

Perkins reported nominations for vacant Faculty Council positions closed at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 9. All ballots will be in the mail by March 13th with a return date of Monday, March 30th at 5:00 p.m. According to the Council By-laws, “If fewer than two candidates are nominated for a vacancy, the Nominating Committee of the Faculty Council shall make an additional nomination or nominations to provide two candidates for each vacancy at the general election”. The Nominating Committee will work to obtain names for all vacant positions on ballots before they are mailed. For more information regarding the candidates go to the Faculty Council website at: <http://facultycouncil.okstate.edu/>. Perkins encouraged Councilors to encourage all faculty in their respective areas to vote and all winners will be announced at the April Council meeting.

Report of Liaison Representatives

Lora Polson – Staff Advisory Council

Polson reported the annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon will be held on Thursday, April 2 from 11:30-1:30 on the Willard lawn. She asked all to encourage their staff to attend.

Mumbe Kithakye – Graduate and Professional Student Government Association

Kithakye introduced Aravind Seshadri from GPSGA and then distributed the Graduate Student Conference Travel Survey they had recently conducted. They both presented the following findings.

The travel survey conducted by the GPSGA had over 220 respondents and focused on gaining information such as:

- Number of students attending conferences on a regional/state/national/international level
- Reasons for not attending conferences
- Their awareness on the various available sources of funding
- The kind of support/encouragement students receive from their college or department for such activities

- Problems faced by students to manage the expenses of the conferences

Graduate student conference travel is for professional development and is a key part of degree attainment and one of the initiatives that defines GPSGA. It is an opportunity for OSU to capitalize on graduate students and what they bring to OSU. They feel there will be expected shortcomings in future funding.

Findings from the survey included:

- Primary reason for not attending conferences was lack of funding (73%)
- 14% of survey participants said that they were not encouraged to attend
- Majority of students attended national conferences compared to regional, state or international
- Low numbers utilized college level funding
- Lots of complaints/misconceptions about the GPSGA travel disbursement process
- There is an interest and a perceived need for more funding for conference travel
- Students are not familiar with all of the funding sources
- Differences exist in travel and funding across the university
- GPSGA cannot serve as the primary or sole source of travel funding

What needs to be done!

- Increase awareness among graduate students about various possible sources of funding such as: conference organizers, professional societies and colleges

- GPSGA needs to clarify the misconceptions about their organization's travel funding by sending out and email, etc.

- Meet with the deans of the various colleges to present these findings and get their view points

Visit the GPSGA website at <http://gpsga.okstate.edu/> for more information about the organization.

Barbara Miller – Women's Faculty Council

Miller reported there were eight research scholarship award winners in five different colleges which included CASNR, HES, Education, CEAT and A&S. She thanked VP Bird and Provost Strathe who attended as well as two of the Deans from Education and HES and she added she knew the students really appreciated it. She is hoping they can do even better next year and thanked everyone for their support.

Randi Eldevik – Arts & Sciences Faculty Council

Eldevik reported that at its February 4, 2009 meeting, the ASFC agreed they wanted to bring an "Official Statement of Concern from A&S Faculty Council" to the attention of the University Faculty Council, and requested that they consider how to move the proposal forward. The topic is administrative cancellation of classes, or closing campus, as exemplified in weather-related closings during the week of January 26, 2009. It is the position of the ASFC that administration

should not have the prerogative to cancel classes, which students have paid for, and for which an exact number of instructional hours per semester is defined by the Regents in setting up schedules originally. At a minimum, class cancellations should only occur from the administration if, and only if, a mechanism for making up those classes is simultaneously defined at the time the cancellation is announced.

Van Delinder said she would take the statement and refer it to one of the standing committees, probably the Academic Standards and Policies Committee.

Gasem said he had two children attending college and he would rather be on the safe side to keep them from being in an accident and have classes cancelled. He said it is a judgment call when the weather looks bad. Eldevik replied a majority of the A&S Faculty Council felt there should be some kind of a specific stipulation of when classes should be made up and that should be specified at the time the cancellation is announced.

Marvin Keener spoke for the issue and said he was the responsible person for the statement of concern. He said classes were cancelled at 2:00 p.m. as faculty were teaching 1:30 p.m. classes. The faculty inspire to administer the mission of this university which is instruction, research and extension. The administration and all parts are hired to facilitate the faculty doing that mission, not deciding whether the faculty is going to do that mission. He feels the faculty member should be the one to cancel classes and if they do that they assume the responsibility that class will be made up to their students and if they do not do that, and they do it consistently, then they are derelict in their duty. Keener said if you teach a Monday only class in the afternoon or evening you were down two weeks. He said he teaches a M-W-F class and he was down two days. These classes will not be made up and the quality of the instruction was hurt and the administration having made the decision turned around and said each individual faculty member can decide what to do about this. He said he thought there is no reason that the administration should ever cancel classes and added this is fundamentally wrong. He then said on that particular day at 4:00 p.m. it was decided to give free admission and parking to a basketball game that night. He added it was too dangerous to attend class but not to dangerous to attend the basketball game. Then, classes were cancelled on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Gasem said he respected Keener's care for the university's mission but someone somewhere had to have the resources and information to be able to make decisions of this kind, when there is inclement weather or a calamity of some sort, to tell campus what to do. He also added he had staff in his School who came to him asking what they should do and he told them to wait until the administration made an announcement.

Glenn Brown said when he worked in a very large multi-national company and when the weather was bad the offices closed and then everyone was expected to adjust afterwards and catch up on the work they missed. He does believe administration should get more formalized before they start suspending classes but he thought this was a good thing as it teaches them to adjust.

Comer said he thought what the A&S Faculty Council wanted to accomplish was that administration take responsibility for the make-up days. This puts the burden on administration and not on the instructor.

Avakian agreed and said there was also a legal ramification to this issue. If you did not cancel classes and someone was injured would you want to take the responsibility or would you want the university to be liable.

Van Delinder said any further comments could be sent to the Chair of the Academic Standards and Policies Committee.

Student Government Association – Bill Good

Good reported SGA recently held a election that he was sure everyone read about in the college newspaper.

He added he thought it was a good idea to have an attendance policy.

In regard to the Budget Committee's recommendation he said he pays around \$200 per semester for fees which includes Excellence Fees and it really surprised and worried him to see those fees were not very well accounted for.

Lastly, in regard to the issue brought by the A&S Faculty Council, he said when hours of classes are missed in a week he personally felt an institutionalized policy for making up the days should be in place and he would be in favor of that. He will bring this issue to the attention of SGA.

New Business

Glenn Brown presented a motion from the floor entitled "Automatic International Dimension for all Study Abroad". This motion would waive the international degree requirements for students who take a study abroad course. After much discussion Van Delinder called the question. There were 11 yeses, 11 no's and 4 abstentions. Perkins moved to Table the motion to allow more time for research. Caniglia seconded. Motion to Table passed. If it is not brought off the Table at the April meeting it will automatically die.

The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Faculty Council is April 14, 2009. The Spring General Faculty Meeting is Tuesday, April 21, 2009 beginning at 3:00 p.m. in the Student Union Little Theatre.

Respectfully submitted,



John Veenstra, Secretary