

Minutes of  
THE FACULTY SENATE  
OF  
ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY-OZARK CAMPUS

- ATTENDANCE            The Faculty Senate met in a regular session Monday, September 10, at 3:00 p.m. in room 174 of the Technical and Administrative Services (TAS) building. The following members were present:
- Jessica Pipkins  
Clinton Hall  
Gwen Faulkenberry, Chair  
Marcus Smith  
Dr. Mike Murders
- Adele Berry and Bobby Sewell were unable to attend.
- Chancellor Sikes attended the meeting. Officer David Spicer was also in attendance to address the Faculty Senate as the President of the Staff Senate.
- CALL TO ORDER        Mrs. Faulkenberry called the meeting to order.
- APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES                Mrs. Pipkins made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Smith. Minutes were approved.
- NEW BUSINESS:        Officer Spicer requested to speak first in order to return to his duties as safety officer. Officer Spicer address the Faculty Senate regarding the on-campus food pantry box. Officer Spicer explained that the Staff Senate led a “Food Fight” food drive to help stock the pantry box throughout the summer. He was requesting the Faculty Senate explore the possibility of the campus faculty sponsor a food drive for the fall semester and was contemplating a student-led drive in the spring semester. Chancellor Sikes asked to have the faculty surveyed to indicate support for the drive then determine how best to conduct a drive whether it be by actual food drive or monetary donation to purchase needed items. Mrs. Pipkins indicated she was willing to create a survey for the faculty. Mrs. Pipkins would create the survey, send it to the senate for review then submit it to Mrs. Shirley Bonner, Administrative Assistance to Dr. Murders, CAO, to deploy to the faculty.
- ACADEMIC  
AFFAIRS                 Dr. Murders shared with the committee a handout (see attachment) proposing the individual programs on the Ozark to be grouped into four categories. Dr. Murders, along with Chancellor Sikes indicated that these categories could possibly in the future be partially overseen by division chairs. Chancellor Sikes stated that these would be funded positions as division chairs who would also have teaching responsibilities within the division. Chancellor Sikes further indicated that these would be in place due to future growth and need and would be possible at some time in the future.
- Dr. Murders asked if the senate were to review the proposed divisions it showed the number of faculty members were within each division, highlighting the number of faculty within the health fields more than doubled the other divisions. He then proposed the question of whether or not the senate would consider adding an additional member from the health field for an equitable representation from that division. Mrs. Pipkins indicated if there were to be changes to the Faculty Senate there would need to be amendments written, presented and approved by the Faculty Senate and passed through for review and adoption by the Board of Trustees to the Faculty Senate Constitution. Dr. Murders stated Mrs. Nina Pope would like to be considered for the new position as she requested to remove herself from the committee due to health issues two years ago.

Dr. Murders asked the senate to begin reviewing the Faculty Handbook. He indicated there were some updates that needed to be addressed soon as well as updating and defining some of the terminology in the handbook.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Chancellor Sikes said that Mr. Mike Bogue would be addressing Faculty Senate soon with a retention and student success plan that, if accepted by the Board of Trustees, would be implemented in 2019.

Mr. Hall indicated there had been some items proposed by the faculty for discussion by the senate during the professional development period. The first question proposed was “Does the faculty have to be in Russellville so early for graduation practice?” A faculty member had suggested the times be adjusted for practice or only essential faculty be asked to attend practice instead of all the faculty required to be at practice four hours before commencement started. Dr. Murders suggested inviting Chancellor Sikes to our next meeting for this discussion.

The next item proposed was “Could faculty from the Ozark Campus attend the December commencement ceremony and walk with the Russellville Faculty?” Dr. Murders said he would address the issue with those on the Russellville campus and mentioned the possibility of the Ozark Campus needing to hold a fall commencement ceremony in the near future.

The third question proposed was “Since the Staff Senate gives service recognition, could the Faculty Senate do the same?” Dr. Murders stated that the Staff Senate recognition was sometimes tied to salary and the Faculty Senate could not. Mr. Hall indicated he would just like to have a certificate indicating the milestones throughout the time of employment for individual faculty members.

Mrs. Faulkenberry asked if there could possibly be a “Faculty of the Month”. She also asked if there could be some small benefit associated with the honor such as a preferred parking spot, highlight article in the paper and on the website, etc. Mrs. Pipkins volunteered to add this item to the survey concerning the food drive.

#### CALENDAR

The Faculty Senate will meet on October 8 at 3:00 p.m. in the HWS conference room.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Smith made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mrs. Pipkins.

Respectfully submitted  
Clinton Hall