

Unapproved Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
of the Faculty Senate, November 17, 1994

Senators Present: Mickey Badgett, James Bateman, Susan Calovini, Don Dailey, Thomas Dixon, Deborah Fetch, Rebecca Glass, Stephen Krau, John Matthews, Bruce Myers, Sallie Noel, Allene Phy-Olsen, William Renkl, Charles Richards, Susan Robbins, Robert Robison, Adel Salama, Bob Sears, Paul Shaffer, Karen Sorenson, David Till, Victor Ukpolo, Mickey Wadia, Hollie Walker, Charles Woods, Nanci Woods

The Agenda for the meeting was approved.

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 20, 1994, were approved without corrections.

### REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

**President Sal Rinella** reported that:

- (1). he perceived the VA's response to his statements at the hearing in Nashville, TN, on November 9, 1994, to be favorable. Recent changes in the University's organizational structure have underscored our sincere effort to comply with VA directives. He did point out, however, that the final judgment by the VA will be based on a technical question of our compliance within the 90-day period mandated by the VA. Copies of his oral presentation at the hearing are available to anyone who has further interest. Whatever decision is made relative to the VA audit, subsequent audits are to be expected.
- (2). he has accepted many opportunities to speak to community organizations since his arrival at APSU.
- (3). costs of refurbishing the President's residence are still within estimates and plans are complete to hold the Christmas Open House on December 2, 1994.
- (4). he lists among his current concerns--enrollment management/retention, FCC, and maximizing our potential within the Formula Funding Model. He plans to form a Task Force soon to analyze our ability to derive full benefit from Formula Funding and hopes to involve faculty in this planning process.

**Vice President John Butler** reported that:

- (1). he regrets the lack of funds to fill the many worthy requests he is receiving from faculty and department chairs.
- (2). the Review Board at the VA hearing in Nashville, TN, gave no real feedback. The panel now has 15 days to respond to Regional Directors and the Regional Directors then have 15 days to respond to APSU relative to our presentation at the hearing and our compliance with the VA directives. He stated that a strong

part of APSU's defense at the hearing was a flow-chart demonstrating our attempts to alleviate the problem. This information was presented by Tom Morrison, APSU's new VA Director. Dr. Butler noted that there will soon be additional forms for tracking veterans' and training sessions for VA advisors will be scheduled.

**Academic White Committee (Nanci Woods)** reported that the SGA had tabled consideration of the Five-Day Plan for Final Exams for one month. The plan will be considered by the Academic Council at their November 30, 1994, meeting.

**Academic Red Committee (Bruce Myers)** reported that his committee has met and discussed the concerns of several faculty who felt requirements for tenure had been changed after they entered the University. Untenured faculty members are evaluated at three levels (1) Academic Effectiveness (2) Scholarly and Creative Activities and (3) Professional Contributions. Myers found that each College also has general requirements and the presence of some discrepancies among the Colleges results in a degree of anxiety. Departmental recommendations continue to be of primary importance in the tenure process.

**Faculty White Committee (FS Office Space)** had no report.

\* **Faculty Red Committee (Robbie Robison)** after continued investigation of the faculty salary issue at APSU was told by the TBR that APSU is not doing what it can to maximize funding according to the Formula Funding Guidelines. TBR suggested at least four areas in which APSU is unnecessarily losing potential funding (1) preoccupation with the General Education Core (which directly generates no funds) with apparently less emphasis on majors (2) failure to obtain accreditation for the College of Business (3) failure to maximize our potential statistically and (4) excessive % of DSP students--which TBR feels is damaging overall. Robison distributed lists of ten categories used in Performance Funding. Until APSU makes a serious attempt to maximize its potential, TBR will show little interest in salary discrepancies.

**TBR SubCouncil**--no report.

**Academic Council**--no report.

**Dean's Council (Mickey Badgett)** reported that the VA audit was discussed (as reported above), that Dr. Rinella had met with the council, and that considerable discussion focused on implementation of distance learning. No decisions were made concerning development of this technology, but seminars are scheduled for learning what is available.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Liberal Arts Core Committee (Susan Calovini)** answered questions concerning the committee's work and the faculty's general perception of the committee's composition. Discussion centered around the question of whether the effectiveness of the present core is accurately tested by the instruments presently in place. A word of caution was expressed--that the present perception of the committee's work may lead to divisiveness among faculty.

No other business was introduced and the meeting was adjourned.