WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING, September 14, 2017
Hall-Patterson 228; 3:30p.m. – 5:00p.m.

I. Call to Order: Dr. Glen Holmes called the meeting to order at 3:35p.m.

II. Approval of Agenda: Dr. Holmes put forth a motion to accept the agenda. [Dr. Z. Madjd--Sadjadi (1st); Dr. L. Weisenfeld (2nd)]. Motion carried.

III. Approval of Minutes: Dr. Holmes made a motion that the minutes from the April 17, 2017 meeting be approved. [Dr. Z. Madjd--Sadjadi (1st); Dr. L. Weisenfeld (2nd)]. Motion carried.

IV. [Dr. L. Weisenfeld (1st); Dr. B. Harvey (2nd)] to approve April 2017 minutes. Question: Z. Madjd—Sadjadi said whoever makes a motion, that faculty members’ name needs to appear in the minutes. This motion carried.

V. Electronic Recordkeeping: Dr. Holmes suggested ways to keep records electronically and efficiently. We want to make our communication more efficient through electronic means. He explained how to retrieve software if your computer is not Microsoft Office 2016. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee has already begun to use a feature of this software known as “GROUPS.” One GROUP is called “Faculty Senate Executive Committee.” Another group need to be called, “Faculty Senate.” Suite, bundled with Office Microsoft 2016 is what we want to use. Faculty senators were invited to join, so that there will be a way to look at the FS calendar and other calendars simultaneously. Information can be tracked and sent to all senators to reduce the number of email messages. He will take responsibility for this project.

VI. Report of Provost: The Interim Provost Report was given by Dr. Michael McKenzie. He announced that previous faculty senate chair, Dr. Himanshu Gopalan, was killed in an accident in Scotland. Details are forthcoming. Dr. Berry wants Faculty Senate to let her know the role the senators want her to have. She does not want her presence to be a hindrance. Dr. Berry wants meetings to be faculty-driven not provost-centered. Senators offered discussion. Dr. McKenzie said raises are coming regarding merit and will be reflected in the October checks. Discussion was offered regarding processes of merit. In regard to searches for the Dean and provost, the Chancellor has chosen to use a search firm which relies heavily on faculty. Many faculty members will be asked to serve. The search firm will come to the campus at the end of September to find out from faculty members how the job descriptions should look in terms of essential traits, responsibilities, and duties. The job descriptions are unwritten at this point. Departments will receive invitations to serve on committees to hire Dean and Provost. Dr. Berry is interested in seeing shared governance from the departments upward, for example, with curriculum. Dr. Berry wants to see departments take the lead in decision-making on campus, to include chairs and senior faculty instead of leadership that is from the top down. Dr. Holmes asked how faculty senators wish to
communicate to the Provost. Various suggestions were made. Dr. Holmes said he will ask Lee (Stackhouse) to convene a meeting around this issue and get back to the faculty senate. Dr. Holmes asked if it is appropriate for a committee to deal with issues of merit. The existing committee, Faculty Welfare, and Salary can address this matter. Chair entertained a motion that this committee would take up two issues: 1) review and offer merit recommendations and 2) verify the accuracy of salaried compensation. Zagros moved. Yancu seconded.

VII. Technology: Dr. Holmes entertained a motion to charge the Technology Committee with the task of resolving problems to our University’s’ Internet and with verifying accuracy of information on the official site. The motion carried. Dr. Holmes asked if faculty senators want someone from Information Technology (IT) to come to this body and discuss the matters put forth in this meeting.

VIII. Results of Survey: Dr. Holmes showed a graph depicting the survey results of items faculty members think are important for the Faculty Senate to address this academic year. He briefly reviewed how the survey came to be. He asked the faculty senators, “How do we, as a senate body, begin to address what is on the survey?” Dr. Zagros suggested a committee be formed to deal with the results. Dr. Rita Darby suggested that there needs to be a committee that deals specifically with retention. Dr. Weisenfeld asked if we know what is meant by “Academic/Instruction” which yielded the greatest number of responses on the survey. Dr. Holmes suggested that an ad hoc committee be formed on Academics and Instructions. Dr. Zagros moved. Dr. Weisenfeld seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Several senators volunteered to serve on this committee: Dr. Jill Keith, Dr. Z. Madjd—Sadjadi, Dr. Audrey Forrest-Carter, Dr. Leslie Weisenfeld, Dr. Joanne Banks, Dr. Azeez Aileru, and Dr. Glen Holmes.

IX. Announcements: Concerns were raised about post-tenure review. Dr. Holmes mentioned a recurring theme: “Should the review process for evaluation of post-tenure review be uniformed or autonomous based on departments?” Annual reviews are important and expectations need to be transparent. Dr. J. Banks announced that there will be a rally tonight at Wake Forest University regarding DACA.

X. Adjourn: Dr. Holmes adjourned the meeting at 5:02pm.

(The minutes were recorded by Dr. Althea B. Bradford, Faculty Senate Secretary.)