

Armstrong Atlantic State University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Agenda of August 19, 2013
Student Union, Ballroom A, 3:00 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Senate Action
 - A. Approval of [Minutes from April 15, 2013 Faculty Senate Meeting](#)
 - B. Remarks from Dr. Carey Adams, Provost/VPAA and Dr. Linda Bleicken, President
 - C. Old Business
 - 1. Outcome of Bills/Resolutions
 - i. [FSB-2013-04-15-03](#) Comprehensive Salary Analysis
 - ii. [FSB-2013-03-18-05](#) Emeritus Faculty
 - iii. [FSR-2013-04-15-01](#) BOR Reclassification of Armstrong
 - D. New Business
 - 1. Senate Committee Elections
 - i. Steering Committee
 - ii. Elections Committee: Erik Nordenhaug & Melissa Jackson
 - iii. Constitution and Bylaws Committee: Catherine MacGowen, Jane Blackwell and Bill Deaver
 - iv. Committee on Committees: Dorothee Mertz-Weigel, Leigh Rich, Brent Feske, and Elizabeth Desnoyers-Colas
 - 2. Review of Committee Charges
 - 3. Discussion of Restructuring of Committees
 - 4. Faculty Senate Resolution: Affirmation of Faculty Governance of Academic Issues (Appendix A)
 - 5. Faculty Senate Bill: Transparency in Armstrong Infrastructure Planning (Appendix B)
 - 6. Faculty Senate Bill: Promotion of Shared Governance (Appendix C)
 - 7. Faculty-Grown Planning Recommendations (Erik Nordenhaug)
 - E. Senate Information
 - 1. Senators and Committee Lists Updates (Christine Moore)
 - i. Send changes to elections.senate@armstrong.edu
 - 2. Send Committee Meetings and Minutes to faculty.senate@armstrong.edu
 - 3. USGFC Meeting Minutes
 - F. Announcements
- III. Adjournment

Appendix A

Faculty Senate Resolution: Affirmation of Faculty Governance of Academic Issues

Whereas, the Preamble of the Constitution of the Armstrong Faculty Senate states "... the Senate will represent the faculty in fulfilling its duties, privileges, and responsibilities in governance and in furthering the mission of the university in issues of academic concern and academic leadership."; and

Whereas, the mission of the Student Success Committee states that it "shall recommend policies on recruitment, admissions, advisement, and retention."; and

Whereas, Armstrong's strategic plan affirms the importance of shared governance as a core value: "We value transparency that fosters shared governance."; and

Whereas, Armstrong's vision is to be "an academically selective institution of first choice..." ; and

Whereas, in May 2012, the regular admissions minimum core high school grade point average (GPA) requirement was changed from 2.0 to 2.5 effective for the 2012-13 catalog without any discussion with faculty senate and/or related standing committees of the faculty senate.

Therefore be it resolved that while the Armstrong Faculty Senate strongly supports the increase in admission standards, it strongly disapproves of the lack of transparency in how this policy was conceived and implemented. Furthermore, the abruptness of the policy change without a prior presentation of an implementation plan to the faculty senate leadership suggests either a lack of long term planning or transparency in said planning; and

Therefore be it resolved that the Armstrong Faculty Senate reaffirms its duty, interest and responsibility in the governance of academic issues and leadership at Armstrong Atlantic State University.

Appendix B

Faculty Senate Bill: Transparency in Armstrong Infrastructure Planning

Whereas, the responsibilities of the Planning Budget and Facilities (PB&F) Committee includes “recommendations concerning strategic planning, budgeting (including long-range planning and the annual budget prior to its submission to the Board of Regents), as well as **planning, development, and expansion of physical facilities when such endeavors affect the academic mission of the university.**”

Whereas, Planning Budget and Facilities presented the Armstrong Faculty Senate with the Office of Business and Finance’s list of Armstrong infrastructure projects at the April 15, 2013 senate meeting that included the Arts Drive resurfacing project; and

Whereas, this list did not include the dates nor the priorities of any of the listed projects; and

Whereas, on Friday, July 19, 2013 at 4:47pm, Armstrong faculty and staff were informed that Arts Drive would be closed for resurfacing beginning on Monday, July 22, 2013, and would remain fully and/or partially closed for 45 days; and

Whereas, during this construction work, students, staff, and faculty would be expected to rely on Library Drive to egress one of the largest student parking lots on campus during one of the busiest times of the academic year; and

Whereas, the sole use of Library Drive based on this plan would have resulted in significant delays for all campus commuters, but especially our students; and

Whereas, after strong objections from the faculty senate and other stakeholders, the construction plan was modified to minimize the closure of Arts Drive.

Therefore be it resolved, the Armstrong Faculty Senate expresses grave concern for the lack of adequate planning and communication to the Armstrong community about an infrastructure project that ultimately impacts the academic mission of the university; and

Therefore be it resolved, the Armstrong Faculty Senate requests that the Office of Business and Finance provide PB&F with an annual list of any planned development and/or expansion of physical facilities that impacts the academic mission of the university by the third week of the academic year. The list should include tentative start and end dates for each project. At least six weeks before the start

date of each project, the Office of Business and Finance will provide PB&F with a project implementation plan consisting of no less than a campus communications plan and a detailed timeline of project milestones.

Appendix C

Faculty Senate Bill: Promotion of Shared Governance

Whereas the stated core of Armstrong's mission is teaching and;

Whereas that action occurs between students and faculty and;

Whereas the faculty are the long-term citizens of the university community and are responsible for directing the teaching and research activities that draw the students to Armstrong and;

Whereas **all other** positions on campus, *essential as they may be to the effective functioning of the university*, are **in support of teaching and research** and;

Whereas there have been a number of administratively driven substantial changes made in the recent past that would have been received and quite possibly developed better had there been faculty input, the Faculty Senate requests that, for all current or future councils, task forces, search committees or other committees created by the President or any Vice President, the creator of such a body will allow the President of the Senate to appoint (or decline to appoint) a faculty representative to that body.

Appendix D

Advanced Academic Leave policy revision

Current	Proposed
Only eligibility requirement is 3 years' employment.	Must be tenured and served at least 6 years. (This was the requirement prior to the last Handbook revision.) Six years must lapse between leaves.
Request due to immediate supervisor preferably one year in advance.	Application due to Dean (with Head approval) by annual fall deadline established by Provost. Would be October 1, 2013 for 2014-2015 leaves.
No standard format for requests.	Standard format for application.
Handbook section refers only to Advanced Academic <u>Research</u> Leave, although the policy itself refers to leaves for research <u>or</u> professional development.	Handbook section refers to Advanced Academic Leave and distinguishes between Research and Professional Development purposes for leaves.
Review procedure calls for provost to solicit evaluation by the Research and Scholarship Committee, but no criteria for evaluation are provided.	Evaluation rubric is provided in application guidelines, following required elements of the proposal, and will be used by Research and Scholarship Committee to provide input on proposals.
Stipulates as a post-leave requirement that the faculty member must present and/or publish a relevant scholarly product within two years (or a predesignated time period) following the semester in which the leave is taken.	Removes this requirement, as it is nearly impossible to enforce. Application requires description of project outcomes, e.g., publication, and review of subsequent applications would take into consideration successful completion of prior projects.
Makes no reference to Advanced Academic Leave being used in conjunction with external grants, such as Fulbright or NEH Fellowships.	Explicitly encourages faculty to apply for external support to combine with Advanced Academic Leave. Specifies that total annual compensation cannot exceed the annual contract salary and that non-income awards (e.g., travel expenses, housing) do not count as salary compensation.