Faculty Business Meeting
March 30, 2007
Minutes

Dr. Becky Paneitz updated the faculty on the Arkansas state legislature. NWACC has received an 11% increase in state funding. $1,075,000 was approved for making general improvements at NWACC. Dr. Paneitz hopes to apply some of this money to making every classroom "smart" by Fall 2007.

In April, the NWACC Foundation and the Mercy System are signing a contract for the NARTI buildings west of Burns Hall. Around the end of 2008, when Mercy moves NARTI to its new campus, we will begin to move our nursing program to that facility.

The student center will be dedicated near the end of April. The renovation of Burns Hall will begin this summer with the relocation of offices and classrooms from MAT. The college should be completely moved from Woods Lane by June 30. Other plans include a metal roof and library expansion to be completed by 2010.

Gene Schneider reported on the results from our AQIP Conversation Day on March 16. The areas receiving the most votes for specific action projects were the following:
■"Entitling internal partnerships": decision making processes, etc.
■Advising model
■Human resources: day care, tuition waivers, etc.
■Technology

Gene has compiled a notebook with more specific information and categories. Conversation Day will be featured in a special edition of the Weekly Insider soon. By May 1, an AQIP webpage for the college should be ready.

About committees, Angie Albright announced that Curriculum Committee chair Carol Olson will be stepping down and handing the reins to Curtis Harrell, who will chair the committee next year. Angie and the rest of the faculty thanked Carol for her outstanding leadership and dedication. The committee hopes to have all forms and proposals submitted online.

Carol Olson reported on the latest curriculum changes approved by the faculty senate:

- Honors Seminar
- Legal & Protective Services—6 new courses
- Legal & Protective Services, Criminal Justice—3 courses deleted, 1 course added
- Science, OSHA—1 course deleted, 3 course revisions
- Social and Behavioral Science, Social Science—2 new courses
- Business and CIS, Business—1 new course, 7 course revisions

Committee Assignments for the next school year will remain essentially the same as this year's. If you want to change, contact the appropriate committee chair or representative. At this time, we are still trying to developing a committee "clearinghouse."

Next, the faculty voted on a change in wording in the Faculty Constitution, because we need to add a representative for the Division of Career and Technical Education. In Article II, Membership, the Constitution currently names each specific division. The proposed rewording would read: "The Senate shall be composed of . . . **one division representative, selected by the faculty of each academic division."** The vote to accept this rewording was unanimous, with only one abstention.

Stephanie Lewis next introduced our new Faculty Senate web page and showed us how to access it. The link is **http://inet.nwacc.edu/facultySenate/index.php.** Similarly, **Linda Lovell** reminded us that the Faculty Handbook is still undergoing revision, but we may view it at http://www.nwacc.edu/documents/FacultyHandbook200607.pdf. The new version will be completed and ready for faculty approval soon.

Angie Albright next covered information on some policy changes. First, in the Academic Standing Policy, peer advisors will *not* be used to call students in academic "trouble," in accordance with faculty recommendation. A new Human Resources policy has increased the Tuition Waiver for full-time employees from 6 to 12 credit hours per family per semester. Although part-time employees still receive a waiver of only 3 hours' tuition per family each semester, the Senate is requesting an increase in the number of hours.

In m**iscellaneous matters, Angie Albright** presented a legislative update. We expect most of the "textbook bills" to be declared unconstitutional. The two that have passed affect only royalties and gratuities for professors who are using textbooks that they have authored.

In other business, the Senate is requesting its own budget from the Administration. The annual Faculty Banquet is scheduled for April 20th. The faculty has recommended seven new full-time faculty be hired. Interviews for the Associate Vice President for Instruction will wrap up the week of April 2. Angie encouraged all interested faculty to attend one of the sessions with the candidates. Finally, she reminded us to get our applications in for sabbatical leave, adding how much she appreciated the administration's support in providing this benefit to the faculty.

Note: Thanks to Angie Albright for allowing me to refer to her power point presentation in order to complete these minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Hubbard
April 6, 2007