

Shared Governance Committee Meeting
Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Minutes

The Shared Governance (SG) Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, April 22, 2008 in the Administrative Conference Room 622. The meeting was called to order by committee chair, Paxton Oliver at 4:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Committee members present were Karen Briski, Bob Cage, Camille Currier, Susan Duggins, Chip Holloway, Paul Karlowitz, Robin Logan, Paxton Oliver, Denny Ryman, Pam Saulsberry, John Sutherlin, and Luke Thomas. Priscilla Turner recorded the meeting minutes.

Committee members absent but excused were Ken Clow, Gordon Harvey, and Joe McGahan.

Review and discussion of “Shared Governance Talking Points” handout:

- Qualitative Research requires categorization of themes from focus groups and use of individual statements that support and justify the categories. All responses should not be included verbatim in published documents; however, the most important and relevant issues should be used to develop themes. P. Oliver stated that the SG Committee should follow good Qualitative Research Methodology with focus group raw data. P. Saulsberry shared here qualitative research experiences and also encouraged the committee to follow good qualitative research methodology. Additional Qualitative Research references were discussed.

The SG Committee voted not to publish focus group responses in their entirety on the web. To maintain transparency, however, the consensus among the committee was to publicly display all focus group responses by placing them in the Chair’s office for interested parties to review.

A coversheet for all focus group responses will be created including a policy informing those viewing the document that photocopying the documents is prohibited.

- The SG Committee felt that focus group responses did not reflect a resistance to the SG Policies and Procedures documents. The Chair asked if the Principles and Procedures documents should be recommended to the President for approval. The consensus of the committee was that the campus should vote on approval of these documents. (Further discussion will occur regarding a time period for voting)

- Item #3 in the handout was accepted by the SG Committee with the addition of setting a specific date of December 1, 2008. A Recommendation will be made to President Cofer that he ask the Faculty Senate and a Professional Staff Committee to research various SG models and report to the President, faculty and professional staff by December 1, 2008.

R. Logan stated that it is important for both groups to fully understand the employment structure of the university before they attempt to create models. Therefore, the SG committee needs to evaluate the employee population and make certain that we have identified various groups, their current inclusion status, possible points of confusion, and common definitions for all groups to use as a reference. Several of the SG committee should meet to develop a reference document for these groups to use to facilitate their discussions.

- It has been stated that Civil Service employees are ineligible to participate in university SG because they have their own governance body that advocates for them. At the request of K. Briski, research will be initiated for clarification. P. Oliver and K. Briski will investigate Civil Service Prohibited activities.
- The full SG Committee will take a summer break at the conclusion of spring business. This Committee will continue to meet in the fall in order to monitor SG compliance.
- The SG Committee will meet Tuesday, April 29, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. in the Administrative Conference Room 622. The primary agenda item will be determination of focus group themes.