

Patty Farmer
Dwayne Stenstrom
Katerin Jurich-Pipeboy
Jerry Smith
Ted Hamilton (later arrival)

Online Attendance:

Jerry Lester
Sheila Wheeler
Aimee Schrader
Tashina Lavallie
Jennifer Rodin
Laura Dunn
Art Fisher (later arrival)

President Mike Leneagh called meeting to order at 9:07 at Student Services Building

1. Dwayne Stenstrom opened with prayer.

2. Review of minutes:

Dwayne Stenstrom noted typo in spelling of his name. Otherwise, the minutes were approved, with a vote of 6/0, 1 abstaining.

3. Announcements and Information:

- a. Issues in locating Faculty Council minutes on the Governance tab.
- b. Request for maintenance could leave bags of rock salt for each building, so faculty/staff could assist in application as needed.

4. Spring Semester faculty input on first week of classes.

- a. Praise for student success and persistence/patience in enrollment despite registration issues;
- b. Concern for a lack of textbooks; administration noted ability to request e-books;
- c. Inaccurate student email addresses or lack of student SGU email addresses hindered the students' start of the semester.
- d. Need for more interdepartmental communication about student enrollment in courses, or from the advisor registering students in other instructor's elective courses, and communicating that class registration to all relevant faculty.

5. Faculty review and input on the Spring 2023 enrollment/registration process:

Overall, faculty discussion was passionate about advocating for student's needs, and opinions were grounded in the reality of the working process.

Concerns include:

- A. The system in current use is not working, and that SGU should look to other successful schools for guidance on better functioning systems.*
- B. Our paper system and delayed class registration is outdated and inadequate, faculty and students need a “live” process, so both will know about full classes at the time faculty enroll students for courses per their degree plan.*
- C. It is a disservice to our students and student success to have students enroll under faculty guidance, but to find out days, even a week later that a class is full.*

Faculty input concluded with the observation that it was an unrealistic expectation for faculty to adequately advise and register 800+ students under the current process: In a single advising session look up transcripts, fill out a status sheet, register a student for classes in a paper form, send that paper form to Jack Herman and Deanne Oliver, and then email all faculty that a student was now registered for their course, so all faculty could manually update their class rosters.

In short, Faculty asked about SGU seeking to duplicate processes of other schools, who have live enrollment, and live roster updates, as well as staff Advisors. Faculty asked that SGU seek to move from a hand system to an online system---though it was presented that the current manner of an advisor from the department of a student’s declared major supervising the student class schedule choice was not in itself a bad thing to abandon.

Regarding Faculty concerns addressed: Administration present brought up the counter issues in regard to current processes, from the standpoint of financial and technological feasibility:

- a. Limits of Learning Management systems and cost vs. usage.
- b. Issues of a “new system” being compatible to systems in SGU’s partner institutions like Ihanktonwan Community College, etc.
- c. Issues of registration occurring, but student courses not being officially entered due to missing paperwork for SGU enrollment.

Other administrative viewpoints included:

- a. Student by signing enrollment forms, state their official understanding that registration for classes (and receiving those classes) is conditional upon all Enrollment process and documentation being complete. (i.e, faculty completion of a registration card and emailing it to staff does not mean it is “instantly” registered in the system if student lacks a SS card, etc.)
- b. It was highly recommended that emphasis should be placed on helping High School or other first time Registration/Enrolling students to fully understand the paper work and items necessary to becoming a college student, especially a tribal college student at SGU

Faculty noted that it would be best if students should fully complete the SGU enrollment process before being allowed to register for classes, and that having both processes occur simultaneously was causing the issues of registering for classes that were in actuality ‘full’.

Faculty also noted that a functioning enrollment system should be a fiscal priority, regardless of administrative concerns voiced above about cost/usage—citing that if students cannot enroll

properly, we will not grow as an institution, and that if our system is inadequate now, it will not be more functional with a larger student population.

Administration/Staff defended that SGU had issues of weather delaying Registration, and the huge number of students showing up for Friday registration before the official Monday start date, resulting in the dual process of Enrollment and class Registration. It was remarked that SGU did not want to turn any students away, despite the issues of lack of enrollment documents, etc. Also, that faculty had an opportunity to pre-register students at the end of the prior semester.

Other issues of discussion or suggestions for future proceedings:

- a. **Status sheets:** Discussion of importance of proper status sheets and updates, and matching of all records, paper/online.
- b. **Moving to a Yearly Schedule:** Discussion of the planning process, and the goal of moving to a yearly curriculum class schedule, rather than semesterly; and the need to move away from last minute changes in course offerings.
- c. **100% matching of course offerings and numbering:** Discussion also noted the current discrepancies between the catalogue, and online and paper courses, changes in numbering of courses, and degree requirements, and the need for 100% constancy, especially with CCG updates not reflected in the catalogue or online notations.
- d. **Educating students about Enrollment:** Additional concerns were voiced regarding the large number of students who attended orientation, without the proper complete registration process, and the issues involved with allocating resources.
- e. **Registration contact list issues:** It was noted in discussion that students were listed in Registration contacts, who were not intending to take Spring Courses; or who were Registered by intending to take courses at campuses other than SGU; as well as issues of incomplete or inaccurate contact information.
- f. **Administration guests voiced a Request for Faculty to update status sheets this Spring:** It was brought up as a goal that Academic Departments should utilize the Spring Semester to seek full update and accurate information on Status Sheets, as well as promoting Registration, so that the next Summer and Fall 2023 terms could adequately handle new students as well as the current/returning students.

Other concerns, considerations and recommendations outside of Registration & Enrollment:

- g. **Faculty Dept Chair Meetings:** It was voiced (by administration) that Faculty would benefit from attending Faculty Department Chairs meetings.
- h. **SGU class attendance affected by weather delays of K-12:** Faculty noted that SGU attendance—when class began on time—was affected by k-12 schools and RST late starts, and parents who were late for class due to family obligations. Faculty requested that SGU late starts or closing announcements be clear and timely. Administration proposed that adult students who were enrolled were thus under a contractual obligation to attend, and be held accountable, instead of allowing our attendance to be dictated by outside circumstances involving k-12 schedules.

- i. **Issues of Dual enrollment:** Various ideas revolving around increased dual enrollment were discussed. It was noted by administration that dual credit had issues of FERPA, regulations pertaining to supervision of minors, and that creating Dual Credit was an involved process—including the fact that HS graduation must be completed in order for college courses to be officially added to SGU transcripts.
- j. **Jenzabar:** It was highly recommended (by administration) that faculty should all receive training in Advising and use of the Jenzabar Advising Module; as well as training in the Registration Module on Jenzabar, before implementing the online registration option.
- k. (Administration) presented procedural issues about CCG approvals to be applied to future FC meetings.

Chairman Mike Leneagh concluded with a reminder for SGU, as we go into the new year, that we should remember that SGU is a TCU (Tribal College and University). We must remember to do as the SGU founders advised: “don’t forget to do Indian things”, and to ensure that the university’s academic operations reflect a commitment to empowering Native Americans through the realization of Native American self-determination in Education.

6. Meeting Adjournment:

Chairman Mike Leneagh asked for a vote to adjourn. The online meeting connection between the live meeting and online participants was lost, so the meeting was adjourned with only the vote of attendees, rather than a complete vote at 10:45 am, Jan 27, 2023.

Faculty Council Secretary Jerry E. Smith, 1:16 pm 1/27/23

(Revisions per Faculty Council request, Friday Feb 17, were completed 2/20/23 by FC secretary.)

Approved:

Michael Leneagh

Chairperson

2/17/23

Date