Call to Order

Cornelia Miller called the meeting to order.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

1. Student Evaluation of Instruction Survey results (Mike Tedder)

Mike Tedder discussed the new format in which faculty will received the Student Evaluation results. Under the present system, any instructor receiving a score below the school average for a particular question should have responded with remedial action. Under the newly proposed system, instructors with a score of 4.0 or above and those with a score lower than 4.0 but within two standard deviations of the school average do not need to respond. This system was tested using the results from previous surveys. The evaluation results given to faculty will have double asterisks (**) and a bold average for the question which should be addressed by the instructor and their division chair during faculty evaluation. Depending on the division chair’s meeting with the instructor, remedial action may or may not be necessary. The new policy will be used Spring 2007 if approved.

The Faculty Senate voted to accept the new policy as presented.

2. Proposed College Calendar (Dr. Latitia McCane)

Dr. McCane presented the proposed college calendars for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 to the Faculty Senate. The main items of concern were:

- Spring break will not coincide with the city and county schools. City and County schools have moved their Spring Break to April. A Faculty Duty day was included in April to give students one day off and faculty an opportunity to take leave during their children’s Spring Break.
- Local Professional Development Day on Friday, August 8, 2008 for Fall 2008. This was done to give faculty two days off between Summer and Fall Semesters. It was discussed whether this would be a problem for technical faculty since they usually have shorted work days on Fridays. The alternative would be to move the Profession Development day back one day to August 7th. All faculty agreed that we had never had two days off between Summer and Fall and would prefer that to moving the Professional Development Day.

The proposed calendars were accepted by the Faculty Senate.
3. Class Interruptions

Several faculty on both campuses have experienced problems with class interruptions by departments needing to contact students. This problem seems to have already been resolved, so no discussion was held on the matter.

4. Telecommunication Classes

Students have voiced their dislike of the classes taught via telecommunications. This may be partially due to problems with the telecommunications equipment. Also, some instructors only teach from one campus not allowing students on both campuses the same instruction and access to the instructor. Some classes may be more conducive to the telecommunications environment than others. It was suggested that students be surveyed on their views of the telecommunications classes. Also, the Student Evaluation of Instruction forms may shed light on the student’s views of these classes.

The Faculty Senate recommends that Kelly Stanford prepare a survey for classes taught via telecommunications. Cornelia will also ask Kelly to check on the Student Evaluation of Instruction surveys in regards to the telecommunication classes.

5. Classroom Temperatures

Discussion was held on the temperature of the classrooms in most buildings on both campuses. Students have difficulty learning when they are uncomfortable. The temperature seems to be either very cold or very hot. Also, the temperature is often not comfortable for the night classes.

Cornelia will talk with Bernie Wall about the classroom temperatures.

6. Student Advising

Faculty are still concerned about students not being required to talk with their advisor each term. Students can be more successful at Jeff Davis and when transferring if they receive proper counseling and advising.

The Faculty Senate requests that Cornelia invite Dean Hall, Dean Jones and Robin Sessions to the next Faculty Senate Meeting to discuss student advising.

The next meeting will be held Monday, March 12th at 1:30 p.m. via telecommunications.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.