Approved 7-0-0 EC #14

01/24/12

UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

EXECUTIVE COMMTTEE

JANUARY 17, 2012

HMSU 227, 3:30 p.m.

Present: S. Lamb, K. Bolinger, J. Conant, R. Guell, T. Hawkins, B. Kilp, J. Kuhlman, C. MacDonald,

T. Sawyer

Ex officio: Provost J. Maynard

I. Administrative report

Provost Maynard:

a. Official numbers on enrollment will be out soon. They will show that enrollment is pretty flat. This is considered good news because the loss of the Corrections Education Program (CEP) resulted in a loss of 380 students. This means that our successes elsewhere were sufficient to overcome this drop.

b. Distance enrollments are up 8%. College Challenge enrollments are up and our losses to Indiana College Network (ICN - where our students enroll in distance courses on other campuses) are down.

c. There is a bill moving very quickly through the legislature that would create a statewide general education core of 30 credit hours. The Indiana Commission of Higher Education (ICHE) would create competencies, and the institutions would have to map courses to those competencies. This would mean that a student that completed the 30 credit hour core at one institution would meet the General Education requirements of any institution in the state. This could be in force within months (all this has to be done by next December).

d. I do not yet have the data you requested on dismissed and readmitted students. I will provide that at our next meeting.

II. Chair report, S. Lamb:

There is a concern that Dean’s reviews are not being done in a fashion consistent with The Handbook. They have always been done within the third year whereas now they are being done in the fall after the third year.

At the Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting of October 11, 2011, I asked (provost) if full- time instructors on a multi-year contract would earn at least $36,000. The provost agreed. I also asked if full time lecturers on single year contracts would earn at least $30,000. The provost also agreed. J. Murray indicates there are several in Arts & Sciences making less than these reported minimums. Can you look into this?

Provost Maynard: I will look into it.

S. Lamb: If I may use this opportunity to get on a soapbox: I am teaching Business Statistics II (BUS 305) in the College of Business. These students are not used to taking notes; they are used to receiving it all in Blackboard. They do not organize, sequence, or cull, information. They are passive. They expect you to feed it to them and expect you to make those notes available. I am not sure we do them any favors when we provide them this much and expect so little from them. We are there to enable them to distinguish the important from the unimportant. We are not doing them any favors when we do it for them. When everything is done on a computer for them they lose track of the fundamentals. My heart is with those who have expressed frustration with our undergraduates.

I note that ISU has a 1940 graduate (Quentin Smith, 93 years of age) who is a surviving Tuskegee airman. He was featured in a recent news article. Would not this individual be a wonderful receipt of an outstanding graduate award.?

III. Fifteen Minute Open Discussion

1. T. Sawyer: I have a message from CAAC, passed 8-0-0:

There is no valid reason to change the grading scale at this time. The perceived benefit of changing would be outweighed by the hardships caused. It is further recommended that concerted efforts be made to assure all Faculty have a clear understanding of the system and its’ implications.

S. Lamb: There is a Blackboard forum on this topic. There was a faculty forum in the fall on the topic. Because the votes were tied we, have not resolved the issue and we hope to do so in January. This will be the third meeting in which we discuss this.

R. Guell: Procedurally, we are still working with the original SAC motion.

T. Hawkins: We need to have some testimony on the impacts of this change.

1. R. Guell: During this morning’s rain there were impassable sidewalks with long and deep blocking the entire sidewalk on the cobblestones laid this summer on the southeast corner of Holmstedt. Can we do something about drainage this summer?
2. S. Lamb: I have heard graduate students from College of Education complain that they are not allowed to sit for exams or move toward degree completion until they achieved a 3.5. That used to be a B+ average.

C. MacDonald: The College of Education (CoE) governance will be addressing that soon.

IV. **Motion to Approve the Minutes of January 10, 2012** (J. Kuhlman/T. Sawyer; vote: unanimous)

V. Necessary Handbook Correction Concerning Benefits, S. Lamb:

a. S. Lamb: I would like consensus to charge Dr. Guell with drafting new language to **section 510.5.1** on health benefits to make it consistent with the Board of Trustees’ stated intent of moving the University’s contribution from 75% to 67%. (Consensus achieved.)

b. Additional monies for URC and UAEC, Memo corrected.

c. S. Lamb: There was a typo in the original provided to you last week. This is an updated version of that letter from M. Green. There are more funds available. We thank the administration.

Provost Maynard: These additional funds came as a result of grants members the university has garnered.

VI. **MOTION TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION** (T. Hawkins/T. Sawyer; vote unanimous) 3:52 p.m.

**MOTION TO MOVE OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION** (R. Guell/T. Sawyer; vote unanimous) 4:24 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 4:25 p.m.