Approved 8-0-0 EC # 24

04/24/12

UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

EXECUTIVE COMMTTEE

April 17, 2012

3:30 p.m., HMSU 227

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

Absent: B. Kilp

Ex officio: President D. Bradley, Provost J. Maynard

Guests: J. West

1. Administrative reports

President Bradley:

a. We are in the run up to end of semester. The message we continue to get from the ICHE and others is that we need to “get ready to be 25% more efficient.” We only hope that they will allow us to grow into it. I have also noted to them that these mandates replicate their actions as they relate to K-12, and there is no data to support the contention that K-12 is doing better than before as a result of them.

b. The stakeholders’ conference went well and we are making progress on our strategic goals.

Provost Maynard: No report

1. Chair report - S. Lamb:
   1. I was present at the stakeholders’ conference and at Board of Trustees Chairperson Alley’s presentation. I have enormous respect for him. It is very clear that the President is getting different messages. We plead for him to proceed at a reasonable pace with thoughtful consideration while the Board tells the President to hurry up. I simply reiterate my plea. I will offer a motion to charge FAC to consider allowing the Executive Committee to give an expedited hearing on issues the President considers requiring immediate action. I believe we have worked hard to accommodate the President’s pace. We are doing everything in our power to advance the consideration of the University College. As V. Sheets (Chair of Faculty Senate for 2012-13 academic year) moves forward, if we get approval for an expedited approach, I plead with the President to elicit the use of this approach sparingly. Shared Governance must be protected.
2. Fifteen Minute Open Discussion:

a. K. Bolinger: As we move forward on the University College notion the resistance I hear centers around the vague lines that exist between the AVP for Student Success and the University College Dean.

President Bradley: Currently they do not overlap. The first year will be to figure out how to put them together. The AVP position will be project related with the LEAP program and the SASC. AVP has been frustrated with Housing and other projects. It is important that the Dean not get sidetracked. The AVP is focused on low-performing students. The University College Dean needs to focus on all students. There is enough differentiation in their tasks.

Provost Maynard: We need to keep the dean’s focus on all FY students.

b. T. Hawkins: Thanks to President Bradley for coming to the History Department to discuss the issues we had. It was a good discussion.

c. J. Kuhlman: Our students are having difficulty finding UDIE courses that do not have prerequisites. As we are discussing the 120 rule, we need to consider the ability of students to meet the UDIE requirements without having to take other courses.

d. President Bradley: Make sure Provost Maynard and AVP Schriver are aware of these bottlenecks. Moreover, you need to get courses in your own program to meet the UDIE requirement. Ultimately this is an issue for the Foundational Studies Council.

e. R. Guell: This is an area the Foundational Studies Council continues to address. Music was assertive in finding ways within its major to deal with these requirements. Others need to examine whether they can offer courses in their major that can meet the UDIE learning objectives, or they need to ask other departments to offer prerequisite-free courses.

f. President Bradley: It would be helpful if there were a selection tool or web site that listed the prerequisites if any on UDIE courses.

g. R. Guell: The need for UDIE courses is being examined in light of the elimination of the crosswalk.

IV. **MOTION TO APPROVE** the Minutes of April 10, 2012as corrected (T. Sawyer/C. MacDonald;vote:unanimous).

V. FAC items, Joe West

1)

* **MOTION TO APPROVE** FAC recommendation on the participation of multi-year regular faculty ( J. Kuhlman/C. MacDonald)

**Change the Current Language** (the *Handbook*)

**From**

* + - * 1. *245 Constitution of the Faculty of Indiana State University*
        2. *245.1.2 Definition of University Faculty. All appointees with academic rank and the professional librarians shall constitute the faculty of Indiana State University.*
        3. *245.1.3 Voting Members. Only tenured and tenure-track members shall be voting members of the University Faculty.*

**To**

* + - * 1. *245.1.2 Definition of University Faculty. All appointees to the Regular Faculty and the professional librarians shall constitute the faculty of Indiana State University*
        2. *245.1.3 Voting Members. All members of the University Faculty shall be voting members.*

*(c)*

**Comments/Discussion**:

a. J. West: We believe that granting of voting rights to be a positive change for the University.

b. S. Lamb: If these faculty were teaching 12 hours and they were engaged in this service would it meet their 15 hour assignment requirement?

Provost Maynard: No. The 15 hour requirement is as per their assignment. They can’t volunteer their assigned teaching hours lower.

c. J. West: We were concerned that extending voting rights implies more work and we would be codifying the de-facto mission creep of these faculty.

d. R. Guell:

1) I believe that there two problems with what is being proposed and will offer an amendment in a moment to correct them both. First, I want to say that it will be very difficult to pass anything controversial as it relates to voting rights because we have to get not only 50% of those voting but 40% of those eligible to vote to agree to this Constitutional change. Now to the issues that need correction.

2) I believe that the Faculty Senate should be limited to only tenured and tenure- track faculty.

3) I believe that only tenured and tenure track faculty should be allowed to vote on the selection and retention of their chairperson.

* **MOTION TO AMEND** FAC motion with the following additions (R. Guell/ S. Lamb)

**Replace the Existing**

245.3.2.1 Ineligible Administrators. No voting member of the University Faculty who occupies the position of Assistant Dean, or who occupies a position determined by the University Faculty Senate to have administrative status equal or superior to that of Assistant Dean shall be eligible for election to the University Faculty Senate.

350.1 Appointment. Academic department chairpersons are appointed by the University President on the recommendation of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and the recommendation of the dean, based on the formal recommendation of the faculty of the department.

350.5 Selection and Removal. Chairpersons serve at the pleasure of the dean and the department faculty.

**With**

245.3.2.1 Ineligible Administrators and Non tenured/tenure track faculty. Instructors (as defined in 305.2.4) and voting members of the University Faculty who occupy a position of Assistant Dean, or who occupy a position determined by the University Faculty Senate to have administrative status equal or superior to that of Assistant Dean shall be ineligible for election to the University Faculty Senate.

350.1 Appointment. Academic department chairpersons are appointed by the University President on the recommendation of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and the recommendation of the dean, based on the formal recommendation of the tenured and tenure-track faculty of the department.

350.5 Selection and Removal. Chairpersons serve at the pleasure of the dean and the tenured and tenure-track department faculty and as such only tenured and tenure-track department faculty may vote in their selection and removal.

**Comments/discussion:**

a. S. Lamb: This motion would allow membership and voting on all standing committees with voting and our amendments would create two exceptions: Senate membership and Chairperson selection and removal. Remember that P&T issues are always restricted to tenured faculty.

b. C. MacDonald: Difficult doesn’t mean impossible. In those cases there was little done to educate faculty about the issue.

c. J. West: I was made aware of these amendments and sent them to my FAC members. I can say we shared concern these concerns. I did not receive any negative feedback.

d. Provost Maynard: I understand of issue in terms of numbers in English and Communication, but the Chairperson position is hard to fill.

e. President Bradley: We can deal with “unethical” behaviors.

R. Guell: l I remind you that there was a case this year in which the Chair tried to use Instructors’ votes.

f. S. Lamb: I believe this is a reasonable first step.

g. President Bradley: I can support the Senate membership restriction but not the chair selection and retention restriction.

h. J. Conant: I have mixed feelings, but this will help garner the votes.

i. President Bradley: I would urge you not to think tactically at this time but do what you think is right.

* **MOTION TO STRIKE** amendments to 350.1 and 350.5 from R. Guell and S. Lambamendment (T. Hawkins/ J. Conant; vote: 3-5-0)

**Vote on amendments** offered by R. Guell and S. Lamb**;** vote: 7-1-0.

**Vote on FAC motion** with R. Guell/S. Lamb amendments**;** vote: unanimous.

2)

* **MOTION TO APPROVE** FAC statement on Common texts in multi-section courses andFAC recommended change to Handbook section 310.1.12.(T. Sawyer/C. MacDonald; vote: unanimous)

**Statement:**

FAC considers the recommended policy modification that mandates adoption of the same text in courses taught in multiple sections to be unwise. FAC finds that the current language addressing this matter in the University Handbook is sufficient in its recognition that use of a common text in multiple sections of the same course is desirable. This practice should not be revised into a requirement. FAC believes that department faculty should continue to work together to ensure that good decisions are made about textbooks in multi-section courses (understood to mean undergraduate courses that share content and number); such decisions are expected to reflect a commitment to quality and an awareness of affordability.

FAC supports revising the current handbook language to remove the vague statement assigning approval authority to chairpersons of textbook selections made by faculty. However, the assignment of authority to department faculty, as a group, to approve textbook decisions, if stipulated in a revised statement on Textbooks, should apply only to multiple-section course textbook decisions (in accordance with AAUP guidelines). Proposed Handbook Language

**310.1.12 Textbooks**. Textbooks for particular courses are selected by the faculty member teaching each course. It is generally desirable that textbooks for courses offered in multiple sections should be the same in each section and department faculty are encouraged to work together to select a common text that will support effective teaching and learning across all sections. Textbook requests are coordinated by the academic department offices. The University Bookstore will order and will make available for sale textbooks required in all University courses.

**Comments/discussion:**

a. J. West: We did not consider the Provost’s recommendation desirable or enforceable. Departments have very good reasons for choosing separate texts and it would be burdensome to enforce and the number of authorized exceptions would be enormous.

President Bradley: This does not go along with what we proposed.

3)

* **MOTION TO APPROVE** FAC’s statement Three year adoption of Texts, (C. MacDonald/ T. Sawyer; vote: unanimous)

**Statement:**

FAC observes that continuing use of an adopted text is already standard practice among faculty, but finds that it is unwise to adopt any requirement governing the length of time during which a textbook must be used to support a given course. FAC recommends that department faculty conversations about textbooks include recognition of the potential value of a two-year adoption (a three-year adoption provides only a marginal additional benefit, as documented in the subcommittee report on affordability of books and supplies). Any decision about textbook adoption should prioritize maintaining the academic quality of the course and faculty should retain the authority to select the textbook that best meets their needs in particular courses.

**Comments/discussion:**

a. J. West: Faculty already use their books for the length of their life. Doing otherwise places enormous burden on reworking courses.

b. K. Bolinger: This cycle issue is a publisher created one.

c. C. MacDonald: We should not lock in faculty mistakes either.

4)

* **MOTION TO APPROVE** FAC statement on Faculty authored texts (T. Sawyer/ C. MacDonald)

**Statement:**

FAC supports the principle that any decision about textbook adoption should be made in accordance with the highest ethical standards and should not in any way result in the exploitation of students for individual faculty (gain). FAC finds that the recommended policy modification fails to express clearly the concern about this matter. The subcommittee report expresses the concern solely in terms of the possible financial benefit that might accrue to a faculty member who requires students to purchase a textbook s/he authored. However, as written in the Policy Modifications’ document, the focus of concern is ill-defined, vague, and unreasonably broad. The proposed policy prohibits “personal profit” by any individual faculty member as the result of textbook selection in any course taught (regardless of the relationship of the faculty member to the class or the textbook and without any definition of personal profit). FAC believes that any attempt to implement this policy would result in significant numbers of unintended consequences requiring subsequent clarification and exceptions (e.g. Textbook publications might need to be excluded from scholarly productivity measures because inclusion would profit the faculty member; faculty authors might need to be prohibited from donating book earnings to the Foundation because they will accrue a tax benefit; also, faculty might be prohibited without unreasonable appeal from adopting a less-expensive text or the only available text for a course).

FAC finds that it would be reasonable to adopt a textbook-selection policy that minimizes the potential perception of personal financial profit-seeking while preserving respect and recognition for faculty who author textbooks. Such a policy needs to be based on more substantial research on the actual percentage of ISU courses that employ faculty-authored textbooks, enrollment in those classes, whether those courses are upper-level or survey classes, and how many or how few alternative textbooks are available in those fields.

**Comments/discussion:**

J. West: This was the most vexing issue but we thought we needed more detail.

* **MOTION TO SUBSTITUTE** Eastern Illinois University’s Handbook language for the FAC statement (D. Bradley, T. Sawyer; vote: 5-0-2)

**Handbook Insertion as 310.1.12.1**

To minimize suggestions of conflict of economic interest, recommendations for adoption of basic or supplementary textbooks authored by university faculty must include approval of the department chair or the dean responsible for the academic department, as appropriate. A statement must accompany such recommendations, indicating (a) that no other textbooks containing material appropriate to the course are available, or (b) that if other textbooks are available, the textbook selected is deemed most appropriate.

a. S. Lamb: I would argue that faculty author texts out of a deep sense of passion and excitement about their work. We should embrace that.

b. R. Guell: I am concerned that this would prohibit faculty from using materials they are developing and giving to students for free?

c. President Bradley: There is not “economic interest” as so the policy would not apply.

5)

* **MOTION TO APPROVE** FAC’s statement regarding faculty who failing to meet deadlines for textbook submission (T. Sawyer/C. MacDonald; vote: unanimous)

**Statement:**

FAC encourages departments to act in accordance with the value documented in the subcommittee report of "on time" notification of textbook decisions to affordability.

FAC recognizes that timely faculty action in textbook notification obviates the possible perception of a need to impose standard processes of textbook adoption (including multi-year commitments). Repeated failure to submit timely textbook notifications should be managed through established department personnel guidelines. However, faculty failure to comply with requests for textbook notification should not rise to the level of formal punitive response.

**Comments/discussion:**

a. President Bradley: This leaves them without stick.

b. T. Sawyer: What about the bookstore?

c. Charge FAC with considering the addition to the Exceptions to Normal Routing Suggestion to revise 245.

**Existing**

**245.4.5.1 Exceptions** **to the normal routing are:**

Resolutions without legislative significance may be considered by the University Faculty Senate at any time.

An agendum presented to the University Faculty Senate for action by 50 members of the University Faculty may be considered directly.

A protest from a college that an action of the University Faculty or University Faculty Senate has encroached upon its autonomy be considered directly.

4. The University Faculty Senate itself, by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting, may choose to bring any matter directly onto the floor.

**Proposed Revision**

**245.4.5.1 Exceptions** **to the normal routing are:**

1. Resolutions without legislative significance may be considered by the

University Faculty Senate at any time.

2. An agendum presented to the University Faculty Senate for action by 50

members of the University Faculty, or by 8 members of the Executive

Committee, may be considered directly.

3. A protest from a college that an action of the University Faculty or University

Faculty Senate has encroached upon its autonomy be considered directly.

4. The University Faculty Senate itself, by a two-thirds majority of those

present and voting, may choose to bring any matter directly onto the floor.

VI. **MOTION** TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: 4:59 p.m. R. Guell/T. Sawyer

**MOTION TO MOVE OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**: 5:06 p.m. T. Sawyer/C. MacDonald

Meeting adjourned: 5:06: p.m.