Approved: 11/20/08 FS #2

25-0-4

INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

FACULTY SENATE

October 23, 2008

Myers Technology Center, Room 105

Present: V. Sheets, T. Allen, S.A. Anderson, M. Brennan, H. Chait, B. Corcoran, N. Corey,

L. Cutter, J. Fine, R. Goldbort, R. Guell, C. Hoffman, R. Johnson, P. Jones, S. Lamb,

C. MacDonald, M. Miller, G. Minty, C. Montanez, D. Richards, P. Shon, S. Pontius,

T. Sawyer, Q. Weng, David Worley, Debra Worley and T. Zaher

Absent: K. Bauserman, S. Brake, P. Dutta, S. Frey, A. Halpern, E. Hampton, (S. Hoffman),

N. McEntire, H. Minniear, M. Sample, and R. Schneirov

Deans: B. Balch, T. Foster, J.D. Gatrell, T. Sauer, and R. Williams

Guests: President Bradley, Provost Maynard, W. Dando, J. Cook, and D. McKee

I. Administrative Report (President Bradley, J. Maynard)

Announcements/ Discussion

a. President’s cabinet working on student growth for campus–a priority based on task force report. A report on retention will be coming out soon.

b. Interviews completed for Strategic Planning consultant. A contract for one will be negotiated. A strategic plan for enrollment will be examined separately, beginning with an audit of our current communications with potential students.

c. Discussion related to budget as it was presented to the Commission last week. The President stated that he didn’t believe there would be an increase in appropriation next year.

d. Shelia Johnson-Willis has been named Director of Affirmative Action at Indiana State University. A national search is under way for a chief diversity officer. The President stated that he hoped to have someone on board by July 1, 2008.

e. John Thyen resigned from the Board of Trustees. He is relocating to Florida.

f. The President stated that ISU needs to enroll more students to maintain stability in state appropriations; that ISU needs to return to the enrollment levels of 2000 or face a decrease.

g. J. Maynard stated that plans are in order for the President’s installation on November 13. He also mentioned that caps and gowns will need to be ordered by Oct. 27. Maynard stated that he is anticipating an exciting week.

h. The Board of Trustees will be on campus tomorrow morning. Items for discussion by the Board will include TIAA Cref policy, employee vesting and retirement options, support staff contribution of 3% towards retirement beginning year one. Benefit packages, 40B plan, free tax or post tax in saving plan choices.

**i. R. Guell expressed concern over the President’s statement that, in retrospect he would not have cut off AOP enrollment during the Summer of 2008. Guell noted the two-year drop in new freshman SATs. The President responded that the university needs to expand enrollment and that he did not see a substantial difference between a 2.5 high school GPA and a 2.4 or 2.3. He also noted that SATs are not part of admission criteria.**

II. Chair Report

a. Sheets mentioned the need to continue work with NCA and the faculty need to make sure that their vitas are up-to-date and posted. Sheets stated that this would be helpful later, as well, in dealing with Strategic Planning.

b. Sheets stated that he hoped our NCA work would contribute to our Strategic Planning, and that he anticipated faculty interest in contributing.

c. President Bradley is working to bring the committee examining post retirement health benefits initiated under former VP Floyd to a close. He encouraged faculty to attend to the upcoming report and engage in widespread discussion.

e. Sheets reminded faculty that the President’s installation celebration is a celebration involving the whole Terre Haute community, and faculty need to take advantage of various events. He further noted that 2/3 of the costs of the banquet will go to United Way.

III. Memorial Resolution for John Oliver (read by W. Dando)

Approved by acclamation 29-0-0.

IV. SGA report (Michael Scott, President)

a. M. Scott stated that the new recreational center being built on the north side of campus is anticipated to open in April. Students will meet tonight regarding faculty and staff membership plans for this new facility. Also discussed will be the campus bus initiative and appointments to various committees. M. Scott stated that he will report back to Sheets later regarding committee assignments and upcoming SGA meetings.

b. Scott expressed concern about the academic grade appeals process, which faculty are charged to address - more due process is needed re grade appeals.

c. A series of campus forums will begin soon. The first meeting will be next Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in Dede III.

V. Performing Arts Series (J. Cook, Assistant Director for Business/Marketing)

a. Cook stated that she would like to get the faculty’s help in energizing students to come and see some great shows. She mentioned that there is also education through entertainment. Students can attend these events for free.

b. Upcoming performances will include “Wilderness Plots” on December 21 and Shirley Jones will perform on January 29. There will also be some performances of Shakespeare classics. The Performing Arts program is also providing incentives for students to attend upcoming performances. There will be drawings for prizes such as a big screen TV and airline tickets. Faculty will also have a chance to win dinner tickets for two for encouraging their students to attend. (Cook passed out flyers re upcoming performances). There are extra copies in the Senate office for those who did not receive one.

VI. Presentation and Q & A on University funding/Budget (D. McKee).

a. Power point presentation on State funding/appropriations. There were no questions.

b. Sheets thanked McKee for coming and for helping faculty better understand the budget.

VII. New Business

a. CoNHHS Organizational Chart (moved up on agenda) Approved (TS/JF) 27-2-0.

1) R. Guell expressed concern re need for 3 associate deans for 50+ faculty members. The dean of NHHS stated that the University/College wanted to engage the community and increase numbers/participation in external affairs. He stated that the College devoted much time and effort to external enrollments in both state and regional health.

2) C. Hoffman questioned where the money for this was coming from. The Provost responded that the allocation of the former colleges would not be increased – and that this move would be to increase revenue. **Guell said that deans in smaller colleges like Education, Technology and Business could use this case to argue for an increase to their administrative staff.** J. Maynard said he hoped this wouldn’t be the case and that this College needs to behave differently in order to generate new revenue. They were particularly requested to work in ways different from other colleges in seeking external contracts.

b. Minus grade implementation grade point values. (EC approved this already).

1) Guell asked if there was any literature related to the impact of this change on grade distributions. Sheets said that he thought FAC looked at this when they forwarded the proposal. Chait asked whether the point values being assigned were following an industry standard. Lamb stated that it gives us an opportunity to fine tune our grading and award students appropriately. Goldbert questioned the fact that A+ has no additive point value. Sheets indicated that the Senate had approved it as an honorary distinction. Senate voted to pass (CH/SL) 29-0-0.

c. Grad Council – Revised GA Guidelines. (TS/JF) 28-0-1

1) M. Boyer took the podium in reference to guidelines. She stated that they

will be reviewed every year, and although these were discussed last year, they were only formally approved this year.

d. Revised Thesis/Dissertation Handbook. (SL/TS) 28/0/1

1) M. Boyer thanked Dean Gatrell and Will Barratt for their work on the Handbook. The last revision on this was done in 1994. There was a revision done in 2003, but it was not approved, and there were a number of contradictory guidelines given out. It was the desire of the committee to provide a singular and clear set of guidelines for consistency and structure as well as to matters of style.

2) A question was raised about the poor quality of writing evident in Student Theses/Dissertations. J. Gatrell stated that such documents would be returned directly to the student’s advisor.

3) Chait stated that he was concerned that the Senate is approving a document with lots of detail when the School of Graduate Studies is likely moving to electronic thesis/dissertation submission. Why would Faculty Senate, EC, approve this for hard copy? M. Boyer said it is because there are documents coming in now. Although the handbook includes material that would be excluded upon approval of an electronic process, the bulk would remain the same.

**Note: Dean Balch was taken in handcuffs by the ISU police and arrested.**

(**Was this a fund raising plot?**) Many of the faculty joked that they trusted that

this had nothing to do with the new College.

e. GC fast-track policy - Approved (T. Sawyer/C. McDonald) 29-0-0.

1) This was in response to a Senate charge to streamline graduate curricular processing. The policy’s proposal process is analogous to what CAAC does.

. f. University Honors Program Proposal. (SP/TS) 25-0-2.

1) Debra Worley presided for G. Bierly since he was out of town. She stated that changes had been proposed by the Honors committee subsequent to external review. Credit hours for the program will increase from 18-36, with new courses added. Question was raised about costs of new courses.

2) J. Maynard stated that there was a multi-year commitment to increase funding for the honors program. We are about $235,000 in base budget. We expect to get to a half a million dollar base budget for the program. Costs are well within the current budget.

3) Guell – will admissibility to the honor’s program remain on an OR standard? (GPA or test scores) or move to an AND standard. It was stated that admission standards were not being changed.

4) C. Hoffman asked if there is a limit needed for the number of credits students could transfer in. **There was no determination for his question at this time.**

VIII. 15 Minute Open Discussion

a. Guell, re university faculty payroll. He stated that faculty should be grateful to the Business Affairs office, particularly J. Jacso and D. McKee, for ensuring that we are still getting paid **given the recent financial turmoil. He noted that other schools have had difficulty with liquidity.**

b. C. McDonald stated a concern that students in some classes are reporting that they are getting cyber-bullied. Much of it is cruel and appalling in nature, especially at the JuicyCampus.com site. She wanted to know if faculty could do anything about it. E. Kinley stated that OIT has laid out some strategies for responding to this and will pursue the offender(s) legally. It was recommended that all reports go first to the Student Judicial office and then on to Public Safety.

IX. Committee Reports

a. AAC–working on charges; 4-day flex scheduling for summer (forward to B. English).

b. AEC–elected officers. The committee will meet November 12 to look at fall

grant applications.

c. CAAC–working on charges.

d. FAC–working on grade appeal issue. Asked for clarification: 1) re faculty who have died or are otherwise separated from institution; 2) underlining who is responsible for grade appeals; and 3) interpretation of grade appeal process at ISU. S. Lamb stated that AAUP has guidelines for interpreting “faculty” rights. Sheets stated that we don’t want to focus only on faculty that have left the institutions, *and* we don’t have a university grade appeal process. Please address both points. Guell stated that they are also addressing reduction of senate service burdens on faculty–attempting to bring total service requirements to 1998 levels.

e. FEBC – meeting bi-weekly. Working on spousal education/benefit. Sheets noted that we are losing faculty due to compensation issues. Hope we address this.

C. Hoffman noted that committees can come up with their own charges. B. Guell – do you have assurance that faculty evaluations policy will come to us? Sheets stated it should come to us instead of being imposed, and he didn’t have assurance now.

f. GC – meets Friday at 10:00. It has met 4 times so far. Working on program development committee recommendations – more coming.

g. SAC – Pontius stated that he would give at a report at a later date.

h. URC – currently working on various proposals.

Meeting adjourned 5:15 p.m.