Approved 30-0-0 FS #9

INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

FACULTY SENATE

2007-2008

April 17, 2008 Minutes

Time: 3:15 p.m.

Place: HMSU, Dede III

Officers: Chair V. Sheets, Vice Chair A. Halpern, Secretary Sr. A Anderson

 Parliamentarian T. Sawyer

Senators: T. Allen, S. Brake, E. Brown, J. Buffington, E. Bermudez, H. Chait,

 D. Collins, J. Fine, S. Ghosh, E. Hampton, P. Hightower, N. McEntire, M. McLean, M. Miller,

G. Minty, S. Phillips, S. Pontius, G. Stuart, K. Wilkinson, J. Wilson, D.

 Worley, D. Yaw

Absent: S. Allen, K. Bolinger, M. Brennan, B. Corcoran, N. Corey, H. Davis,

K. Evans, J. Hughes, P. Jones, T. Steiger, C. Stemmans, G. Zhang

Ex-Officio:

Guests: M. Boyer, T. Foster, E. Kinley, L. Maule, Q. Tukes

I. Administrative Report (Bob English)

 Announcements:

 a. President Benjamin’s goodbye reception today.

 b. Faculty Recognition Banquet evening of April 16, 2008 (Distinguished Awards)

 c. Search finalist for Director of National Affairs and Financial Aid.

 d. Graduation ceremony is May 3, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

 e. Bob English stated that Jack Maynard wants to express his appreciation to the

 Faculty Senate for all the hard work it has done throughout the year in shared

 governance

II. Chair Report

Welcome everyone to the last meeting of the 2007-2008 Faculty Senate. I am pleased you are here to help us wrap up the “faculty’s business” for the year, and I want to thank you for all your hard.

I’ve got several things to report.

1. The Retirement Health Benefits committee has had several meetings, and I believe will continue to work through the summer. I have been informed that they will be establishing a web-site, and I would encourage everyone to keep informed of their discussions. This is something that we all have interest in.
2. I just returned from a conference in Chicago relating to the accreditation process. It’s clear that we have a lot of work to do before our visit, particularly regarding assessment. We, the faculty, as part of our responsibility for curriculum, need to take ownership of this information-gathering and improvement process.
3. At the Board meeting this morning, John Beacon gave an enrollment update. Applications for admission continue to be way up, and new admits are currently up about 12% from last year, and transfer enrollments appear up as well. Acceptances of critical scholarships (e.g., laptop, and presidential scholarships) also seem to be up. These are great signs, and we all hope they continue.
4. As we know, the Presidential Search is on-going. In my Board report this morning, I thanked the Board for its continuing commitment to bring a strong pool of finalists to campus as part of the selection process. Unfortunately, given the lateness of the season, it is possible that they could bring people to campus in early June. Although not ideal for faculty or students, it would seem that Summer I is a more active period on campus than would be Summer II.
5. As you know, the cancellation of the Life Sciences and EOB departments was on the Board’s agenda today. Trustee Alley invited me to speak to it. I have been asked to share my comments with you.

First, I noted to the Board that the matter [of EOB and Life Sci] came outside of the normal governance process, and that such a violation of protocol rightly raised faculty concern. I also mentioned the A & S resolutions on the matter, and that members of Senate asked the EC to step in to review the action.

Then I presented the subcommittee report as given at the EC meeting on April 8:

On Tuesday, April 1st, the Senate Executive Committee approved the creation of a select subcommittee of Executive Committee members to meet with the Dean of Arts & Sciences to inquire about his decision to cancel the Departments of Ecology & Organismal Biology and Life Sciences and form a Provisional Department of Biology.

On April 4th, 2008, the subcommittee met with Dean Sauer and Provost Maynard. During that meeting, the Dean made available to the subcommittee lengthy confidential documentation, going back several years. That documentation, and their discussion, led the committee to conclude, unanimously, that “Dean Sauer's actions of March 4 were not in haste, but that he considered every possible solution before determining this course of action. Because the situation goes far beyond just curricular issues, and impacts not only faculty but, more importantly, students, as well as the entire university, the committee determined that faculty primary authority was not circumvented.

The [sub]committee further notes that they were saddened that such an action by the Dean even needed to take place, but that they understand his reasons, the necessity for action at this time, and in this manner.”

They [the subcommittee] continued:

“The provisional department provides a structure to allow time and effort to reattempt negotiations toward a united program or programs in biology. The Committee urges the Provisional Department Chair to work quickly to establish a timeline and benchmarks and to make this process as transparent as possible to all those directly involved and to regularly apprise the Senate Executive Committee of the progress being made.”

III. Graduate Students Association (Quinette Tukes)

 a. Sponsoring a barbeque picnic on April 29 form 11:30 to 1:30.

 Special Purpose and Part Time Temporary Faculty Representative

 b. S. Hoffman reported on Special Purpose programs (report attached.)

IV. Memorials

 M. Boyer read the memorial for Merle M. Ohlsen (see attached.)

V. Approval of the Minutes (V. Sheets)

The Senate minutes of February22 and March 20 were approved with corrections. SP/PM 26-0-0.

VI. Fifteen Minute Open Discussion

a. Ed Kinley on the search for the Dean of the School of Graduate Studies – he encouraged the Senate to attend sessions for candidates. Feedback is encouraged.

b. R. Lotspeich read a statement (copy attached to the minutes.)

VII. New Business

 a. Program Proposals

 i. Civic Leadership Minor

 The proposal presented by L. Maul and was accepted (DW/MM), 25-0-1.

 ii. Elementary Education: Literacy, EC, P&I program revision was presented

 by J. Kuhlma on behalf of D. Quatroche. It was accepted (HC/PH).

 26-0-0.

iii. EDS in School Psychology program revisions

 D. Krug presented the revisions, which were accepted. (EH/PH0 26-0-0.

iv. Guidance and Psychological Services program revisions.

 D. Krug presented the revisions, which were accepted, (EH/PH) 26-0-0.

The quorum was lost at 5:10.

A special meeting of the Senate will be on May 1 at 3:15 in Dede III to complete the agenda.

 v. Nursing Post-Master’s Certificate

 vi. Psychology & Sociology MOU

 b. Committee Recommendations

 i. Alternate to Presidential Search Committee – David Worley

 ii. Plus/Minus Grade Recommendation from Exe (FAC report, SAC

 recommendation, GC comments)

 iii. FEBC disability & gastric by-pass recommendations

 iv. Calendar, Exe Action pending

VIII. Old Business

 a. Arts & Sciences request for reconsideration for student voting issue.

IX. Committee Reports

 a. AAC

 b. AEC

 d. FAC

 e. FEBC

 f. GC

 g. SAC

 h. URC