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INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

FACULTY SENATE, 2020-2021

July 16, 2020

3:30pm, via Zoom

Members present: A. Arrington, S. Arvin, M. Badar, C. Ball, M. Bergbower, L. Brown, M. Chambers, A. Czyzewski, S. Ferng-Kuo, J. Frost, R. Guell, J. Gustafson, T. Hawkins, K. Hinton, B. Jose, W. Ko, S. Kopaczewski, A. Kummerow, C. MacDonald, L. McQuiston, A. Mohamed, R. Noll, J. O’Keefe, J. Park, D. Selman, V. Sheets, E. Southard, L. Walters, E. Wittenmyer, K. Yousif

Absent Members: R. Peters, K. Games, L. Eberman,

EX-Officio Present: President D. Curtis, Provost M. Licari, K. Butwin, C. Spicer

1. Approval of June 18, 2020 Minutes File #1

Motion to approve C. MacDonald, M. Chambers: 30-0-0

1. Administrative Reports:
   1. President D. Curtis
      1. Thank you to the Senate and shared governance for continuing to meet during the summer.
      2. (Reading from the statement to be released.)
         1. The University Budget Committee met on Tuesday and we discussed the university’s fiscal challenges and ideas as we prepare for the Board of Trustees meeting on July 30 and 31. We will share updates with you following the Trustees meeting but I want to send a reassuring message right now: instruction remains a priority and we are committed to doing everything we can to keep as many people on our campus continually employed.  
            When I think about our great university’s history, I am reminded of the resilience of those who have come before us. We are undoubtedly facing many challenges today and these challenges are requiring us to be innovative. Together, we have been transforming lives through high quality education, and also by working together we can rise to the challenges that lie ahead.   
            Thank you for all you do for Indiana State University and our students.
   2. Provost M. Licari
      1. Thank you to Deans, Chairs and faculty as you have been working through the adjustments to schedules.
      2. The good news on budgets is that there is no further reduction for faculty over those cuts already made.
      3. The HLC finish line is in sight. It will be in mid-September and will be a mostly virtual visit with only one person from the team physically present.
      4. The LMS RFP to replace Blackboard is winding down. Whether it is Blackboard Ultra, Brightspace or Canvas will be determined in the next few months. Thank you to K. Games and L. Brown for providing faculty input on the committee.
      5. Enrollment has a lot of moving parts. Freshmen are taking a wait and see approach. There are concerns regarding whether International students will be able to get here. On the upside, retention of first-year students is above 69%.
      6. We are asking faculty to have assigned seats for students in class. This will facilitate contact tracing.
2. Chair Report: L. Brown
   1. Last month, the Senate Officers sent a musings calling on our faculty colleagues to be part of the change, to ensure that our campus is welcoming to all and is a place where each student, staff member, and faculty can thrive. It was brought to our attention that we did not openly aver that Black Lives Matter. I am saying clearly and unequivocally that Black Lives Matter. We as faculty need to commit to being actively anti-racist. This means that we commit to do the work to ensure that our behavior, our decisions, and our policies are equitable to all. I am not a social justice expert or scholar. I am a mathematics educator by training, but I can do my level best to ensure that the spheres in which I do have influence are affected. This can be an expectation for us all.

This fall semester will be different for us all. With our next musings, the Senate Officers will send an update to the living document that we all endorsed at our last meeting. This will include sample syllabus language resulting from policies made to keep us as safe as possible, such as having assigned seats for face to face classes to enhance our ability to implement contact tracing. As we receive additional guidance, we will communicate that with all the faculty.

For the Fall, Senate and Executive Committee meetings will be held via Zoom.

On our agenda today are changes to Policies 210, 922, and 923 and the Student Code of Conduct necessitated by recent changes in the (federal) Department of Education that must be implemented on a very short time schedule. I thank you again for your service during the summer.

1. Staff Council Report: T. LaComba
   1. The Staff Council retreat will be held with appropriate social distancing.
2. Temporary Faculty Advocate: C. Spicer
   1. Temporary faculty are still concerned about contracts but it is exciting that we are not cutting faculty budgets.
   2. We will need to purchase cleaning supplies?
      1. M. Licari
         1. Cleaning supplies will be available for faculty to clean their podium. Students will be responsible for wiping down their areas themselves.
3. SGA Report: J. Fluker for A. Tamayo
   1. We met with the Unity Council to review their demands. We are asking what SGA can do. We are pleased to note that we have a full cabinet.
4. Fifteen Minute Open Discussion
   1. C. MacDonald
      1. I note that the governor is not moving to phase 5 yet. What does that mean for staff?
      2. D. Curtis
         1. Staff should use the request process already in place.
      3. J. Park
         1. On contact tracing, there was an office that had an issue and I went there. We need to know impacted offices.
         2. Regarding attendance policy, are we asked to take attendance? What about 3 week attendance reports? Will those be different?
            1. M. Licari

There is a federal requirement for Financial Aid. If students are continuing to engage, mark them present. We can’t alter the reporting system or the need for the report.

* + 1. V. Sheets
       1. What is the mode by which we will hear about budget?
          1. D. Curtis

It will be a video with a transcript.

* + 1. R. Noll
       1. Will ISU’s main webpage include a statement on facemasks on front;
          1. D. Curtis

We are just preparing communication to that effect.

* + - 1. Where does the administration get its public health and medical advice regarding the pandemic?
         1. D. Curtis

Our representatives on the Vigo County Health Department webpage advise us. There are physicians from Union Hospital on that call.

We are taking Governor’s lead and that of Dr. Box. There has been little guidance from the U.S. DoE.

One of the things that others are doing that we simply cannot afford. IU and PU have resources to do their own testing; we do not.

Testing reagents have been diverted to hotspots so I am not sure we could get tests in that volume for general testing.

I have made the case to the state that we need more help on this front than others do.

* + 1. D. Selman
       1. The Department of Biology has the ability to do testing. They would simply need the financial support to do the testing.
          1. D. Curtis

That is not what we understand. Can we set up a call to discuss this?

* + - 1. Regarding TAs/GAs and remote work, we have not heard about this from D. Collins.
    1. S. Ferng-Kuo
       1. Can students assume all courses can be taught online and create classes to do that too?
          1. M. Licari

We do not have resources to do that.

* + - 1. Do we have the load capacity for ZOOM?
         1. M. Licari

This is not running on our systems. It runs on the cloud.

* + 1. S. Kopaczewski
       1. Following up on telecommunicating. HR said the system is the only way to accommodate.
          1. D. Curtis

With the Governor pausing at 4.5, supervisors make accommodations until we move to stage 5.

* + 1. A. Arrington
       1. Are we allowed to do office hours on ZOOM and other meetings via ZOOM?
       2. Have you followed up with the school corporation? Is what we do dependent on what they do?
          1. D. Curtis

I learned their plan from the newspaper.

1. Changes to Policy 210 and Undergraduate Catalog
   1. Motion to approve: R. Guell K. Yousif 27-0-1
      1. B. Jose
         1. Regarding the 90 hour transfer rule, is that too much?
         2. S. Powers
            1. The 30 hour rule mostly pertains to 2nd degrees. Otherwise, it almost never happens.
      2. A. Kummerow
         1. The leadership of the DOE could change. Would that require us to change back?
         2. M. Licari
            1. There is nothing we can do about that and whatever a new administration would do, it would not be quick.
2. Title IX Changes
   1. Policy 922 (elimination)
   2. Policy 923 (modification) Motion to Approve: R. Guell T. Hawkins 28-0-0
      1. Motion: We endorse the elimination of section 922 as well as the document presented to the Senate on 7/16/20 understanding that it may need to be modified in language (but not in substance) before it goes to the Board of Trustees. We further request that the officers be allowed to review any amendments to the document that are made and if they view those amendments as substantive, be allowed to offer input as to those substantive amendments. The Chair will summarize the differences between the document endorsed today and that which passes the Board and do so for the August Faculty Senate meeting. Request that the President consult with the officers should temporary modifications be needed. (Last sentence added by unanimous consent)
      2. (Discussion not captured by recording or notes.)
   3. Student Code of Conduct (modification) Motion R. Guell V. Sheets 27-0-1
      1. Motion: We endorse the changes to the Student Code of Conduct presented to the Senate on 7/16/20 understanding that it may need to be modified in language (but not in substance) before it goes to the Board of Trustees. We further request that the officers be allowed to review any amendments to the document that are made and if they view those amendments as substantive, be allowed to offer input as to those substantive amendments. The Chair will summarize the differences between the document endorsed today and that which passes the Board and do so for the August Faculty Senate meeting. Request that the President consult with the officers should temporary modifications be needed.
      2. (Discussion not captured by recording or notes.)
3. Adjournment: 5:45 pm