



# CONGRESS

**Monday, November 8, 2021  
Zoom Meeting  
3:00 pm**

## Minutes

Present: Shawn Huisinga, JaDora Sailes, Chris MacDonald, Bobbie Jo Monahan, Larry Tinnerman, Amanda White, Jon Iftikar, David Long, Cortney Cross

Ex-officio: Linda Sperry, Brad Balch

1. Call to Order – 3:01pm
2. Approval of minutes for October 11, 2021
  - a. Move: C. MacDonald; Second: B.J. Monahan; No discussion; Vote: 8-0-0 (L. Tinnerman not present for vote)
3. Old Business
  - a. Update on Constitution (Shawn Huisinga)
    - i. S. Huisinga: no other colleges have outside representative or alumni in their Congress membership; student reps chosen by student government
    - ii. Section 2.16 – language about a graduate of ISU as member of Congress
      - a. L. Sperry: in favor of taking it out
      - b. C. MacDonald: agree to take it out
      - c. B. Balch: accreditation has changed and advisory boards are now a req.; in past this might have added value; now we get enough external voice; this is a change we can easily make and still value outside voices
      - d. S. Huisinga: in favor of removing b/c we have outside voices and not sure how much input graduates can give us; can we approve in one motion?
        - i. L. Sperry and C. MacDonald: yes
    - iii. No policy in Constitution for filling vacancy on Faculty Senate; S. Huisinga shared College of Technology and College of Business language
      - a. C. MacDonald: prefer Technology
      - b. B. Balch: agreed; Congress should be making that choice
      - c. C. MacDonald: where should this go in Constitution?
      - d. S. Huisinga: Authority or Relationship and Function?
      - e. L. Sperry: it should go where membership spelled out
      - f. C. MacDonald: might be confusing b/c focused on membership of Congress not Senate; it goes in Article I where we talk about what

Congress does; ability to formulate policy; add a 5.5 section there; if we want to be able to appoint someone to Senate it has to be written into Constitution

- g. S. Huisinga added to Constitution: “5.5 Faculty Senate Vacancy: The congress shall have authority to appoint a representative to the Faculty Senate when a vacancy occurs after exhausting all existing University guidelines (refer to University Policy library 145.3.3.5)”
- h. L. Sperry: before next meeting look over it and catch any typos and consider substantive changes
- i. S. Huisinga: will we need to put to a faculty vote?
- j. C. MacDonald: amendments require 2/3 of Congress and more than 50% of faculty of BCOE voting on amendment

#### 4. New Business

##### a. Dissertation and Scholarship Proposal Course (Linda Sperry)

- i. L. Sperry: making progress; gathered all syllabi – everyone was pretty much doing the same thing; schedule to meet again next week to affirm formal plan which will focus on main learning objectives; trying to finalize and will bring proposal to Congress by December or January
- ii. S. Huisinga: one course across college?
- iii. L. Sperry: yes; part of reason for doing this is course efficiencies; beginning of previous deanship, for four years going over this; this will be able to allow students to have access to peers and benefit from cross-fertilization; can offer this course for scholarship and dissertation proposals every fall/spring/summer; can offer multiple sections of that course during one term to meet student demand; can use different faculty as experts and share burden a bit; biggest benefit to bring students together as a group; small change – not necessarily going to impact ppl that much but helps clarify what we’re doing in college

#### 5. Dean’s Report

- a. B. Balch: Blue reports – going to wind down weekly count; four-year rolling avg: 9% decrease; 16% closest college; 20% university wide; this is biggest productivity measurement and number they’re looking at when ask for lines; appreciate attention to enrollments
- b. Speaker series on early childhood education
  - i. First keynote: Annette Breau
  - ii. April 11, 2022
  - iii. Will livestream
  - iv. Students will be invited

#### 6. Chair’s Report

- a. No report

#### 7. Open Discussion

- a. J. Iftikar: will proposal course be team taught?
- b. L. Sperry: Course taught by faculty with guest speakers
- c. S. Huisinga: should we offer it less than usually offered?
- d. L. Sperry: can offer course more regularly for students but individual faculty member would only have to teach it once and other faculty could cover for other terms; sections will be smaller; thinking of capping sections at 8 students; need more than 3 for good experiences and fewer than 25 to make it doable for faculty member
- e. L. Sperry: student reps have anything they would like to bring to our attention?

- f. C. Cross: this is eye-opening and insightful
- g. D. Long: nothing specific; mentor at mentoring center; trying to develop relationships with first-year students; not much to contribute today but may change as have more time to spend with mentees

8. Adjournment – 3:47pm

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<http://www.indstate.edu/education/governance>