

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT SPRINGFIELD
CAMPUS SENATE MEETING AY 2009/2010
August 28, 2009
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
PAC Conference Room “G”**

Senators Present: L. Bogle, S. Borland, K. Burton, K. Eisenhart, D. Felix, L. Fisher, J. Gilliam, L. Giordano, N. Headman, J. Hall, W. Kline, E. Kullick, J. Martin, C. Olivier, P. Salela, B. Siddiquee, T. Sullivan-Stewart, H. Thompson, M. Vanvossen, T. Wang, P. Wassenberg, and T. Ting presiding.

Senators Absent: J. Hall

Ex-Officio: H. Berman

Guests: H. Bapat, T. Barnett, D. Barrows, T. Bodenhorn, L. Bollinger, D. Brown, A. Carlberg, J. Ermatinger, E. Hadley-Ives, T. Helton, K. Kirkendall, S. LaFollette, S. Longo, H. McCracken, R. McGregor, K. Miller, T. Mims, K. Moranski, M. Murphy, L. Pardie, R. Ringeisen, D. Ruez, K. Rutherford, D. Schnapp, E. Staley, M. Tracy, and E. Wojcicki.

The Senate was called to order at 10:01 a.m. New senators were introduced. Bogle was introduced as temporary secretary for this session. Ting mentioned that she was still looking for a full time secretary, and noted duties could rotate among Senators if no one steps forward.

Approval of the day’s agenda

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Salela to approve the day’s agenda. The motion was approved unanimously. Ting requested that those who speak do so at a sufficient volume to be heard by all, and when speaking to also state their names.

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of May 1, 2009

A motion was made by Martin and seconded by Salela to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 1, 2009. A spelling error was noted on Line 298 and an adjustment was made to the language on line 295. Siddiquee made a motion to approve the corrected minutes and Wang seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously as corrected.

Announcements

None

Reports:

Chair – T. Ting

Ting noted that the Chancellor had another commitment at 10:30, and invited the Chancellor to speak first.

Chancellor – R. Ringeisen

Ringeisen reported on furloughs and the public safety building. Ringeisen emphasized his willingness to return for further discussions on these and other topics. He indicated that he wished to share a comment he heard recently from a new faculty member who stated “this is an amazing place, I can’t believe I didn’t come here sooner.”

Ringeisen distributed UIS senate lapel pins to all members of the senate.

Ringeisen began by addressing the new Public Safety Building, which he stated is still a long way off. The allocations for this project go to the Capital Development Board, and not the university, which slows the process. The project must also be bonded, and because the state’s bond rating is poor the process is slowed even further. A \$30 billion capital development bill has been passed but there is little actual funding behind it.

Ringeisen reported that their idea for developing a shopping area on 11th Street was not explicitly labeled as such on the Master Plan, and what seemed like a simple change to make this correction took two and a half years to complete.

During the revisions to the Master Plan it was determined that a new Public Safety Building was needed. It is to be situated on Vachel Lindsay Drive across the street from the townhomes and next to the new proposed Child Care Center. Ringeisen indicated that some faculty have expressed concerns about the site location. He reminded all present that major changes to the Master Plan require BOT approval, but small changes such as moving it back from the street could be done without going back to the BOT. Chancellor indicated that Dave Barrows would outline why the building was put where it was and Ting could appoint a couple of faculty members to work with Barrows on the building location issues and report to all.

Barrows distributed the Master Plan map and explained location selections for a variety of future buildings. UIS has been contacted by some entities to build advanced living facilities, and Sangamon School Credit Union wants to stay and have a new facility. A primary reason for locating the new Public Safety and Child Care buildings on Vachel Lindsay Drive is because they will be situated close to utilities, which will reduce costs. The current safety and day care buildings have no sewage lines of their own and this must be pumped. Other benefits for these locations include improved police response time, convenient location for students who walk, and a greater ability to take advantage of current parking lots so that additional parking lots would not need to be constructed.

Moranski stated that she has 200 freshmen who come in each year and expressed concern about a day care in the middle of student housing. While this location may be convenient for parents who are students, she believes the day care should be on periphery of campus rather than in the center. She urged consideration of the potential impact that college-aged student and young child populations might have on one another.

Barrows replied that he had conversations with Stacey Gilmore, Director of the day care center, about the location of day care and the need for sufficient ground for play areas was important. Gilmore was pleased with being near police station.

Gilliam asked if there had been an examination of the literature regarding location of a public safety building prior to this selecting this location. Barrows stated that they relied on input from the Police Chief and the director of the day care center, but did not review such literature. Ringeisen stated that seeing that literature would be helpful. Ringeisen also stated that having the police nearby might be good from student point of view.

Ringeisen reported that he has no new information on furlough possibilities. He stated that all new contracts will indicate that the university has the right to impose furloughs. This is university-wide policy and no individual campus has control over its implementation. Ringeisen stated that furloughs would be the next to last thing we would do, with the last thing being layoffs. He stated that the state budget is built on a “house of cards” and he doubts if the state will get through the first half of the fiscal year without running out of money. The Illinois state budget was built on the revenues anticipated to be generated by video poker, yet 40 counties have opted out of permitting video poker already. In addition, state funding for veterans has not materialized and the MAP grants were cut. All of these make Ringeisen nervous about the budget. The implementation of furloughs seems likely to be determined system-wide rather than on an individual campus level. Ting serves on a university system subcommittee that deals with furlough and Ringeisen hopes the furloughs do not happen. Just getting the Banner system to figure out how to pay us will be a major challenge. Ringeisen stated that furloughs do not really help with a massive budget deficit. Personnel funds are the largest part (80%) of the budget. Ringeisen stated that he will withhold nothing from us and will seek faculty input if furloughs are to occur. Ringeisen indicated that Provost Berman knows as much or more than he on this topic and could address these questions as well.

Rutherford asked when the furloughs would begin and whether they could be spread out. Ringeisen replied that the first to take furloughs would be the Chancellor and his Cabinet. The Chancellor will fight for flexibility but the centralized nature of the plan means there is not a lot of flexibility. Martin and Eisenhart are on the system-wide subcommittee and Martin confirmed the furlough are a logistical nightmare.

Mims asked whether there a way to purchase back the days taken. The Chancellor said this is under discussion as well.

Ringeisen left and Ting returned to her report.

Chair – T. Ting

Ting reminded the senate of a new requirement in the Senate bylaws which states that missing 3 regular meetings without explanation can lead to removal from the senate. If you know you will be absent please e-mail Ting and cc Kathy Rutherford. Senate material will be sent on the Monday before senate meetings, in keeping with bylaw requirements. All senators are expected to read all material.

Ting indicated that there is a need for a faculty representative to attend Board of Trustees (BOT) meetings. The next two BOT meetings are September 10 and November 12. If you want to attend, please inform Rutherford.

Ting requested two volunteers to work with Registrar Brian Clevenger on planning academic calendars for the next 5-6 years and on the grade submission deadline issue. Gilliam and Siddiquee volunteered.

Three university system wide furlough subcommittees, convened by Vice President for Academic Affairs Meena Rao, have been meeting regarding the furlough logistics/scenarios, the potential impact of furloughs on the SURS, and grant funds issues. Both Martin and Eisenhart serve on the furlough logistics/scenarios subcommittee. Ting serves on the SURS subcommittee. UIS is going to establish its own furlough advisory committee. Martin and Ting will serve on the UIS furlough advisory committee. One additional faculty member is needed to serve on the UIS committee. Ting requested that interested volunteers email her.

The UIUC senate executive committee issued a statement regarding the reform of the BOT, indicating that faculty should have input to the selection process, have a representative on the board, and be involved in admissions reforms. The statement also recommended changes in administrative leadership. Ting will forward their statement to all senators. The UIUC statement does not call for the immediate resignations of President White and Chancellor Herman; however, it states that without leadership change it will be hard to restore public confidence. Ting indicated that the Senate will need to discuss this matter at a future time. Ting has been in communication with UIUC and UIC senate chairs on this statement from UIUC senate executive committee.

Giordano asked if the UIS furlough advisory committee would include an AP representative. Ting said yes and the Provost will address this.

Provost – H. Berman

Berman stated that he had seven topics to address, the first of which was the budget situation. The state budget was not settled until June. Half of our usual budget derives from state appropriation and half from tuition. As such, we did not know the campus budget until the state budget was in place. A campus budget was finalized just last week. Going into FY2010 we knew we would have to adjust because of the enrollment shortfall last year. Berman stated that the campus did balance the budget by eliminating salary

increases and pulling back 1.63% from colleges, units and divisions. All units took this reduction equally.

Berman's second topic was enrollment, which he stated was likely to see record levels this year. Giordano reported that we have 4,930 students as of today, compared to 4,665 last year and FTE of 33,450.8 credit hours and FTE 48,482 total hours. She reported that student head count was up 255 over last year, and total FTE was up by 221. Enrollments were noted to be particularly strong at the graduate level.

Berman reported that we have been accepted for membership in COPLAC. We are the only COPLAC member in Illinois. He was pleased to report that this allows us many great connections with other COPLAC institutions.

The fourth topic Berman discussed was the mandate from President White for admissions reform. Berman indicated that a tight timeline was imposed and many of those present are aware that departments have been asked to provide information on procedures and criteria for admissions. This information is being gathered currently and will be reviewed by CARR. The Campus Senate will need to review this information as well at the September 25 meeting.

Berman also stated that a faculty compensation review committee will be assembled this fall to review the schedule for non-base salary compensation, such as summer pay. The Provost has been working with the Senate Executive committee to identify faculty members for the committee and Dean Wassenberg will convene that committee.

Berman stated that while furlough policy will be done at the university system level he wants to make sure that APAC, CSAC and faculty are represented on the UIS furlough advisory committee. Civil service employees are not subject to furloughs at the moment but this could change.

Finally, Berman announced that the investiture ceremonies for Holden, Swan and Miller will be on September 25, followed by the Autumn fest.

Siddiquee asked about admissions reform and if there were any secrets about our admissions process. Berman replied that there is no story from UIS.

Berman noted that the main goal of the admissions reform is transparency. Application processes and criteria will be publicly available on web sites.

Thompson asked if there is any chance that the reform process will lead to standardization of admissions at the graduate level. The Provost replied that changes to admission policy are not part of the current mandate, but acknowledged that discussions could lead to sharing of ideas between departments. Mims noted that one part of the current mandate is to build a fire wall around admissions.

Student Government – M. Vanvossen

No report

Committee on Committees – L. Fisher

The slate of nominees was presented. Martin moved and Gilliam seconded to approve the slate. Fisher amended the slate, adding Stephen Owusu-Ansah as a nominee for a vacancy on the Research Board.

Thompson moved and Gilliam seconded to approve as amended. The amended slate was unanimously approved.

BOT Report

A report on the July 23 BOT meeting in Chicago was sent to all senators and senators were asked if they have comments. Martin commented that much has changed since the BOT meeting. Martin noted that discussions at the July meeting seemed productive, and wondered if the governor would have made a different decision this month had he attended the July meeting as an ex-officio officer. Ting commended Martin for doing a marvelous job as the senate representative attending BOT meetings.

Committee on Sustainability – 2008/2009 Annual Report

The committee's report was sent to all senators. Ting noted that the sustainability web site offers additional information and resources. Fisher commended the committee on their regular series of public events.

Program Reviews

Computer Science M.S.

Helton presented the report of the Graduate Council (GC). Ted Mims, chair of the Computer Science Department, was present to answer questions. The Graduate Council's report saw a need to increase efforts to recruit women and other under-represented groups to the program. Siddiquee asked about recruitment of underrepresented groups, and wondered whether the GC takes diversity of faculty into account. Helton said the GC was referring to both students and faculty regarding the diversity issue. Mims said that the department is doing everything it can to recruit a diverse student population.

Ting asked whether GPA calculations for international students remain an issue in admissions. Mims said that a new computer program is in use that calculates GPA for international applicants.

Computer Science B.S.

Bapat summarized the program review report on behalf of the Undergraduate Council (UGC). He noted that the agenda incorrectly identified the CSC degrees as M.A. and B.A., when the correct titles are M.S. and B.S. The UGC commended the Computer Science Department for efforts to increase the diversity of full-time faculty through recent hires, and noted they would like to see these efforts continue. Bapat stated that there is a general trend toward lower numbers of women students in Computer Science. Siddiquee asked about the UGC's recommendation in support of changing the current

secretary position to an Academic Professional position. Bapat and Helton noted that this can only be done with increased funding and approval by the Dean and Provost.

In response to a question from Fisher, Mary Sheila Tracy reported that the CSC Department's "Girl Tech 2009" camp for middle school girls in June 2009 was wildly successful. She also noted that lower numbers of women in computer science majors is a national trend.

Chemistry B.S.

Moranski summarized the report on the Chemistry program review from the Undergraduate Council (UGC). Bapat, chair of the Chemistry Department, was present to answer questions. The UGC commended the department for service to non-majors and for the scholarly achievements of faculty. The UGC noted that Chemistry faculty devote a great deal of time to supervising lab courses, and supported adding a Clinical Instructor to protect time for faculty scholarship. The Department was encouraged to continue to support faculty efforts to seek external funding for research equipment, and to continue efforts to recruit faculty from underrepresented groups.

Siddiquee asked about the diversity of students in the major. Bapat answered that Chemistry is a small major and recruiting is a challenge, but that diversity of the student body is increasing. Moranski also noted signs of improvement in diversity among Chemistry majors, but said that the numbers are small enough to make recognition of trends difficult.

History B.A.

Bapat summarized the report on the History B.A. program review from the Undergraduate Council. Robert McGregor, chair of History, was present to answer questions. It was noted that the History Department has a new dual emphasis (Americanist and International) that has strained department resources. The program review was begun by a different faculty member and completed by the current chair. Some gaps and inconsistencies in data reporting resulted. The major recommendations of the UGC included the need for History to develop a system to collect accurate and consistent data on enrollment, retention, assessment plans and data, and student satisfaction. The UGC requested that the department collect data during the 2009-2010 academic year and submit a written report to the UGC by February 2011. The UGC recommended that the Dean's office oversee the process and noted that some administrative restructuring may be needed. Moranski pointed out that Laura Dorman can work with them to obtain data.

Bodenhorn asked for clarification on the question of administrative restructuring. Moranski responded that the department needs an assessment coordinator and someone who could work with Institutional Research.

McGregor stated that the History Department is in full agreement with the recommendations and is working to improve the process. He also asked for a specific list of what they should do as stated in the second bullet of the UGC letter.

Helton asked about the UGC's recommendation that the Department consider hiring adjuncts. Moranski replied that the department has not used adjuncts in the past, but course offerings have expanded to include the new international emphasis and online major. Using adjuncts could allow faculty to teach in the Capital Scholars honors program. Doing this might attract majors in the future.

Kline asked whether any guidelines are in place for hiring graduate students from UIUC as adjunct instructors. It was noted that some programs have done this.

Siddiquee asked whether the UGC is asking for additional data beyond that usually provided by Institutional Research. Moranski replied that the need was for consistent reporting of up-to-date information. Bodenhorn noted for clarification that much of the data provided had gotten lost. Though efforts were made to duplicate this data in completion of the final report, McGregor did not have access to full information.

Martin noted a common thread of growing pains related to general education expansion among all of the program reviews. He remarked that these are programs bringing in dollars and that we need faculty resources to support them. Ting commented that it may also be useful to assess faculty teaching assignments to examine ways of using resources more efficiently.

Old Business

None

New Business:

Resolution 39-2 Recognize Academic Honors at Commencement (1st reading)

Helton reported on behalf of the Graduate Council and Brian Clevenger was also present to answer questions. Kline asked why the GC selected two as the number of graduate honors per department. Helton replied that various approaches had been considered, including a percentage of graduates, but the Council thought recognizing up to two graduates allowed reasonable representation regardless of department size. Clevenger noted that historically, two has been the number of awards, and that this has increased recently. Kline suggested that wording specifying that the resolution addresses recognition in the commencement brochure and not honors in department or college ceremonies should appear earlier to clarify the intent of the resolution.

Resolution 39-3 Residential Status for Full-time Faculty (1st reading)

Kirkendall presented on the history of the resolution on behalf of the Personnel Policy Committee (PPC). She explained that the committee has received many expressions of concern about the departmental impact of absentee faculty. This has been a tabled item for four or five years. The committee has not been able to find policies addressing this problem at other institutions. Concerns intensified last year. Departments feel they have no control over non-residency agreements, and new faculty feel uncomfortable about confronting absentee faculty. Kirkendall emphasized that cases covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act would not be impacted by this resolution.

Thompson asked whether there were particular issues that have led to increasing concern. Kirkendall replied that there are tenured faculty who are not regularly on campus and this creates problems. Concerns have to do with leadership and the capacity to build intellectual community on a small campus.

Siddiquee asked for clarification about whether or not the proposed residency policy would cover the whole year, including summer. Kirkendall said no, because faculty are not under contract in summer.

Martin commented that the personnel policy already addresses expectations for faculty, and that the resolution places a requirement on faculty that we do not put on anyone else on campus. This could have a negative effect on recruitment of quality faculty. He recognized that the policy intentionally left commuting distance open, but said this is a problem. In response to Martin's earlier comment, Kirkendall said that UIS does not allow APs or Civil Service staff to work off campus.

Ting explained that faculty residency refers to the ability to be present on campus when necessary, and does not imply that faculty have to live within any particular distance of campus.

Helton pointed out that departments lose flexibility in the scheduling of courses if some faculty are not on campus and teach only on line. She believes that faculty need to be on campus to fulfill service requirements.

Murphy asked whether there was any plan to provide on campus housing for faculty. According to Kirkendall, this was sometimes done in the past but is not a current practice.

Eisenhart commented that based on her experience as department chair, some faculty feel they can opt out of university service and focus on scholarship once they have tenure. Departments need the authority to say "you need to be here". She would like to see a process of department approval before faculty can choose to work off campus. Eisenhart noted that it is very hard for departments to initiate dismissal of tenured faculty "for cause" because once you start this process you have torn the department apart forever.

Keith Miller stated that online learning took root at UIS because of our capacity for innovation, and that we are so far ahead of the curve that there are substantial questions about how we can build an academic community that includes both face-to-face and online. Miller commended those who brought this issue forward, and believes that UIS must be intelligent and creative in developing policy in this area. He thinks the resolution as currently written is badly worded and marginalizes online education by emphasizing physical presence on campus and requiring active online faculty to reapply for exceptions every semester. He urged consideration of different kinds of presence, and said that as a world leader in online education we can become the university that experiments with this.

Gilliam returned to the question of summer term, when faculty are not under contract, asking whether faculty would need to request permission to teach summer online classes while away from campus.

Kline stated that a central question is the discretionary authority of Deans. The policy seems directed at Deans or administrative officials who agree to faculty absence from campus. He noted that the policy may increase rather than limiting the role of the Dean in these decisions. For example, even if a department agrees to a non-residential arrangement, the faculty member must still get the Dean and Provost to agree every semester, which may diminish department authority.

Bodenhorn noted that some faculty have moved away without informing the dean or the departments, and said that the Dean's office has limited ways to deal with this. The Dean can talk with absent professors and try to exercise reason and influence. Some departments are being impacted and this is undermining their ability to do their work. The Dean can set up a course schedule that requires faculty to teach on campus and if they do not do this, it leaves one avenue which is dismissal for cause.

Fisher agreed with Miller that the issue requires careful thought. Absentee faculty place burdens on colleagues who are here, but we need to recognize the value of online presence. Commitment and contributions within the department are the issue, not residence. Departments need to grow in their organizational structure to handle these issues, and one problem is that faculty members go straight to deans rather than talking to chairs.

Burton suggested that more meaningful post-tenure reviews might be helpful, and we need to be aware of the need for tenured faculty to provide service. Hypothetically, if we allow faculty to work remotely, we need to make that option available to all members of the department. This could lead to virtual departments, which could be good or bad.

Wassenberg said that she was impressed with the range of discussions, and noted that focusing on distance is not getting to the problem. There were situations where senior faculty left campus on their own initiative. It is not realistic to think that untenured faculty would vote no merit on those who are tenured because of the influence of tenured faculty in department personnel decisions.

Kirkendall emphasized that the University does not allow APs or others to work from home, and this is one reason why the issue has come up. UIS is trying to create a viable residential campus community while faculty are drawn in many directions, including teaching in Peoria or offering night classes when residential students are not out. The PPC needs guidance from the Senate on this.

Ting concluded that there is a need to re-word and clarify the policy and that the Personnel Policy Committee should work on this. Anyone can e-mail suggestions to Kirkendall on this matter to provide guidance.

Resolution 39-4 Changes to the UIS Campus Senate By-Laws Article VI. Section 2. and Section 2.C.2 (First reading)

Ting summarized the proposed changes to by-laws. Changes on lines 9 and 10 address the question of when committee chairs are elected. Doing this in spring provides leadership for committees and helps them get ready for work in the fall.

There is also a change in ex-officio members for the Committee on Admissions, Recruitment and Retention. The position of the Director of Enrollment Management was eliminated, and the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs now assumes direct responsibility for enrollment matters. The change in the by-laws reflects this.

Siddiquee sought clarification that newly elected committee members elect the new chairs. Ting confirmed that this is the case.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Siddiquee and seconded by Burton to adjourn. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 12:19 p.m.