
Senators Absent: K. Burton, D. Felix, N. Headman, E. Kullick, and B. Siddiquee,

Ex-Officio: H. Berman


The Senate was called to order at 10:03 am.

Approval of the day’s agenda

A motion was made by Martin and seconded by Bogle to approve the day’s agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion to add an item to the agenda (Committee on Committees report on appointing the EHS faculty representative to the Committee on Student Discipline) was made by Hall and seconded by Thompson; motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of October 9, 2009

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Martin and seconded by Casinova. The minutes were unanimously approved with one correction (on page 3, 1st full par., 3rd line: change from “an meeting” to “a meeting”). Further, Rutherford will check the tape to determine whether on page 10, in the next to last par., it should state “students” instead of “departments”.

Ting provided clarification on the minutes’ discussion of the Chancellor’s report, stating that Ed Wojcicki’s statement (as reported in the middle of page 4 of the minutes) that the 3 alleged perpetrators were suspended was accurate at the time it was made. However, the suspension continues only with respect to the housing community; those individuals
have returned to the classroom and campus activities after the interim suspension was lifted. Ting explained that our current policy does not allow for continued suspension pending resolution of the disciplinary hearing, and that the student code is currently being updated in this respect. Additionally, with the creation of the Academic Integrity Council, the Committee on Student Discipline was not fully staffed in the beginning of the semester, so the disciplinary process is not proceeding as quickly as desired. Ting hopes that the revised student code pertaining to student discipline and rights will be presented to Campus Senate next year for approval.

Berman appreciated Ting’s clarification of the minutes concerning this issue and explained that in the grievance code there is only a procedure for interim suspension. Fisher inquired whether we can privately notify at-risk populations of the return of suspended students to campus, to demonstrate our concern for those students’ safety. Vice Chancellor Barnett explained that FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) limits the amount of information the administration may disseminate about this incident. He stated that administration could only inform campus police and the students’ instructors (school officials with legitimate need for that information). Barnett stated that the university is following policy to the letter but that the code does not have a provision for suspension of students pending resolution of hearing.

Berman agreed that the administration will meet with the Senate Executive Committee about policies and the general considerations surrounding lifting an interim suspension. Barnett and UIS Legal Counsel Henss will come to the next Senate Executive Committee meeting. The victim of the incident can (and will) be informed of the outcome of the hearing. The sense of fear and intimidation in the LBGTQ community was discussed. Kline suggested that the LBGTQ club or SQA might be able to share information (since they are not bound by FERPA). Ting reminded us that we need to wait and see how the hearing goes and what other information comes out of that process.

Announcements

None.

Reports:

Chair – T. Ting

Ting thanked senators for 100% participation in the approval of the slate of six faculty nominees for the U of I President Search. Alan Cook, Kamau Kemayo, James Hall, Tony Sisneros, Carrie Switzer, and Tih-Fen Ting are on the slate forwarded to the University Senates Conference; the Board of Trustees will select the final two from UIS to serve on the search committee. Ting noted that she did not participate in the selection by the Committee on Committees as her name was in the pool.

Ting stated that pursuant to Resolution 39-13 (UIS Campus Senate on Condemning Campus Violence and Supporting the LGBTQ Community) passed last meeting, the
administration has been asked to conduct a review of best practices related to violence, sexual assault, and rape prevention. Ting met with Barnett last Thursday; he now has the units under Student Affairs reviewing what programs we have in place. Barnett is asking unit heads to do a best practices review (essentially a gap analysis); he expects to report on this review by early December. On the topic of how to incorporate training into student orientation, Barnett said that it can probably be handled in UNI 101 class (if it becomes mandatory for all freshmen); he would like suggestions from faculty on how to provide the training for transfer students.

Ting stated that it is good news that the Governor signed the bill restoring MAP funding, but that we don’t know what the mechanism is for paying for it. She added that the U of I campuses still haven’t received MAP funding for the fall semester.

**Provost – H. Berman**

Regarding the budget – hard times continue. Half of the UIS budget is from the State of Illinois. Will the State pay appropriated money in time (two weeks ago)? There have still been no payments made to public universities for FY10. Berman anticipates that the U of I system will request that campuses plan for a 5% rescission within this year (about $1.2M would not be spent). However, absorbing a cut of that size will not be as difficult this year as it was last year, as we can handle the bulk of that with reserves from last year and other budgeted reserves. We have the capability to handle that level of rescission. FY11 will be a source of concern. We know federal stimulus money will not be there next year; looking at our $22M state funding, $1.4M is federal stimulus money (this translates to a 6% budget cut). The legislature continually fails to realistically address the state’s budget situation. He stated that we need to be thinking about the possibility of a budget reduction of some magnitude in the next fiscal year. Iowa just had a 10% budget reduction; Wisconsin signed a budget reduction too. We may have to do that FY11. On the other hand, we have great students and great faculty.

Thompson reminded everyone of their individual and collective responsibility to advocate for this institution.

**Student Government – M. Van Vossen**

On Sunday, SGA will be considering student fee and housing increases for FY11. MAP grants were restored due to successful lobbying!

**Committee on Committees report – L. Fisher**

The Committee on Committees has one faculty vacancy to fill; the delay was due to the fact that it didn’t know how exactly the Committee on Student Discipline would be redefined in light of the Academic Integrity Council. There is an EHS vacancy – James Klein (HDC) has agreed to serve. Hall moved to approve Klein as the EHS rep to the Committee on Student Discipline; Bogle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
Campus Principles Task Force – L. Fisher and H. Thompson

Fisher explained that last week Wes Weisenburn (Human Resources) organized a daylong retreat. Representatives from CSAC, APAC, faculty and SGA brainstormed about what a set of campus principles related to strengthening campus culture would look like. They are working on a proposal to present in open meetings for campus discussion. This process is still being defined. Thompson explained that the sessions were invigorating as they looked for common ground across campus. They are trying to figure out which things we want to dissuade and which we want to build. She’s meeting with Wes about creating an open, welcoming culture for all students and thinks this is a great initiative.

Faculty Advisory Council to IBHE – L. Bogle

The Council met October 16th at NIU. There is a representative from every public and private university in Illinois; the hope is to impact legislation. Mhaskar is the current UIS representative to the Council (Bogle the alternate). On November 17th, there will be a P20 longitudinal data system summit meeting in Springfield. The State wants to give every child in school a unique number so the child can be tracked and data can be collected about students’ and schools’ performance. The State would like to do accountability for schools at all levels, so funding would be attached. They are just beginning discussions of this process. If this is not a nationwide initiative, there are problems (what if a child moves from Illinois to Iowa for a few years and then back to Illinois?). All in all, funding for all schools is non-existent. However, the University of Phoenix spent $228M in advertising last quarter! That is the competition.

The State is also going to start looking at how we spend our money and may start cutting programs. Ocheng Jany, IBHE representative, talked about positive time reporting. Community colleges don’t have to do it because they are not state funded. Other universities aren’t doing it until someone forces compliance. We are currently unaware of penalties for failing to report time; some think it is not yet time to “poke that sleeping snake”.

IBHE is short on staff and months behind getting to programs. John Peters, President of NIU, addressed the MAP rally, stating that since DePaul and Loyola are near and dear to the hearts of the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate, MAP funding got restored (to get money to those schools). But it is non-existent money. The Ensure Affordability Caucus is trying to convince politicians that there is a payoff if you send students to college--they get better jobs and pay taxes.

Eisenhart said (regarding positive time reporting) that we should tell our brethren “the snake is awake and if they will not rally around the U of I to fight this matter, I will throw the snake in their backyard.” She continued by stating that Bill Holland will go after other universities after U of I. Other state workers don’t keep track of their time in 15 minute increments either. Regarding the MAP funding, the problem is that DePaul and Loyola (who serve 2nd/3rd/4th generation college students) are getting preference and
UI/NIU and other universities who serve first-generation college students are not benefiting similarly. However, first-generation students have a much bigger impact on the economy than the Kirk Dillards of the world. If we don’t serve them, they go elsewhere (to another state) and don’t come back.

Mhaskar asked what the State will do with the positive time-reporting data. He also wondered what the impact of enrollment would be on budget planning. Berman stated that positive time reporting is part of accountability under the Ethics Act. Berman discussed predictions of a decrease in State budget – could increases in enrollment and tuition offset a budget reduction? At UIS: 50% of budget is from State and 50% is from tuition. At UIUC, it is much different: 30% of budget is from State and 70% is from tuition and grant money. Martin asked whether there is excess capacity for students (without investing in faculty and facilities). Berman said that the Instructional Resources Management Task Force is currently looking at that issue (and Deans are gathering that information). The task force is charged with making recommendations on that front.

Old Business

Resolution 39-7 Changes to the UIS Academic Integrity Policy – Section IV.1. – Plagiarism [2nd reading]

Fisher offered a motion to open discussion. Olivier seconded. Ting explained that the AIC decided to remove the last sentence (that faculty are encouraged to elaborate on discipline-specific examples). The resolution was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 39-8 Changes to the UIS Academic Integrity Policy – Section V.1.B. – Pending Charges in Courses [2nd reading]

Olivier offered a motion to open discussion. Martin seconded. The resolution was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 39-9 Changes to the UIS Academic Integrity Policy – Section V.2.A. – Informal Resolution [2nd reading]

Van Vossen offered a motion to open discussion. Thompson seconded. The resolution was approved by a unanimous voice vote.


Eisenhart offered a motion to open discussion. Van Vossen seconded. Ting noted that the eligibility was updated (program is open to all students, not just international students). Martin stated he is in favor of the certificate because there is excess capacity. The resolution was approved by a voice vote.
New Business:

None.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Hall and seconded by Kline to adjourn. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 11:04 am.