

Ex-Officio: L. Pardie.


The meeting was called to order by Acting Chair Jamison at 10:02 a.m.

Approval of the Agenda
Martin moved to amend the agenda. The motion was to remove the action item from resolution 42-23 and make it first reading only. Ruez seconded. The Chair asked for discussion, explaining that this item was flagged for action because it has met all of the levels of approval and in order to get into the catalog for the upcoming year it requires action by the Senate today. Martin said that decisions made in haste are usually not good decisions and indicated there are errors in the proposal which he would identify. Scott Day, EDL Chair asked the Senate for support for the proposal, as it has been worked on for the entire academic year. Day said it is designed to bring in new students, and to have to wait another entire academic year would be a burden on the department. The motion failed with two abstentions. Martin moved to make Resolution 42-23 the first item of new business. Kline seconded. The motion passed. McCaughan moved to approve the agenda as amended; Thompson seconded; the agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes
Motion to approve by Li, Dell seconded. Boltuc wanted to clarify that on line 175, in the discussion of resolution 42-19, he was asking about promotion related increases and not salaries. The clarification being duly noted, the minutes were approved.

Announcements
Martin said Star Parties start today and continue each Friday through the end of April. Salela announced an ECCE talk Tuesday April 9. Virginia Eubanks will present ‘Can Technology Serve Social Justice?’ at UIS Brookens Auditorium. Ermatinger said the UIS Theatre production of “Awake and Sing” is going on this weekend and next; also StARS is next Thursday and Friday. Keynote speakers are Ryan Ewing and Mary Jo Bang. Borland said the Pre-Law center LSAT prep course begins Saturday, and registrations are still being accepted. Kline said the Center for Teaching and Learning gets very busy at the end of the semester, so students needing help are encouraged to come as soon as possible. Salela said research paper assistance will be available in the Library on Tuesday and Wednesday nights.
Reports

Chair – K. Jamison for L. Fisher
Jamison said Fisher was away at a conference. No further report.

Provost Report – L. Pardie
Pardie said Fall 2013 admissions data is still positive for freshman, transfer, and graduate level students. The new academic programs task force has been meeting every two weeks and will be announcing some open campus sessions to report on progress and solicit feedback. There was a recent payment from the state to the University of Illinois as a whole of around $30 million, leaving about $450 million in appropriations still owed. Kline asked for specifics on admissions. The Provost said active deposits for freshmen are up, as are transfer and graduate applications.

Student Government Association– R. Bouray
Bouray said resolutions on the agenda for the upcoming SGA meeting include issues of parking, bulletin boards, and signature requirements for elections. UI Lobby day at the capital will be Wednesday, April 10, and there are currently 40 students signed up. SGA will be meeting with the Mayor of Springfield today to talk about ways to increase the connection between the University and the city of Springfield. There is also a meeting scheduled with President Easter on April 18 to talk about University-wide issues. SGA elections will be taking place on April 17 & 18. Kline asked if students are taking part in the design phase of the new student union. Bouray said a student committee was involved as firms made presentations and made a recommendation to the Chancellor. Once a firm is selected and a contract has been made, students will participate in further discussions. Bussell asked if there was a specific agenda for the meeting with the Mayor. Bouray said they wanted to highlight the Leadership Lived campaign and give the Mayor an idea of what was taking place at the campus, as well as get some student involvement downtown.

Committee on Committees – K. Jamison
Junfeng Wang has been appointed as a last minute replacement on the Research Board because of a potential conflict of interest. Overall there was an abundance of volunteers for committees, but there are still three committees that need volunteers, including: two vacancies from any college on Academic Freedom and Tenure, one PAA vacancy on Student Discipline, and one EHS vacancy on Undergraduate Council. SEC will consider appointments at the next SEC meeting April 12 and bring a slate for approval to the next Senate meeting April 19.

Graduate Council Report to Senate – Sharron LaFollette
Graduate Council has been able to process all information received. Several outstanding items listed on the report have not been received by the Council. Graduate Council has also not yet received a draft copy of the Graduate Student Handbook. Grad Council has been working on a “Tips to Writing a Program Review” that it is hoped will help expedite the writing of program reviews. This should be finished this year and will be forwarded to Undergraduate Council.

Old Business
Resolution 42-20 Graduate Certificate in Business Intelligence [2nd reading]
Martin asked if there were any statistics to back up the claim in this proposal that this is a revenue generating activity. Rassule Hadidi, Chair of MIS, said that at present the MIS program is the largest degree program in the College of Business and the second largest on campus. The two certificates that are currently being offered enroll approximately 15 -20 students in the MIS program and 15 – 20 from the MBA program, so the program is fully subscribed, and it is anticipated this new certificate will be equally subscribed. Martin said in general he would like to see some institutional research to back up the claim
that graduate certificates draw in students that end up in Master’s Programs. Cornell and LaFollette commented on the complexities involved in evaluating data relating to students enrolled in both certificate programs and Master’s programs. The Resolution passed unanimously.

**Resolution 42-21 Graduate Grading Policy Clarification [2nd reading]**
LaFollette said the current grading policy allows for up to eight credit hours of “C” grade to be counted toward a degree so long as it is balanced by an equal number of “A” grades. Graduate Council proposes that the language be changed to two courses of “C” credit so long as the minimum GPA of 3.0 is achieved. Ruoz said there are some programs that offer tutorials or special topics courses that can range from one to twelve hours. The wording of this proposal could potentially allow for twenty-four hours of “C” grade to be counted towards a Master’s degree, which is extreme. Cleverger said the overall requirement is still a 3.0 GPA, and it would be difficult for a student with twenty-four hours of “C” to achieve a 3.0 GPA. Boltuc said this item was discussed at first reading, and recommended over-riding Graduate Council on this issue. Boltuc moved to amend the resolution to keep the language referring to “eight hours” in lines 19 and 20, instead of “two courses.” Martin seconded. After additional discussion, Borland called the question; Kline seconded. The motion to close discussion was approved with no abstentions. Boltuc repeated his motion to amend lines 19 and 20 to revert to the old language of “eight hours” instead of “two courses.” The motion passed with 2 nay votes and Transue, Li, Mulvey, Szabo, Ruoz and Quinlan abstaining. Owusu-Ansah moved to further amend the Resolution to include parenthetical language to allow for eight credit hours for four credit hour courses and six credit hours for three credit hour courses. Agarwal seconded. After a brief discussion, the motion failed with McCaughan, Quinlan, Mulvey and Ahmad abstaining. Resolution 42-21 passed, as amended with McCaughan, Quinlan, and Ahmad abstaining.

**New Business**

**42-23 Online Graduate Certificate in Teacher Leadership**
Martin objected to consideration of Resolution 42-23 as an action item. Transue moved to consider Resolution 42-23; Bouray seconded. The motion passed with 1 nay vote and no abstentions. LaFollette said this has been discussed by Grad Council at meetings and online through Blackboard. Grad Council clearly identified that the course work in question did meet the learning objectives and competencies as outlined by the program. Grad Council supports this certificate as meeting the needs of a special group of teachers who don’t necessarily want a degree or who want to test the waters of online education.

Martin said a discussion in a Blackboard forum is not consistent with the rules under the Open Meetings Act and he was concerned that in approving this resolution, the Senate would be furthering an error that needs to be corrected before this moves forward. LaFollette said Grad Council has too big of a workload to handle on a bi-weekly basis and they need that discussion forum option. LaFollette said OMA does allow for electronic discussion on Blackboard. Transue said SEC has discussed this with University Counsel Mark Henss. Online communications are allowable as long as the discussion is not contemporaneous. As long as online communications are not taking the place of a meeting it is allowable. LaFollette said GC always closes the discussion at a meeting and they do not move forward until the next meeting and action is reflected in the minutes.

Dell asked Scott Day to elaborate on the proposal. Day said due to the rising accountability of K-12 teachers, evaluations will be tied to student achievement increases. This Certificate will offer teachers increased training with core courses that are already approved. UIS is trying to bring in more K-12 teachers to give them additional training to help them deal with what is happening in the classroom. There are currently 250 students in the teacher leadership degree program and it is hoped that this program will bring in an additional 20 – 30 as soon as it is launched. Martin wanted to know more about
Grad Council’s Blackboard discussions. Chair said this was not relevant to the motion on the floor. Martin moved to re-commit to committee. There was no second.

There was some additional discussion on the proposal, with Borland and Boltuc both speaking in favor of passage. Martin urged Senators to abstain from voting on this Resolution so they would not be complicit in a potential violation of State law and the OMA. Jamison said that putting an item on the agenda as an action item and posting it for the public was in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Bussell moved to suspend the rules that preclude action on a first reading; Dell seconded. The motion passed with Ruez abstaining. There was some additional discussion, with Kline, Transue, and Bussell all expressing appreciation for Martin’s reservations about acting on a first reading. Dell moved to pass the resolution; Kline seconded. The motion passed with Ruez and Martin abstaining.

LaFollette said Graduate Council will formally put together a discussion forum format to make sure it follows policy so that if there are questions about how Grad Council Blackboard discussion forums operate it will be clearly outlined.

**Resolution 42-22 Amendments to the UIS Campus Senate Bylaws Regarding Illinois Open Meetings Act Compliance [1st reading]**

Transue said these changes are designed to create consistent language between the bylaws and OMA. Transue briefly outlined the changes which included making minutes available for public inspection; public notification that an item for first reading would be considered for action; and posting of meeting schedules for Senate and Senate Committees. LaFollette asked if the schedule for next year needed to be posted now. Transue said a schedule should be posted at the beginning of the academic year but it could be altered based on committee members’ availability.

Salela asked if committees were also required to make minutes accessible to the public. Transue said that language may already be included in the bylaws. Jamison said this could be addressed at the second reading. Salela asked about document availability. Before the advent of the web, Senate documents were maintained in the Library archives. Now some documents are available on the web and some are deposited in the archives but there are some gaps, and she asked if the Senate should codify in the bylaws where the official archives should live.

Martin proposed an amendment to strike the sentence on lines 57 and 58 that states “eight Senators shall constitute a quorum for a summer meeting.” Boltuc seconded. Kline asked for clarification, saying that Martin’s proposed amendment was not pertinent to the motion on the floor, but an entirely new topic. The Chair ruled Martin’s amendment out of order, although she agreed it was an issue that should be addressed. Transue said Salela’s point about archives was related to the OMA portion of the bylaws, and added that current year Senate documents were available for public inspection in the Senate Office in PAC 383. Salela said the Library archive is the official repository of University documents, but that documents should be available on the web as well.

**Resolution 42-24 Modification of Sabbatical Application Review Procedures [1st reading]**

Thompson said this resolution came forward as a result of previous Senate discussions concerning sabbatical awards. There was some ambiguity about the process and the role of the Campus Sabbatical and Awards Committee in that process. This Resolution is an attempt to clarify how the process happens and moves forward and what CSAC’s role in that process is. There was discussion about the purpose of sabbaticals and ranking of applications. It was suggested that the Dean also numerically rank each sabbatical application. Kline said that this resolution addresses a procedural issue that was raised as a result of this year’s awards but the questions about purpose and substance should be a separate discussion.
Resolution 42-25 Modification Regarding CSAC Membership [1st reading]
Thompson said there have been conversations about what recusal and abstention really mean, and there has been confusion about who is eligible to serve on CSAC. This resolution is designed to clarify what is appropriate process for either serving or not serving. If a member of CSAC is being considered for a sabbatical, the faculty member should step away from the committee. Ruez asked why a faculty member should resign from CSAC if they are being considered for sabbatical, but simply recuse if they are being considered for a faculty award. The Provost said that if a faculty member up for a sabbatical award simply recused themselves for a semester, there would be no replacement, and that particular college would not have a representative in the ranking of all sabbatical proposals. Ruez said language in this proposal allows for a replacement representative if a member recuses due to consideration for a faculty award, and asked why that same thing could not happen in the case of sabbatical consideration. Kline suggested that CSAC include language that specifies a time that members applying for sabbatical should resign from committee. Ermatinger and Pardie both addressed the potential for conflicts if the new language is not adopted.

Adjournment
Salela moved to adjourn; Martin seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.