To Be Approved
UIS Campus Senate Meeting
May 3, 2013

CAMPUS SENATE MEETING
AY 2012/2013
Friday, April 19, 2013
10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.
PAC G


Senators Absent: R. Barnett, D. Ruez, J. Hollins, A. Agarwal

Ex-Officio: L. Pardie.


L. Fisher called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Approval of the Agenda
Dell moved to approve the agenda; McCaughan seconded; the agenda was approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes
Motion to approve by Villegas; Switzer seconded. There were some corrections to the attendance, including listing Villegas as present, even though he left midway through the meeting. The attendance being clarified, the minutes were approved.

Announcements
Pardie said the new academic programs task force will have two open forums next week to talk about progress so far and solicit feedback. Fisher said the UIS music showcase will be held tonight in Sangamon Auditorium.

Reports

Chair – L. Fisher
The Chair thanked those Senators who are finishing their terms today, including McCaughan, Owusu-Ansah, Williams, Bussell, and Switzer. The Chair also thanked Barnett for representing Academic Professionals and Lori Atkinson from Civil Service, as well as Student Senators, especially Bouray and Tienken who are graduating this year. The Chair thanked Villegas and Salela for serving on the election committee for the recent Senate election cycle. President Easter, along with Chancellor Koch, will be at the May 3rd meeting for a brief discussion. The Chancellor has invited faculty to a forum to help develop budget priorities on April 30 and May 1. The meetings will open with brief remarks from the Chancellor, followed by small group sessions, each being facilitated by a faculty member. The object is to develop a set of campus priorities that will help guide the budget process. Anyone interested in facilitating one of the small group sessions should contact the SEC. The Chair encouraged all to attend.
Provost Report – L. Pardie

No report.

Student Government Association – R. Bourav

Spring elections just concluded, and a transitional meeting is scheduled for May 5th. SGA met with President Easter yesterday and discussed ways that the three campuses can connect on upcoming initiatives for the University. SGA also had a very good meeting with Springfield Mayor, Mike Houston, two weeks ago and discussed ways to increase the connection between the city and UIS. Allocation of student programming fees will be discussed at the next SGA meeting on April 21.

Kline, returning to the Provost’s report asked why there was no summary of State budget appropriations or enrollment updates at this meeting. The Provost responded that there has been no movement on the State budget appropriations and there was a recent campus forum that provided a thorough picture of the status of the budget. There has also been little change in registrations; we are still concerned about not having registrations moving as fast as we normally would. The Deans are working with department chairs and faculty to prepare an email that will go out to students encouraging them to register, and reminding them that we have a policy of cancelling classes that are under-enrolled and encouraging early enrollment for the best choice of classes. Kline said he recalled the last report on admissions was a fairly bright report and it seemed like the Provost was now saying something has changed. The Provost said you have to make a distinction between applications and admits and registrations. Registrations involve current students. Borland said her understanding from administration within her department and in her college was that a lot of students were unable to register because of administrative holds. She asked if there were more problems with holds this year than in the past. The Provost said she had not heard of any more problems this year as compared to previous years, and that we are willing to help students with these kinds of issues but they have to be brought to the attention of the right people. Williams suggested being careful in how the message of cancelling courses for low enrollment was disseminated, as students may not sign up for a course because they heard it was going to be cancelled. The Provost said that is why the conversations between students and advisors are so critically important. She said she was operating on the assumption that departments are communicating with their students, encouraging them to meet with their academic advisors early in the registration process which will allow time to deal with any issues that may arise, including any administrative holds.

Committee on Committees – K. Jamison

Fisher, speaking for the SEC Committee on Committees, presented a slate of Committee appointment recommendations that had been slightly revised from the slate posted with the agenda. Martin asked why, given that three tenure-track faculty had volunteered for the General Education Council, the SEC had chosen to put a non-tenure track instructor on this very important committee. The Chair said she would address questions after presenting the revised slate. After the slate was presented, Bussell moved to approve; Li seconded. Martin called for point of order, asking why the committee slate for next year was not presented for approval to the new Senate (scheduled to be seated at the conclusion of this meeting). Fisher said it has been the practice to include this on the old Senate agenda so that committees have a chance to meet before the end of the semester. Also, according to the Bylaws, the new Senate meets twice at the end of the semester and business is limited to the election of officers and the adoption of rules.

Returning to Martin’s earlier query, Switzer also asked why an instructor was chosen for General Education Council instead of a tenure-track faculty member. Fisher said the SEC was trying to balance many things in making committee appointments, including continuity, experience, discipline and college representation. Fisher said she understands that tenure-track faculty may have requirements for committee service at the campus level, but the SEC liked the idea of having the area of language studies represented on the General Education Council, so they chose to include M. Sanchez (foreign language
instructor) on the committee. Martin said he understood that one of the requirements for serving on GEC was having taught or planning to teach a Gen Ed course, and he wanted to know what Gen Ed courses Mr. Sanchez has taught or is planning to teach. Fisher said one of the strategies for sustaining foreign language studies on this campus was to develop it as a Gen Ed option. Moranski said 3rd and 4th semesters of language study have been used to meet various categories of Gen Ed. Li asked if any tenure-track foreign language faculty had volunteered for this committee. Martin stated that there are no tenure-track foreign language faculty. Bussell said since GEC is looking at issues of incorporating language into the Gen Ed curriculum, she felt the presence of a foreign language instructor on the committee would be valuable.

Killam asked what the inherent advantage of having a tenure track faculty member on GEC would be. Martin said there are several advantages. One is that an instructor can be fired at any time and the second is that this committee makes decisions that have a very wide ranging impact on this campus and he felt it was important to have a committee member who has buy-in and is committed to staying on this campus for a long time. Martin said when tenure-track faculty are available and willing to serve on this committee it is not right to pick somebody who is not tenured or on tenure-track. Boltuc asked if it would be appropriate, for the sake of transparency, to reveal all of the volunteers for this position. Bussell said the Senate should be wary of debating the merits of various candidates. She said this particular foreign language instructor has demonstrated an extraordinary amount of commitment. Kline said there is a power differential among tenure-track and non-tenure track faculty, and that there is a perception that some committees of the Senate, because they are partially staffed by non-tenure-track faculty, may not have the necessary clout to advance an agenda. Kline said he was not expressing his own opinion on this, just a perception that is out there. Bussell said she would not expect any volunteer for a committee to promote a particular agenda but rather be a member who would participate to the best of their ability and bring whatever knowledge and perspective they had to the table. Martin said faculty in the UI statutes are defined as tenure and non-tenure-track unless otherwise specified in the rules for membership of the committee. He said he knows that this SEC has reinterpreted the constitution of the UIS Senate to say that the constitution explicitly defines faculty another way which is allowable from the Statutes, but having too many instructors on GEC and other committees is watering down those committees. The Chair said she appreciated the questions that were being raised, and that they were born out of the changing make-up of the faculty, which is now 78% tenure & tenure track. This may be part of a larger discussion that we should be having but cannot have today.

Ermatinger said he was disturbed by the talk of differentiating value between tenure track and instructors. He said he has found many instructors to be excellent teachers as well as individuals of great wisdom and foresight. For example Jan Kirkham was at UIS for twenty years as an instructor and never held back her opinion and was never in any way punished when she disagreed with individuals in the Dean’s office. Ermatinger said he has never seen an individual punished for what they had said. He said instructors continually provide excellent service. Ermatinger also said instructors may have a little more security than people think because they do not go through a regular 2 year, 4 year, 6 year process, whereas tenure-track faculty who go through the regular process are not always re-appointed, and can also be terminated. The revised committee slate was approved with Williams abstaining.

University Senates Conference – L. Fisher

Fisher reported on the March 27 meeting. There is a multi-year budget process underway right now. Fisher said V.P. Pierre reported on a review of University administration where they are looking for budget savings. Fisher also said there was also discussion of a media report stating that the UI had a one billion dollar reserve. The one billion is a strange mythical figure. About half of it is appropriations from the state that are part of the budget but have not been received while a good portion of the remainder is in the UI self-insurance reserve. Martin said the reserve is why we never have to do furloughs again. Fisher said there are cash reserves sufficient to keep the University running for three months.
Personnel Policies Committee Report – D. Anthony
Anthony first thanked the members of the PPC: Nathan Steele, Chris Mooney, Mike Miller, Holly Thompson, Pinky Wassenberg in Fall 2012 and Will Miller in Spring 2013, as well as the Provost who serves ex-officio. Anthony said they were all very hard-working and cooperative and made her job as chair much easier. PPC worked on a total of twenty-one different resolution this year, ten of which have been approved by the Senate. Two more are presumably going to be concluded today. Five are concluded in committee and are pending Senate consideration. Four more items are still in PPC and will be carried into next fall.

Faculty Athletic Representative – Marcel Yoder
Yoder said UIS athletes are graduating at rates that are higher than non-athletes, and are in the middle of the pack in our conference. Yoder referred to a written report provided to Senators that had statistical tables on which his conclusions were based. Williams asked if there were any differences across teams. Yoder said the differences at UIS follow a pattern that can be seen across the country and within the conference. Williams asked if Yoder had concerns about any particular teams, specifically baseball.
Yoder said that with baseball being a new sport for UIS graduation rates would not be a reliable measure of student success. Yoder said team GPA would be a more accurate measure, but he could not provide that today. Williams asked if there were any concerns about academic eligibility. Yoder said it is always the case that when you lose players to academic eligibility issues it is a concern. Historically, UIS has not had an academic support person within athletics who could do the job of linking student athletes with campus resources that are available to them. Athletics has recently hired a student services person to be solely responsible for that kind of thing, and hopefully this person can be effective in helping student athletes avoid issues that might make them academically ineligible. Williams said the Intercollegiate Athletic Committee was designated as a Chancellors committee two years ago, and he said he was concerned that the Chancellor had not attended any IAC meetings since it was designated as a Chancellors committee. Fisher said the current chair of IAC has asked the Chancellor to meet with the committee and this should be easy to resolve by clearer communications about the expectations of this committee. Switzer expressed appreciation for the dedication Yoder has given to his service as Faculty Athletic Representative.

Undergraduate Council – Harshavardhan Bapat
Bapat had no comment on the report but offered to take any questions. Borland asked about the Legal Studies Program review. She said she thought it had been approved by UGC but it had not yet come to Senate. Bapat said it was in the process of moving to Senate. Martin asked if there were any Program Reviews that were scheduled for this year that had not been completed. Bapat said there are some that are still in committees that have not yet been submitted to UGC. Moranski said the ones that had not yet come forward are Minor reviews or reviews that do not go forward to the Illinois Board of Higher Education, but all reviews that have to go through to the IBHE have been completed.

Old Business

Resolution 42-22 Amendments to the UIS Campus Senate Bylaws Regarding the Illinois Open Meetings Act Compliance [2nd reading]
Martin asked if any changes had been made in response to a question from Salela at 1st reading about archiving of Senate documents. Fisher said she has had discussions with the University Archivist, and the Senate office clerk will work with the Chair and Archivist this summer to develop a clear procedure for archiving documents both on the web and on paper. Salela agreed to assist in the endeavor. Fisher said there was already a clear policy that the Senate Office shall work with the University Archivist to maintain Senate records. Martin asked that the minutes reflect that there is a quorum present since this is a change to the Bylaws. The Chair acknowledged that there were more than enough senators present to
constitute a quorum. Salela said she also asked at first reading about archiving of minutes from standing
committees of the Senate. Are they also subject to OMA as far as making content of meetings available to
the general public? Fisher said yes, but that language was not in this resolution because it was in the law
itself. The primary requirement of OMA is that meeting schedules and agendas be posted publically forty-
eight hours in advance. Campus Senate has a web page and a bulletin board where schedules and agendas
are posted. OMA says minutes should be made available. This does not mean that minutes have to be
published or posted but they must be provided upon request. The Chair said the changes in the bylaws are
intentionally minimal to avoid interpretation of OMA. Salela asked if committee records were subject to
the same archival requirements as the Senate in general under the bylaws. Transue cited current language
from the constitution that indicated committees are subject to the same requirements as Senate.
Resolution 42-22 passed with Martin abstaining.

**Resolution 42-24 Modification of Sabbatical Application Review Procedures [2nd reading]**

Bussell asked about language in the resolution that refers to the purpose of a sabbatical, specifically
language that refers to ranking based on academic merit. Anthony said the committee had extensive
discussions about this, but the decision was made to keep changes to a minimum. Bussell said the policy
says that no use (for sabbaticals) shall be preferred over any other. Anthony said CSAC is required to
rank the proposals and had to have some criteria and chose to use existing language that cited academic
merit and prospect for successful completion. There was additional discussion on the criteria for ranking
proposals and the different uses for sabbaticals. Kline called the question; Li seconded; the motion
passed. Resolution 42-24 was then approved.

Li moved to extend the meeting five minutes; Owusu-Ansah seconded; the motion passed.

**Resolution 42-25 Modification to Policy Regarding CSAC Membership [2nd reading]**

There was no discussion and the resolution passed.

**Adjournment**

Kline moved to adjourn; Martin seconded; the meeting adjourned at 11:43 A.M.