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Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR 6 April 2010 (Vol. XXXVIII, No. 15)

The 2009 – 2010 Faculty Senate minutes and other information are available on the Web at <http://www.eiu.edu/~FacSen> The Faculty Senate agenda is posted weekly on the Web, at McAfee Gymnasium 1102, and on the third-level bulletin board in Booth Library. Note: These minutes are not a complete verbatim transcript of the Senate meeting.

I. Call to order by Chair John Pommier at 2:00pm. (Booth Library Conference Room)

Present: J. Best, A. Brownson, J. Coit, M. Fero, A. Methven, M. Mulvaney, R. Murray, J. Pommier, , J. Russell, D. Van Gunten, D. Viertel, A. White, M. Worthington. Excused: A. Rosenstein. Absent: A. Boyd, S. Lambert.

Guests: Mary Anne Hanner (Dean of COS), Gary Aylesworth (Philosophy), Mildred Pearson (Faculty Development/Education), Karla Kennedy-Hagan (FCS), Don Yost (BOT), Eric Wilber (DOT), Jeff Cross (Associate VPAA), Teshome Abebe (Economics), Jeremy Yost.

II. Approval of the Minutes of 30 March 2010

Senator Brownson (Fero) moved to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Announcements

- a. Faculty Development Spring 2010 External Speaker: Pat Hutchings, 8 April, Grand Ballroom, 9:30 – 11:00 am & 1:00 – 3:00 pm
- b. Showcase EIU!, 9 April, University Union, 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- c. April 20 Faculty Senate/UPI Faculty Retirees Reception, Tarble Arts Center, 2:30pm

IV. Communications

- a. Email of 31 March, from Roger Beck, re: Faculty Senate Nominations
- b. Memorandum of 1 April, from Judy Gorrell, re: Summer Office Hours
- c. Email of 1 April, from Gail Richard, re: Nominations Committee
- d. Email of 1 April, from Bob Webb re: BOT visit to Senate
- e. Email of 2 April, from Blair Lord re: Dean of Honors College
- f. Email of 5 April, from Bailey Young re: Faculty Commons
- g. Email of 6 April, from Rob Miller re: FOIA

V. Old Business

A. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee: no report
2. Nominations Committee: Senator Worthington stated that the deadline for nominations for Fall 2010 positions is Monday April 12. Worthington noted the communications regarding the method Senate uses to nominate members of committees, and it was agreed the issue would be discussed at the Senate's April 12 meeting.
3. Elections Committee: Vice Chair Van Gunten stated that aside from a handful of technical issues, the election went well. The major issue was an error which seven members of Communications Studies were not entered into the system as Graduate Faculty, which meant they could not vote for the CAH position on CGS. The error was corrected, and Van Gunten stated most of those seven went back and voted for the position. Senator Best commended Senator Van Gunten for the amazing and excellent work on the election. He then noted that the turnout for the election was 34% of eligible voters. Best stated that he found this abysmal, and noted that when the Senate used paper ballots election turnout was routinely 75%-80% of eligible voters. Best stated that electronic turnout has never equaled turnout from paper ballots. Van Gunten stated that turnout might have been higher because of the faculty would be reminded to vote by walking past the ballot boxes, but that part of the reason for low turnout is that positions are not contested. Best stated that when the elections were more heavily contested, elections were preceded by a slating process at the college level, and noted that he would go door to door urging faculty in his college to vote for their candidates. Chair Pommier asked if it would be beneficial to have the election committee look into this, and noted that faculty have made assumptions about the declining turnout, but a review by the Elections Committee might better understand the issue. Van Gunten (Viertel) moved to certify the results of the Spring 2010 Faculty Elections. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Faculty—Student Relations Committee: no report

5. Faculty—Staff Relations Committee: no report

6. Awards Committee: no report

7. Faculty Forum Committee: Senator White stated that he met with UPI members planning a faculty forum to relay fears and reservations about the makeup of this forum. The forum will be entitled The Illinois Budget Crisis and the Future of Education, and will take place Monday, April 19, 3:30-5pm, in the Charleston-Mattoon Room of the MLK, Jr., Union. White stated that he pointed out there was no female represented on the panelists, and suggested that at least one women should be represented. Senator Russell stated she had agreed to serve on the panel as the token woman. Senator Fero (Van Gunten) moved to jointly sponsor a Faculty Forum on the budget with UPI. Motion passes unanimously.

8. Other Reports

a. Provost's Report: Jeff Cross: no report

b. Budget Transparency Committee: no report

c. Other: White circulated the policy on stoles approved by the Commencement Committee and asked for comments on the policy from Senate. Worthington noted that some of the honors societies listed as being approved for the standard blue and silver stoles may have standard stoles, and asked if there has been any objection to the policy. White said the recommendation from the committee to the President was almost unanimous. Russell asked where the list came from, and asked if the committee was sure the list was accurate? Van Gunten stated that the list was not inclusive. Worthington asked if the list was meant to be inclusive. President Perry stated that the list includes honors societies recognized by the Association of College Honors societies that have an active EIU chapter. Perry stated that the list is current, and that he has approved the policy. Senator White (Viertel) moved to endorse the revised policy on stoles for commencement. Motion passes 11-0, 2 abstentions. Yes: Best, Brownson, Coit, Fero, Methven, Mulvaney, Pommier, Russell, Viertel, White, Worthington. Abstain: Mullins, Van Gunten.

Pommier asked if the policy includes cords? White stated that it does not. Senator moved that Senate should express its support for the policy.

Pommier asked if any stoles were exempt from the new policy. White stated the only stole exempt was Kente cloth. White noted that there have not been many abuses of stole-wearing.

B. Other Old Business

VI. New Business

Don Yost, Eric Wilber

Yost thanked Faculty Senate for its leadership. He stated he is proud to be an Eastern alumnus and proud of the job Senate is doing. He stated that, paraphrasing the President, he considers EIU to be first choice, best of class, and appreciates the wonderful experience that students enjoy in the classroom, which now includes both himself and his son Jeremy. Yost praised the Renewable Energy Center, and noted that it places EIU on the leading edge of technology. Yost praised the student and faculty support for the proposed new science building, stated that he is solidly behind it, and stated he looks forward to working with students and faculty on the project.

Yost stated that at the last Board of Trustees meeting the status of the capital campaign was discussed. He stated that given the status of the fiscal situation of the state and the nation, EIU is doing well. He stated that he believes we are going to be happy at the end result of the campaign. He stated that he is on the Board's finance committee. Yost praised the work of Jeff Cross, noted that the State of Illinois owes EIU approximately \$28 million, and that EIU received \$2.5 million in stimulus money last week. Yost stated that it appears likely the Legislature will leave Springfield sometime in the second week of May. Yost stated that if he had one wish it would be for bipartisan leadership, for the Governor, the Republican gubernatorial nominee, the Speaker, the President of the Senate, and the Comptroller to be locked in a room for about four days and come up with an answer to the budget crisis, show some statesmanship, and then proceed with their campaigns.

Yost stated that EIU is maintaining its target enrollment of about 12000, which speaks well for the University. Yost stated that he has been associated with EIU for 20 years, and this is the greatest thing that happened to my family. Yost noted that he has lived in Charleston longer than anywhere else. Looking back at this 20 years, Yost stated he feels EIU is privileged to have President Bill Perry leading the way. He's an extraordinary individual that has a vision, who embraces everyone, goes everywhere, and probably works 100 hours per week. Yost stated that it is comforting to have someone like Perry in leadership, and

noted that Perry talks to the Board a lot. Under Perry's leadership EIU is moving forward in spite of what we face from the state, and Yost stated that because of good planning EIU is going to make it this year.

Yost stated that many years ago when he worked at SIU Carbondale the University would use tax anticipation warrants as collateral for short-term loans. A bill allowing Illinois universities this authority was under consideration in the legislature, Yost stated, but amendments have just beat it to death. The latest information I've received is that it is dead. There's another train of thought that if it didn't happen it would force the legislature to do something. But I'm concerned about the immediate problem, payroll. The latest information I have is that we have sufficient revenues to meet our payroll obligations through June. I try and study the political process, and Yost stated that he sympathizes with our governor. Yost stated that whether we agree or disagree with him, he's got to make difficult decisions, the state is \$13 billion in the hole and something's got to give. Yost stated that there are a lot of people sitting on the sidelines and carping but you don't hear too many other ideas. Yost stated that he would like to hear ideas from the other side. Illinois can't continue in the circumstance we find ourselves in now. Yost stated that he is hearing that if the Legislature adjourns in May, they will probably adopt a six month budget that will take them through the election. That budget will not include a tax increase, and this time next year we may be talking about what's going to happen with the governor. Yost stated that that's sad because it won't answer the real issues and put them off. Yost stated he hopes that something will happen between now and the second week of May.

Yost thanked Senate for the opportunity to speak, and stated that as a board member he welcomed any calls that Senators might have on any issues at any time. He noted that as he respects the chain of command, he would assume a caller would have talked to others prior to calling him. Yost stated that he is in the sixth year of his term as Trustee, and is not going to be reappointed. He stated that it's been a privilege to be a Trustee.

Pommier asked Yost to give an overview of how individuals are appointed to the Board of Trustees. Yost said he would describe how he was appointed. Yost stated that he has a lot of respect for Lou Hencken, and thought it would be interesting during Hencken's tenure as President to serve on the board. Yost mentioned his interest to a young man who had attended school with my daughter in Carbondale with whom he also worked during his time at the Illinois Department of Corrections. Yost stated that he never talked to one politician, was asked to and submitted my papers requesting the nomination. Yost stated that Trustees are nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Yost noted that his Trustee confirmation hearing was the third such hearing for him. Yost stated that the Board has seven members, and each are appointed with a political association. Yost stated that he is a moderate Republican, and his second best friend is Glenn Poshard, and noted that he has supported a lot of Democrats in elections. Yost joked that he is an elder statesman, and independent, and proud of it. Yost stated that the Board has Legislative authority to set policy, hire, discharge with cause, and has fiduciary responsibility. Yost stated that the Board has the statutory authority to govern, and has promulgated rules and regulations for the University. As an example, Yost mentioned the recent BOT policy on academic/political speech. Yost stated that he applauds Perry's leadership, and said he would call it participative governance. Yost stated that the Board encourages the administration to interact with Faculty Senate and other constituencies in formulating policy, before bringing policies to the Board. Yost stated that he felt for the most part that things are pretty good at EIU. Yost stated that Senators give a lot of time and energy to EIU, and joked that it's frustrating sometimes, but that's what happens to good people.

Eric Wilber stated that he is a Senior Political Science and Philosophy major, Pre-law Minor, from Monticello, and is currently applying for SIU law school and an internship with the Governor's office. Yost stated that when I first came to EIU he didn't think he would get involved, but was elected to the apportionment board, then as the student representative to the Charleston City Council, and then in his sophomore year was elected to the Board. Wilber stated that he has seen the University move forward in ways that he believed none of us could have imagined, and noted the new buildings for the Textbook Rental Service, and the Student Success Centre, and the Renewable Energy Center. Wilber stated that he had the honor of participating in the lobbying for the REC, and stated that he met with the Governor and talked about the bill lengthening the repayment time for ESCo project. Wilber stated that he met with over 20 representatives and testified in Legislature about the importance of the REC, but what's even more incredible is that EIU is doing an \$80 million project with no cost to the state. Wilber noted that Student Government has endorsed the increased student fee for the proposed new Science Building, which in his view is another example of how we can't rely on the state to deal with funding for higher education.

Wilber stated that EIU is still waiting for \$1 million that was appropriated by Legislature 10 years ago for the Doudna Fine Arts Center. Wilber stated that we students have to pony up to improve the campus. He stated that he believed, due to his time in Student Government, that shared governance does affect the decisions that the administration makes.

Yost stated that Wilber is a unique young man who has a lot on the ball, and that Wilber's leadership is second to none, Eric is all about leadership and participation he does, and stated that it has been an honor to serve with him.

Pommier noted Wilber's involvement in the resolution of the MAP grant defunding, and noted that he believed it was important to have not only faculty or administrators lobbying, but also for the Legislature to hear the voice of the student. Wilber stated that student lobbying efforts have increased significantly since he has been here. He noted that almost 2000 letters were sent to Springfield for the REC, and 1200 letters sent for MAP grant. Wilber stated that there will be a lobby day April 22, to let our state legislators know we are here and we are demanding action on the budget.

Abebe stated that he is Faculty Senate's appointee to the Faculty Development Committee. Abebe stated that it's a faculty-driven committee, and that one cannot find a group or committee that is as faculty driven as this committee. Abebe stated that other committee members are appointed by the Provost, and stated that Bud Fischer had a lot to do with the founding of the program. Abebe stated that Faculty Development's mission is to plan, promote, and enable faculty members to excel in whatever they choose to do. The program provides hands-on workshops that help illuminate leading edge models and practices, to create an informal integrative learning community, to provide workshops and other discussion fora to model best practices, and to design collaborative group interactions. Abebe stated that the committee has tried to respond to the needs of the faculty. He stated that the Committee have not done everything we wanted to do, but stated that if differences of personality and style were set aside, on the substance of things the Faculty Development has been very successful.

Pearson also referenced the contribution of Fischer, who was on the steering committee which created Faculty Development. Pearson stated that in 2005 I came on board she received a 50% faculty appointment and a 50% appointment to head Faculty Development. She stated that Faculty Development nationwide originated after an influx of new faculty, whose numbers tripled in 1970 alone, which occurred as baby boomers began to retire out. This began with the foundation of the Professional and Organization Development network was founded in 1972. Pearson stated that some institutes for Faculty Development, some have centers, and EIU has an office. She stated that the program offers two partnered workshops with students.

Hagan stated that the session topics are driven by faculty desires and represent a broad category of needs. She stated that by far teaching has outnumbered all our areas, with 85 over last six years, and noted that some topics have been repeated. Hagan stated that this reflects that teaching is a popular topic. She noted a number of seminars devoted to mentoring graduate and undergraduate research. Pearson stated that the program also sponsors Faculty Appreciation Day. Pearson discussed program attendance figures (see .ppt link)

Pearson noted that this year the program has received \$73,000 in donated goods and services from 73 businesses.

Abebe stated that compared with peer institutions, EIU's program comes out really looking good in terms of depth of programming and participation of faculty. He stated that the plan is to provide quality programming and that he believes we have accomplished that. He stated that the director of the program is going to listen to the Dean's Council, and the Chair's Council as often as possible to respond to the emerging needs.

Recorder Coit asked if the attendance figures provided represent unique individuals? Pearson stated that panel attendance is strictly faculty, and did not include other guests, or faculty attending from the U of I.

Coit noted that a recent Budget Transparency Committee report had found a budget increase for the office of over \$100,000 between fiscal 2008 and fiscal 2009, and asked what has the office been able to accomplish with the budget increase. Pearson stated that she had had no staff or secretarial help for her first two years in the office. Pearson stated that some of the increase in personnel funding was a result of a promotion and pay increase. Pearson noted that the office pays our speakers between \$1500-\$3500, it depends on the speaker, and that there was no other real change after the budget increase. She stated that

there was an increase in attendance for faculty appreciation day for fiscal 2010 which incurred higher catering costs.

President Perry stated that EIU is in a just in time sort of situation with cash flow, and stated that the payroll is good through June, and the administration is working on July. Perry stated that EIU has saved \$1 million this year through its hiring freeze and purchasing freeze.

Perry noted that a recent increase in the campus improvement fee, \$12 per semester per c.u. allowed the University to purchase a new natural gas boiler, and that the new boiler is what kept us warm this winter.

Perry stated that the top capital priority is a new Science building, and that this had been the top capital priority, before the fine arts facility leaped them. Perry praised Doudna, stated that it's a great facility, and noted that it is selling out performances, and is great for our students.

Perry stated that the question for the Science Facility was how to get some momentum, since the prospects for state funding are pretty slim. He has proposed an increase in student fees of \$2.50 per semester per c.u. per year for the next four years. The average cost to students will be \$75 by next year and increase to \$300 within four years. Perry stated that the increase will be used real-time for renovations in the Physical Science and Biological Sciences buildings, and stated that the new revenue could reduce deferred maintenance in these buildings by half. Perry stated that when that four year period or renovation is done, there will be a \$3 million revenue stream which can be used finance a \$30 million project. Perry stated that once the Science building is done, in 6-7 years, we can figure out different futures for the existing facilities. The Dean of COS is figuring out different concepts for our Science building that will create space in one or both in existing building, which would allow either Political Science or Economic to move, and that this would free space in Coleman Hall potentially for offices or the proposed Humanities Center. Perry stated that the Student Advisory Board endorsed the plan unanimously, from there the proposal received the endorsement of the Tuition and Fee Review Committee of the Student Senate, who brought it to the Student Senate. Perry stated that after a long and thoughtful discussion the Senate approved the increase by a vote of 23-3, with 1 abstention. Perry stated that he is going to the Board of Trustees August to propose this increase. Perry stated that the plan gives us hope, a light at the end of the tunnel for making progress on our science facility. Perry stated that in addition to the students stepping up, it is our job to raise more money for the building. He stated that it is his goal to get at least another match, and stated that the building needs to be into the \$60-100 million range.

White asked if, in the capital campaign, the administration would approach Dow Chemical or ADM to see if their endowments can fund the Science Building? Perry stated that it makes the campaign message more powerful if the administration can say, our students are helping fund the project themselves. Perry stated that different foundations are maintained by ADM, Cargill, and others, and that these have different priorities they are trying to fund, and if there is a fit with the Science building it would be pursued. He stated that another approach is begin taken with our REC, to learn to what extent our facility can support an operation which would benefit the area. Best commended Perry on the leadership to think of this idea and get it going forward. I think it says something, that what makes this place special, is that the University can partner with students, and they believe in this mission. Best stated that he is looking forward to supporting the capital campaign.

VII. Adjournment at 4:04

Future Agenda items:

Article 13 bylaws, Nomination Procedures

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Coit
April 11, 2010