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Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR 23 September 2008 (Vol. XXXVII, No. 4)

The 2008 – 2009 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.

Note: Nominations for the Luis Clay Mendez Distinguished Service Award are due to Dr. Jonathan Coit no later than 4 PM on 29 October. Information may be found at <http://www.eiu.edu/~FacSen/pdf/mendez.pdf>

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

Present: J. Best, J. Coit, C. Dale, M. Fero, R. Hoberman, M.-L. Li, K. Padmaraju, J. Pommier, J. Russell, J. Stimac, D. Van Gunten, J. Wallace, A. White, M. Worthington, and C. Coon. Excused: A. Brownson. Guests: Wm. Perry (President), B. Lord (Provost and VPAA), J. Cooley (VPBA), D. Nadler (VPSA), J. Nilsen (VPER), D. Hoadley (Dean, LCBAS), D. Jackman (Dean, CEPS), M. Hoadley (AVPAA-Technology, Director of CATS), J. Snyder (Associate Dean, LCBAS), R. Miller (University General Counsel), G. Sterling (CAA Representative to Faculty Senate), J. Astrouski (*Daily Eastern News* reporter), and A. Prellberg (*Daily Eastern News* photographer).

II. Approval of Minutes of 9 September.

Approval of the Minutes of 9 September (Hoberman / Van Gunten) as corrected – Yes: Best, Dale, Fero, Hoberman, Li, Padmaraju, Pommier, Russell, Stimac, Van Gunten, White, and Worthington. Abstain: Coit and Wallace.

III. Announcements

- A. Chair Pommier thanked all the Senators who could attend the Wine and Cheese New Faculty Reception last week.
- B. Chair Pommier announced that he introduced himself at the 12 September Board of Trustees meeting and that he expressed the hope that Faculty Senate will be able to work with the BOT this year.

IV. Communications

- A. Minutes of 4 September Intercollegiate Athletic Board meeting.
- B. Search announcement of 15 September from Office of the President, re: Vice President for Business Affairs.
- C. Email of 15 September from Andrew White, re: taking classes in Old Main, tuition costs for international students, parking issue / garage, purchasing property on the corner of 7th St. and Lincoln Ave.
- D. Email of 18 September from Jonathan Coit, re: grants for conference travel.

V. Old Business

- A. Committee Reports
 1. Executive Committee: Senator Stimac stated that the Executive Committee met with President Perry and Provost Lord the previous day and that the President had discussed some of the items he and the vice presidents would discuss with Faculty Senate.
 2. Nominations Committee: Senator Van Gunten (Coit) nominated Senator Hoberman to serve on the Faculty Development Advisory Committee. The vote was a unanimous vote of yes.
 3. Elections Committee: Senator Dale volunteered to serve on the Elections Committee.
 4. Faculty – Student Relations Committee: Senator Fero reported that she attended the most recent Student Government meeting and talked with Eric Hiltner about childcare and veteran's life experience credits. Student Government has also appointed Miss Carissa Coons as one of its representatives to the Faculty Senate. Chair Pommier welcomed Miss Coons to the Senate.
 5. Faculty – Staff Relations Committee: no report.
 6. Faculty Forum Committee: Senator Padmaraju handed out a proposed announcement for the Fall Faculty Forum and asked senators to send comments to her.
 7. Other Reports

- a. Provost's Report: In response to a question from Senator Hoberman, Provost Lord indicated that the Faculty Senate had a productive conversation on the EWP remediation concern last year.
- b. Budget Transparency Committee: no report.
- c. Awards Committee: Senator Russell reported that the Louis Clay Mendez Distinguished Service Award announcement has been drafted and that the deadline for the award nominations will be 29 October at 4 PM to Senator Jon Coit. Information for the award may be found on the Faculty Senate's home page (<http://www.eiu.edu/~FacSen/pdf/mendez.pdf>).
- d. Bylaws Committee: Senator Coit requested that the Faculty Senate continue to review the bylaws and be ready to discuss them at the next meeting.
- e. Other committees: Senator Hoberman asked if the Faculty Senate was still considering changing the composition or expanding Faculty Senate. Chair Pommier replied that at this time the Executive Committee is not considering such an idea, but that such an idea could be discussed when discussing the bylaws.

V. New Business

- A. Dr. William Perry, President of Eastern Illinois University. President Perry thanked the Faculty Senate for inviting him and the vice presidents to the Senate and emphasized that he had two important ideas he wanted to share with the Senate – that shared governance is important to the functioning of the University and that process is also key to the functioning of the University. As such, all councils need to be heard and that public forums need to reach the widest audience possible, which may include the use of email to gather results. President Perry also stated that he is happy that all the vice presidential areas are working together in furthering the University's goals. Senator Coit asked about the parking issues and if future parking would take into account good environmental practices. President Perry stated that the parking forums are asking those types of questions and that he hoped on outcome from the forums would be possibility of carpooling for employees. Carpoolers might then be offered discounted parking tags. Senator Coit added it might be a good idea if employees who drive, yet still live close, might be asked to pay higher fees. Senator Russell expressed thanks from all the people who work in Buzzard for the increased faculty/staff parking that is now available. President Perry said that VPSA Nadler is the one to thank for that. Senator White asked why a parking structure wasn't being considered, especially when there may be more than one large event happening on campus once Doudna comes fully on-line. President Perry stated that the advantage of a parking structure would be greater parking densities and that it would be better for the vehicles during inclement weather. However, VPBA Cooley added that the cost per space has increased from a 2000 figure of nearly \$3,000 to much greater now. Based on construction costs and the like, a parking structure could have costs as much as \$23,000 per space. The University has talked about the possibility of having some type of partnership with a private contractor, but the costs would still be extremely high and even with retail shops in the lower level, the break-even time would be greater than 20 years. When the University published its Master Plan it unintentionally drove up property values in the surrounding areas since the University's plan was available for all to see. President Perry said that one possibility if a parking structure were built is that the cost could be covered by all users. He added that doing a survey as to when and by whom each parking space is used is very difficult, but said that three items are key in the parking discussions: 1) faculty and staff need access, 2) students need access, and 3) the public will need access for events. If a parking structure is indicated, then a full discussion on the structure would be had in the future. Senator Hoberman stated that when she completed the parking survey on-line that she included environmental concerns, but that she did not see those included in the summary document. President Perry said that not all comments made it into the summary document, but that he did read all comments from the survey so he did understand the environmental implications. Senator White asked about a possible move of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Sciences from Old Main to the Life Sciences Building once a new science building is built. He expressed a desire that all students should be given the opportunity to take a class in the flagship building of the University. President Perry stated that while space is at a premium, giving up space is not an option. The Master Plan will be reviewed and that he seconded Senator White's feelings. Senator Coit asked about faculty travel funds for conferences. The lack of travel funds has an effect on undergraduate and graduate education. President Perry understands the concerns and realizes that professional travel fits in with his priorities. Provost Lord stated that the value of the dollar has eroded, so with flat budgets it is becoming increasing difficult to do professional travel. Such travel is critical to the mission of the University. Senator Hoberman suggested that money put into Faculty Development for non-academic issues might be shifted to the academic side. Provost Lord said that such a

shift in funding could be done, but that a discussion of the ramifications should be had first. Provost Lord added that it was Faculty Senate that had originally advocated for an Office of Faculty Development. President Perry added that while dollars are very constrained, there has been an increase in Academic Affairs' budget thanks to cost saving measures in the other areas. With the recently suggested 2.8% increase in state funding, if it is not cut, some of that could be used to help Academic Affairs, but it must also be remembered that other areas are also hurting from the years of flat budgets and increasing costs. Senator White asked why the University didn't purchase the church property on the corner of 7th and Lincoln for University use. VPBA Cooley indicated that the University cannot, by law, pay more than the appraised value for property and that the owner was asking more than appraised value. Senator Russell asked if the president would comment on international learners. Provost Lord stated that he hoped more discussion could be done during the Faculty Senate's Fall Faculty Forum. The proposed forum topic of how do we challenge students by having them make connections beyond strictly academic is a challenge facing all parts of the campus community. He hoped that the forum will be the start of discussions that can last the entire year. Senator Hoberman asked if the president would comment on the foreign language proposal to increase the requirements. Provost Lord stated that the recent article in the *Daily Eastern News* (<http://media.www.dennews.com/media/storage/paper309/news/2008/09/22/News/Proposal.For.Adding.For.eign.Language.Requirement.Hours.Under.Review-3443342.shtml>) captured many of the key issues very well. He added that the conversation of increasing the requirement is good, but that the original proposal was essentially the same as the proposal given to CAA. CAA also had only one meeting to discuss, which was poorly attended, such an important topic and then it was voted upon. The effects on the students, admissions, and other programs need to be discussed more fully. Provost Lord added that no institution in the state has such high standards as what was being proposed and that no alternatives, such as having a program or college institute the requirements first, were discussed. An *ad hoc* committee was formed to discuss more fully the proposal with various councils and committees on campus. Provost Lord that between 7 – 20% of incoming freshman would need to take addition foreign language, approximately two-thirds of transfer students will not have met the requirement, and more than 50 percent of current students would not have met the requirement if it where in effect now. Senator Stimac asked Provost Lord about the new travel regulations concerning submittal of reimbursement requests and receipts within 60 days. VPBA Cooley said that this is a regulation from the Internal Revenue Service. Departments should approve travel applications for the full amounts since they are not obligated to pay that full amount. Upon travel completion, a travel voucher should be completed and all receipts attached and submitted to the Business Office within the 60 days time period. Amounts approved can range from zero to the full amount approved on the travel application if receipts show that amount spent. Supplemental travel vouchers will not be considered additional income for tax purposes if departments decide to do supplemental reimbursements near the end of the fiscal year. Senator White asked President Perry to comment on Dean Augustine mentioning that international students pay such high tuitions. President Perry stated that Dean Augustine has a committee looking into that, but that tuition that is three times an in-state rate is too high, but decreasing it would also mean decreasing revenue generated. President Perry added that non-resident tuition is too high. While 98 percent of freshmen are Illinois residents, in order to attract more out of state students in the future, the question of out of state tuition should be reviewed as well. Senator Pommier asked VPSA Nadler to discuss campus safety. VPSA Nadler said that campus safety, and the improvements that have been made thus far are a combined effort across all the areas. Additional campus safety measures include new emergency sirens, the email notification system, the ability to shut all other email off and send out emergency emails, the 19 emergency telephones placed are campus, the AlertEIU text messaging service, upgrades in Housing, and emergency preparedness exercises with the city, additional training that is planned, the increased use of cameras in certain areas, the new emergency 911 flip charts being placed in public areas, and the increase UPD patrols. Senator Stimac asked about having emergency desktop computer icons that can be activated in a classroom. Such a system would be tied into the UPD and could be easily cancelled if activated by mistake. VPSA Nadler said that such a system would be reviewed in the future. Senator Coit said that the new EIU web page looked great. VPER Nilsen said that many people were responsible for the facelift it was given. Senator Pommier asked if VPER Nilsen would comment on the capital campaign. VPER Nilsen said that a major campaign was being readied. They are currently reviewing donor lists and trying to identify the top potential contributors. President Perry would meet with those. They are also developing policies and procedures concerning gift acceptance that are consistent with IRS and CASE regulations and will review the IGP's as well. They are also discussing special projects that will appeal to particulars donors, starting to engage volunteers, growing

staff, and bringing outside council to help with the campaign kickoff. The campaign is in the quiet stage right now and once they have reached ~50 – 60 percent of the total goal, a public announcement will be made. President Perry added that Eastern has a private school feeling at a public school price and that this is one of our strengths. Such a strength will come out in the campaign. In response to a question from Senator Pommier, VPER Nilsen said that faculty can become involved by giving feedback to the proposed guidelines that are being developed. Senator Hoberman asked about Dean Johnson's retirement. Provost Lord stated that he will be meeting with the CAH administrative council to discuss search procedures, but expects three-quarters of the committee members to be faculty. Senator Pommier asked President Perry to comment on the Amethyst Initiative. President Perry replied that he did not sign the initiative that would request the legal drinking age to be lowered to 18. He understands that the brain matures at a different rate than the body and that when the legal age was raised to 21 the number of deaths related to alcohol decreased. President Perry felt that education of the students in the effects of alcohol is a better method and is part of the University's mission. VPSA Nadler agreed with President Perry and added that AlchoLEDU has helped decrease the frequency and intensity of drinking on campus. Senator Best agreed with President Perry in that the brain maturation studies are crystal clear that 18 year olds are not ready to handle legal drinking. He added that there is a strong correlation between underage drinking and alcoholism. Chair Pommier thanked President Perry and all of the Vice Presidents for being able to attend the Faculty Senate meeting and for the information they shared with the Senate.

VI. Adjournment at 4:00 p.m.

Future Agenda Items: By-laws, Athletics, CATS, Faculty Benefits, Faculty Forum, Research, and Greening of Campus.

Respectfully submitted,

John Paul Stimac