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Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR January 22, 2008 (Vol. XXXV, No. 34)

The 2007-2008 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 Coleman Hall 2532, and on the third-level bulletin board in Booth Library. Note: These minutes are not a complete verbatim transcript of the Senate meeting.

Call to Faculty: Apportionment Board Committee is in need of a faculty representative. The Board meets Thursdays at 7 p.m. Interested faculty should contact John Pommier (jhpommier@eiu.edu or 581-6597) as soon as possible. Please use Apportionment Board Committee in the subject line.

I. Call to order by Lynne Curry at 2:00 p.m. (Booth Library Conference Room, Room 4440)

Present: A. Brownson, J. Coit, L. Curry, R. Fischer, B. Joyce, A. Kostelich, R. Marshall, R. Murray, J. Russell, T. Sinclair, J. Snyder, J. Stimac and D. VanGunten. Excused: A. Haile Mariam. Guests: K. Born (Gerontology GA), S. DiBenedetto (Reporter, *Daily Eastern News*), N. Maberry (Reporter, *Daily Eastern News*), M. Daniels (Reporter, *Daily Eastern News*), E. Jones (*Daily Eastern News*), B. Lord (Provost/VPAA), D. Hoadley (LCBAS), K. Davis (SACIS), B. Buckley (SACIS), D. Nadler (Student Affairs), R. Miller (General Counsel), K. Kohenzo (VPSA), C. Pschirrer (Counseling Center), S. Cox (Counseling Center) and M. Tozer (Counseling Center).

II. Approval of Minutes of 8 January.

Approval of the Minutes of 8 January with no corrections – Yes: Brownson, Coit, Curry, Joyce, Marshall, Murray, Russell, Snyder, Stimac and VanGunten. Abstain: Fischer and Sinclair. Excused: Haile Mariam.

III. Announcements

- A. The African American Heritage Banquet will be held Friday Feb. 1st. Tickets are available from Pamela Warpenburg. The cost is \$15 for adults and \$8 for students.

IV. Communications

- A. E-mail from Anita Shelton, 11 January, re: Disability Services.

V. Old Business

A. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee: Senator Curry stated that she and Senator Snyder gave a presentation about Faculty Senate at the BOT meeting on Jan. 18th. She also said that the Faculty Senate Spring schedule is posted on the website. April 8th has now been scheduled for a “Town and Gown” with President Perry and the mayors of Charleston and Mattoon. Curry asked the senators for their revisions to the Fall report; none were suggested. It will be posted on the Senate website. Curry then brought up the concept of reconfiguring Senate and suggested that the proposal of having a graduate student representative on Senate be a matter of exploration.
2. Nominations Committee: No report.
3. Elections Committee: No report.
4. Faculty – Student Relations Committee: There is a need for two student senators.

5. Faculty – Staff Relations Committee: No report.
6. Budget Transparency Committee: No report.
7. Faculty Forum Committee: Senators Brownson, Dao and Stimac had a meeting to discuss Academic Integrity, the theme for the March 4th Faculty Forum. They discussed possible breakout sessions which included: on-line issues, intellectual property rights, academic integrity, plagiarism and the ethics of Turn It In. They also posed questions such as: what is academic integrity, is it more prevalent now, how do we ensure that students and faculty understand what academic integrity is. Faculty Senate, Student Senate and Judicial Affairs will all participate in the forum. Senator Curry then inquired as to what would be done to publicize the event. Senator Stimac replied that the committee will utilize the University newsletter and the DEN as well as send out a mass e-mail. Senator Coit then asked who would speak to technology. Senator Stimac suggested that an individual from CATS and ATAC would. Faculty Senate is currently working with Faculty Development and the CATS office. Senator Curry commented that on-line resources are changing the way we do our work and that therefore, the topic of intellectual property rights is critical.
8. Awards Committee: All materials for the Distinguished Faculty Award are due March 7th. Additional information can be found on the Faculty Senate website.
9. Other Reports
 - a) Provost's Report: Provost Lord began by commending Senators Curry and Snyder for their BOT presentation. The 10th day of the semester is quickly approaching and although the enrollment numbers are not in, it is thought that they will be similar to last spring. Lord reported that Dean Irwin gave him an update on Eastern Reads and that the book for this year will be *Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder. Curry asked how the banner glitch with grades was progressing. Lord responded that the manual adjustments for courses that get repeated are complete. He explained that soon manual computations will not be necessary because the issues for this term have essentially been resolved. Curry asked if this will complete the Banner implementation. Provost Lord said that each element of Banner is in place, but that there are some additional areas to be resolved. Senator Coit then asked about the 2/3 operating budget cut and if it has occurred in other departments. Provost Lord said that budgets have not been cut, but that there may have been a readjustment of where the money is being spent.
 - b) Senator Fischer said that on-campus interviews for the Athletics Director position will be held in February and March.

V. New Business

- A. Sandy Cox: Counseling Center, Dan Nadler: Vice President for Student Affairs, and Rob Miller: University Counsel, meeting students' mental health needs at Eastern Illinois University. Sandy Cox began by discussing statistics from the Counseling Center. She offered a profile of 10 years ago and how it compared to current statistics. Ten years ago there was an average number of 400-440 clients per year, 60-75 emergency cases, and 60-70 hours of outreach services offered.

Currently, the Counseling Center sees 670-700 students, has 120-150 emergencies and offers 500-600 outreach hours. There has also been a change in the severity of issues that bring students to the Counseling Center. Ten years ago the three top reasons students reported for attending the Counseling Center were issues related to relationships, self-esteem and depression. Additionally, six-seven percent of Counseling Center visiting students presented a level of suicidal ideation. Today, the top three reasons for visiting the Counseling Center are mood disorders, anxiety disorders and co-morbidity, which is a term to describe a combination of issues. Today 30-35 percent of students that attend the Counseling Center endorse a level of suicidality; this does not include those that engage in self-mutilation. Cox explained that, nation-wide, this is equivalent to what most universities are experiencing. Senator Curry then asked about the instrument being used to determine suicidality. Cox replied that the students identify it themselves in writing when they arrive at the Counseling Center. Cox then moved to discuss what the Counseling Center has to offer, including 32 sessions of individual counseling, group counseling, extensive outreach services such as Wellness Wednesdays, 500-600 consultations a year, psychiatric services to about 20 students a day, 24/7 emergency services and eating disorder treatment as well as specialized substance abuse treatment from counselors licensed in the area. Cox noted that when students come to the Counseling Center they must complete an informed consent form that ensures confidentiality so long as students do not pose a danger to themselves or others. Unless danger arises, the Counseling Center can only release information with the student's permission. The Counseling Center is an educational resource for Judicial Affairs but does not discuss specific students with them. If there is a mandated withdrawal, it is because the student is not following treatment recommendations and is determined to be a threat to themselves or others. She explained that the Counseling Center does not "fix" students; students can only do as much as they are willing to do for themselves. The waiting list for an appointment at the Center is at the most one week. Specific times are also left open for urgent visits and emergencies. There is a counselor on call 24/7; students will receive a call back the same day they call in. Cox concluded by stating that consultation meetings are held once a week to talk about students who are of concern. Counselors do not give out specific information, but do act as a resource regarding situations that arise with those that work with students. Dan Nadler said there is an increase in students who feel stressed, overwhelmed and have seen counselors before coming to campus. This situation is not unique to Eastern; it is reflective of society. Eastern takes a proactive approach with its outreach programs and employs a team-oriented approach. The team approach allows individuals to speak generally about situations. If something is happening with a student, most likely it is happening in the classroom, residence halls and elsewhere. The Counseling Center practices prevention as well as intervention; it is a 24/7 business. Rob Miller then discussed FERPA, the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act. Only education records can be shared under FERPA, not personal notes about a student. Miller said that students have a right to challenge their records as well as to keep them private. Miller reiterated that the Counseling

Center cannot disclose anything about a student's counseling record unless the student is in imminent danger to themselves or others. Curry then asked how many people work at the Counseling Center. Cox said that there are 6.67 FTE employees. Senator Brownson then asked Cox if the Counseling Center knew why there was an increase in the amount of students arriving at EIU with pre-existing conditions. Cox replied that it may be due to a change in family systems, our heightened awareness of the issues, or any combination of things. Students who experience issues have the ability to take medication for treatment and attend college; this may not have been the case in the past. Senator Coit then asked what has accounted for the change in categories describing students' mental health conditions. Cox replied that there are now more specific breakdowns within the categories. Senator Murray then asked how the Counseling Center defines imminent and foreseeable danger. It was clarified that imminent danger is determined when the Counseling Center is concerned about the immediate safety of a student or others. Foreseeable danger, on the other hand, includes the possibility of a student being harmful to themselves or others sometime in the near future. Murray then inquired as to whether an eating disorder qualifies as imminent or foreseeable danger. Cox said that eating disorder related issues are brought to their attention by Health Services. The Counseling Center enforces a treatment team approach for such cases. Senator Fisher then asked what the next step is if the team decides a student is a danger to themselves. Cox said that students are then referred to in-patient services and a voluntary medical withdrawal is offered to them. If a student declines the services then Judicial Affairs may become involved. Fisher then followed up by asking if the Counseling Center is informed of the issues that students face before coming to campus. Cox said that it is rare to have knowledge of such information. Senator Coit then asked if sexual assault victims are seen at the Counseling Center. Cox said that there are individuals at the Counseling Center with specialized training and certifications for how to deal with the topic, adding that the Center does a lot of programming and collaboration with SACIS. Senator Sinclair sought clarification on the matter of voluntary and involuntary withdrawals. Cox clarified that voluntary withdrawals are fostered by the student and involuntary withdrawals go through Judicial Affairs. The policy of involuntary withdrawals exists on campus because sometimes it is more of a danger for a student to remain on campus; safety is the utmost concern for students and others. Senator Fisher then asked if there has been a reduction in voluntary withdrawals. Cox said that because the Counseling Center is being proactive, there has been an increase and that it is viewed as a positive thing. Nadler then commented that the Counseling Center does a number of student welfare checks and that they respond quickly to early warning signals to get students back on track both personally and academically. Student Senator Kostelich asked if the Counseling Center worked with the orientation staff. Cox said that they do training in that area, with international programs and do gatekeeper training with Resident Assistants. Senator Coit commented that, in teaching, he usually does not see the students who need the most help. Cox said that the Counseling Center does not always see them either and that it is frustrating. Senator Brownson asked if the Counseling

Center has approached Faculty Development on such issues. Cox said they have been more interested in new faculty. Nadler then commented that information regarding warning signs to take note of has been sent out faculty. Senator Curry then concluded the meeting by thanking the guest speakers for discussing an area that is of concern to all faculty members.

VII. Adjournment at 3:30 p.m.

Thank you to Sandy Cox: Counseling Center, Dan Nadler: Vice President for Student Affairs and Rob Miller: University Counsel.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Snyder, Recorder