

2-26-2008

February 26, 2008

Faculty Senate

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Recommended Citation

Faculty Senate, "February 26, 2008" (2008). *Minutes*. 64.
https://thekeep.eiu.edu/facsen_mins/64

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR February 26, 2008 (Vol. XXXV, No. 37)

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: There is a need for a faculty member on the Tuition and Fees Committee. Meetings are 7 p.m. on Mondays in the Student Activity Center. Interested faculty should contact John Pommier (jhpommier@eiu.edu or 581-6597) as soon as possible.

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

Present: A. Brownson, L. Curry, M. Dao, A. Haile Mariam, B. Joyce, A. Kostelich, R. Marshall, A. Montleon, R. Murray, J. Pommier, J. Russell, T. Sinclair, J. Snyder, J. Stimac, and E. Volk. Excused: D. VanGunten. Guests: B. Garcia (Reporter, *Daily Eastern News*), B. Peake (Photographer, *Daily Eastern News*), D. Jackman (Dean, CEPS) and B. Lord (Provost/VPAA).

II. Approval of Minutes of 19 February.

Approval of the Minutes of 19 February with no corrections – Yes: Brownson, Curry, Haile Mariam, Joyce, Marshall, Pommier, Russell, Snyder and Stimac. Excused: VanGunten. Abstain: Dao, Murray and Sinclair.

III. Announcements

- A. Biological Sciences is hosting a research fair 5:30-6:30 p.m. on the second floor of the Biological Sciences Building February 27th.
- B. Faculty Forum will be held 2 p.m. Tuesday 4 March in the University Union's Grand Ballroom.

IV. Communications

- A. None.

V. Old Business

A. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee: Senator Curry reported that the Executive Committee will meet with President Perry after the Senate meeting. She also mentioned that CUPB met last Friday. President Perry is reconvening the campus parking task force, which will be meeting with various constituencies. Their final report is due to the President by the end of May. CUPB is also asking the President to request that BOT revisit EIU's master plan for buildings and facilities. Also discussed at the CUPB meeting was the issue of a master plan for higher education in the state of Illinois. Provost Lord commented that higher education has had several master plans in recent years. EIU will go before the Higher Education Appropriations Committee in Springfield on 6 March. Lobby Day for Higher Education in Springfield is 9 April.
2. Nominations Committee: There is a need for a faculty member on the Tuition and Fees Committee. Meetings are 7 p.m. on Mondays in the Student Activity Center.

3. Elections Committee: Senator Brownson reported that she and Senator Curry met with ITS and that they will be proceeding with electronic election plans. ITS no longer has the license for the software previously used for Faculty Senate elections, so ITS will write a program. In the meantime the Elections Committee will proceed with plans for holding the election using paper ballots in case the electronic program is not completed in time. ITS will provide periodic updates in regards to its progress. Curry asked Senators Haile Mariam and Stimac to serve on an ad-hoc committee to help with the paper ballot elections. Senator volunteers will be needed to work the election tables. Brownson requested that Senators also encourage individuals in their department to provide help.
4. Faculty – Student Relations Committee: Senator Curry asked the committee to follow-up with the Student Government elections.
5. Faculty – Staff Relations Committee: Senator Sinclair reported that parking was discussed and committee appointments were made at the meeting.
6. Budget Transparency Committee: No report.
7. Faculty Forum Committee: Senator Stimac announced that an announcement for the 4 March Forum has been placed in the University Newsletter and on the University Calendar. Additionally, an e-mail was sent to all faculty. The Forum format will consist of a business meeting and four breakout sessions with four moderators and four recorders. Senators Snyder, Stimac, Brownson and Pommier will be the moderators and senators Murray, Sinclair, Russell and Kostelich will be the recorders. The recorders will send their reports to Senator Snyder who will then assemble a final report on the Forum. Senator Brownson compiled a bibliography related to Academic Integrity; it is now available on the Faculty Senate website. The Forum will be held 2 p.m. Tuesday 4 March in the University Union’s Grand Ballroom.
8. Awards Committee: Senator Murray announced that at this time there are no submissions for the Distinguished Faculty Award, but that several individuals have expressed interest in applying.
9. Other Reports
 - a) Provost’s Report: Provost Lord said that BOT will meet 7 March. He also commented that the Governor stated in his address that there is no new money available for higher education. Lord went on to say that EIU University will be holding discussions about security on campus. A text messaging warning system for cell phones is being put into place. One of the advantages is that far more people watch their cell phones than their e-mail. There are, however, issues to be addressed concerning cell phones in classrooms. Senator Stimac asked about the new clocks in the classroom and if there is a warning tone that can be transmitted through the clocks. Provost Lord that said he was not aware of the clock tones, but is familiar with the fire alarms that can also serve as a security system. Other possibilities include radio public address systems and a scrolling screen system for the hearing impaired. Eastern has an emergency siren but it cannot be heard in some places on campus. The campus will be notified of additional security measures that will be put into place. Senator Haile Mariam then asked the Provost if students are going to be required to purchase Turning Point

devices. Turning Point is a personal response system that can be used to elicit student feedback in the classroom. The Provost reported that no decision has been made at this time. He went on to say that it is possible that Textbook Rental may treat Turning Point as a textbook or even require a fee from students to help pay for the system. Student Senator Kostelich said that many students do not want to pay the \$55 fee for a device they may not use very often. Senator Pommier commented that it is well worth the money. Senator Curry then said that we are early on in our thinking about campus security. She went on to say that it makes her a little uneasy to think about a locked down classroom, but that security issues have to be put into place. Provost Lord said that two families called saying that the door to their son/daughter's classroom was open and that they want it closed and locked. Senator Brownson then suggested that we have a Faculty Development session on psychological distress in students.

b) Other: Senator Pommier said that 19 April is Panther Day for alumni and that it goes along with the President's initiative of service. The number of contributors to EIU has decreased but this is a national trend.

V. New Business

A. No New Business.

VII. Adjournment at 2:55 p.m.

Future Agenda Items: campus climate survey; construction updates; long-range planning; faculty handbook

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Snyder, Recorder