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Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR March 4, 2008 (Vol. XXXV, No. 38)
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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.

I. Call to order by Lynne Curry at 2:00 p.m. (University Union Grand Ballroom)

Present: A. Brownson, L. Curry, R. Fischer, A. Haile Mariam, B. Joyce, A. Kostelich, R. Marshall, A. Montleon, R. Murray, J. Pommier, J. Russell, T. Sinclair, J. Stimac, D. VanGunten, and E. Volk. Excused: J. Snyder. Guests: B. Garcia (Reporter, *Daily Eastern News*), E. Matheny (Photographer, *Daily Eastern News*), M. Hoadley (CATS), J. Johnson (CAH), K. Mook (Orientation/Student Affairs), S. Songer (International Programs), K. Kohznzo (VPSA's Office), J. Sung (Booth Library), K. McGilliard (Biological Sciences), M. Hanner (College of Sciences), P. Fewell (Secondary Education & Foundations) S. Devis (Booth Library), B. Perry (President's Office) and B. Lord (Provost/VPAA).

II. Approval of Minutes of 26 February.

Approval of the Minutes of 26 February with no corrections—Yes: Brownson, Curry, Fischer, Haile Mariam, Joyce, Marshall, Murray, Pommier, Russell, Sinclair and Stimac.
Excused: Snyder. Abstain: VanGunten.

III. Announcements

A. The Student Senate Murder Mystery Buffet Dinner is March 18 at 6 p.m.

IV. Communications

A. None.

V. Old Business

A. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee: No report.
2. Nominations Committee: No report.
3. Elections Committee: No report.
4. Faculty – Student Relations Committee: No report.
5. Faculty – Staff Relations Committee: No report.
6. Budget Transparency Committee: No report.
7. Faculty Forum Committee: No report.
8. Awards Committee: No report.
9. Other Reports
 - a) Provost's Report: No report.

V. New Business

A. Keith Kohanzo passed out the 2006 – 2007 Academic Misconduct Case summary and stated that the overall number of cases has increased each year, which is unique to Eastern Illinois University. He stated that this might be a function of more reporting by faculty or possibly catching more cases of academic misconduct using Turnitin software. Turnitin might also be attributable for the heightened number of reported cases of plagiarism. There is a perception that the Internet is free and that it has become very easy to cut and paste and

that increased laziness or procrastination by students as well as the anonymity of the Internet makes plagiarism more prominent. Sue Songer went on to state that the *University Foundations* courses discuss academic integrity and that some students suggest that cheating is easy, convenient, and that the vast majority of students have done it in high school with little if any ramifications. She encourages her students to turn in their own work, even if it is a lower quality than they would have hoped. A discussion then took place concerning the needs of a re-culturing in order that simple rights and wrongs are recognized. Popular culture appears to make cheating entertaining (e.g., videos placed on some web sites that indicate how to cheat). As part of the culture shift, ramifications need to be made for cheating and they need to be reinforced at various levels, e.g., student, faculty, staff, and administration. It was brought up that academic integrity is more than just cheating, but also includes illnesses, sickness, etc. used to get out of class, assignments or meetings. This leads to the question of integrity outside of the classroom. The sanction taken when academic misconduct occurs is left to the faculty member and the student since mitigating circumstances may be involved. Judicial Affairs recommends that academic misconduct statements be included in syllabi. It was then said that, in some rare instances, academic misconduct could result in a student being sent back to their home country. In regards to Turnitin, some departments have stated policies that their faculty place in their syllabi if they use it, while others do not. Mike Hoadley stated that it is suggested that instructors who use Turnitin do place some statement in their syllabi informing students of its use (CATS does have suggested wording). He added that submissions to Turnitin continue to be the intellectual property of the student, not the company. Students indicated that Turnitin is used in some methods courses to show how future teachers can use it in teaching. Turnitin results in better papers and lesson plans and is a valuable teaching tool. There was concern expressed that Turnitin often will identify phrases used in previous drafts as examples of plagiarism, but instructors who read the papers understand the nature of Turnitin. Another concern was that many students only use the library when they are searching for references, not for writing a paper. Many come in stating that have the paper written and that they just need references. As part of the EWP analysis of submitted works, it was found that website citations decreased for the second submission, then increased for third and again for final submission. It was pointed out that students may be unfamiliar with the subject material in the Senior Seminar classes and are therefore going to primary sources less. It was said that library staff are willing to offer classes on scholarly research and the proper way to use citation. A discussion on how to get faculty, staff, and students on the same page concerning integrity then followed. It was said that the *University Foundations* and composition courses are a good starting point. The total development, from start to finish including ethics and integrity, needs to be addressed across all disciplines. Sue Songer went on to indicate that students in *University Foundations* have reported that it is easier to cheat with some faculty more than others. In some cases, students have reported that faculty deserve it in that they do not deserve the respect of the student. In order to make the first step at changing the culture on campus, it was suggested that academic integrity be a focus at convocation and that some type of honor code or pledge be signed by entering freshman, and that faculty review academic integrity at the start of each semester on the first day. With respect to an honor code, single sanction codes were briefly discussed and it was decided that they would not work here. There was then a discussion concerning a modified honor code with a mandated syllabus statement, increased conversation concerning

academic integrity and the visibility of statements about academic integrity on our web site. It was mentioned that we have the opportunity to bring Best in Class and First Choice to the forefront. It was ultimately suggested that departments, various senates and councils and the *Daily Eastern News* be involved in discussion on this matter. Academic Integrity is directly at the crossroads of academic learning and personal growth.

VII. Adjournment at 4 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Snyder, Recorder