

1-23-2007

January 23, 2007

Faculty Senate

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Recommended Citation

Faculty Senate, "January 23, 2007" (2007). *Minutes*. 82.
https://thekeep.eiu.edu/facsen_mins/82

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR January 23, 2007 (Vol. XXXV, No. 13)
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Call to Faculty: Faculty interested in serving on the Research and Creative Activities Advisory Board should contact John Pommier (jhpommier@eiu.edu or 581-6597).

Call to Faculty: Faculty from the College of Arts and Humanities interested in serving in 2-year replacement position on the University Personnel Committee should contact John Pommier (jhpommier@eiu.edu or 581-6597).

I. Call to order by Chair Assege HaileMariam at 2:00 p.m. (Booth Library Conference Room, Room 4440)
Present: J. Ashley, L. Curry, R. Fischer, A. HaileMariam, B. Joyce, R. Marshall, R. Mazumder, J. Pommier, T. Sinclair, J. Snyder, J. Stimac, D. Van Gunten and B. Wilson. Excused: A. Brownson and J. Kilgore.
Guests: B. Lord (Provost and VPAA), M. Hanner (Dean, COS), C. Nichols (Campus Climate Survey), C. Brito (Campus Climate Survey), J. Eyer (Student Government Representative), C. Kromphardt (Student Government Representative), J. Kinsella (Reporter, *Daily Eastern News*), and A. Prellbery (Photographer, *Daily Eastern News*).

II. Approval of Minutes of 9 January.

Approval of the Minutes of 9 January (Fischer / Wilson) with correction – Yes: Ashley, Curry, Fischer, HaileMariam, Joyce, Marshall, Mazumder, Pommier, Sinclair, Stimac, Van Gunten and Wilson. Abstain: Snyder.

III. Announcements

- A. “From Myths To Reality: Teaching Culturally Responsive in Higher Education,” a Faculty Development presentation by Dr. Mildred Pearson, Director of Faculty Development, Dr. Pat Fewell, Chair of Secondary Education & Foundations, Dr. Darrel Enck-Wanzer, Communication Studies, and Dr. Suzanne Enck-Wanzer, Communication Studies, is scheduled for 30 January, from 11 AM – 12:30 PM in the Charleston-Mattoon Room of the MLK Student Union.
- B. The Faculty Forum is scheduled fro 2 – 4 PM on Tuesday, 6 February in the University Ballroom. The theme for the forum will be Promoting Academic Excellence.
- C. “Teaching Gender in General Education and Diversity Classes,” a Faculty Development presentation is scheduled for 7 February from 11 AM – 12 noon in the Effingham Room of the MLK Student Union.

IV. Communications

- A. Email of 12 January from Dr. Bob Chesnut, re: Research and Creative Activity Advisory Board. Chair HaileMariam stated that Dr. Chesnut is asking for a faculty member to serve on the Research and Creative Activity Advisory Board who is committed to Research and Creative Activities. Senator Fischer asked about the charge to the board. Chair HaileMariam replied that the charge is to encourage uniform standards or events, e.g., have something similar to ScienceFest, but across the entire campus. The board is also charged with raising awareness of Research and Creative Activities. Senator Fischer asked that interested faculty please contact Senator Pommier. Chair HaileMariam stated that the term of service will be 3 years and that the board is expected to meet two or three times per semester.
- B. Email of 12 January from Provost Lord, re: Copyright IGP.
- C. Email of 18 January from VPSA Nadler, re: Crisis/Emergency Counseling Services. Chair HaileMariam stated that VPSA Nadler’s response was a good example of various constituencies working together for a

positive change. The emergency number is now direct to a Counseling Center staff member during off hours.

- D. Email of 23 January from Jeff Melanson, Chair of the Tuition and Fee Review Committee, re: requesting faculty member to serve on the committee. Senator Pommier stated that Faculty Senate already has a faculty member appointed to that committee.

V. Old Business

A. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee: no report.
2. Nominations Committee: no report.
3. Awards Committee: Chair HaileMariam stated that the Luis Clay Mendez Award is not in the Faculty Senate Bylaws and should be considered for inclusion. Senators Curry, Pommier, Stimac, and Wilson agreed to form an *ad hoc* Bylaws Committee and review the bylaws.
4. Elections Committee: Senator Ashley said that a faculty member for a 2-year replacement position to serve on the University Personnel Committee from the College of Arts and Humanities is needed. Any interested faculty should contact John Pommier (jhpommier@eiu.edu or 581-6597).
5. Faculty – Student Relations Committee: Senator Fischer has been contacted by David Keyes with schedules when they can talk about campus safety and WebCT®. Senator Ashley asked if there was an actual problem to be addressed. Senator Wilson said that if course syllabi were not clear, that would be a problem, but that she thought 4th Street is a safety concern. Chair HaileMariam stated that the City of Charleston owns 4th Street. Senator Joyce suggested that if the group wishes to discuss improved student progress, looking at an additional hour of studying per day would, from a cost-benefit standpoint, be effective.
6. Faculty – Staff Relations Committee: no report.
7. Budget Transparency Committee: Senator Ashley reported that the VPBA Cooley reported that he is making progress getting money for a new steam plant. Progress is also being made to place the entire budget on-line, but that the conversion to the Banner System is taking precedence. Money left at the end of the fiscal year on P-Cards (purchasing cards) is also be reviewed. The FY2005 audit materials have been placed on-line and the FY2006 materials are being reviewed, but not yet available on-line.
8. Faculty Forum Committee: Senator Wilson stated that the committee is finalizing arrangements for the refreshments and has confirmed the moderators for each break-out session. Senator Wilson reminded that Senate that the Faculty Forum is scheduled for 2 – 4 PM on 6 February in the University Ballroom.
9. Other Reports
 - a) Provost's Report: Provost Lord stated that a new IGP on copyright issues has been drafted and is essentially complete. A companion website is also being developed. Jaeyeon Sung will be the institutional contact for copyright questions. Dean Hanner stated that there were no substantive changes from the recommendations presented to Faculty Senate.
 - b) Other Reports: Chair HaileMariam reported that the Presidential Search Committee has been meeting. The names of the applicants cannot, for confidentiality reasons, be revealed at this time.

V. New Business

- A. Cynthia Nichols (Director of the Office of Civil Rights and Diversity) and Caridad Brito (Psychology) presented results from the Campus Climate Survey. Their PowerPoint® presentation is found at http://www.eiu.edu/~civil/2006CampusClimatewebpostingfinal_files/frame.htm. Nichols began the report by stating the purpose of the survey was to describe the ethnic/racial campus climate at Eastern Illinois University and to survey the various groups based on race/ethnicity, gender, class standing, and perception of disability in order to provide data for policy planning and implementation at Eastern Illinois University and for the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE). The surveys began in 2001 and results are being built up so that a longitudinal database can be developed. Brito stated that the team worked with the Office of Planning and Institutional Studies. International students were not surveyed and that students did telephone interviews for the survey. Under-represented groups were over-sampled to insure adequate representation. Topics on the survey included the quality of education at Eastern Illinois University, class climate, feelings towards other students, and the overall campus climate. Questions concerning the use of “perceived disability” and “fair treatment” were asked by senators. Nichols and Brito responded that those terms were chosen such that the respondents could consider themselves a person with a disability even if

they did not have documentation. Chair HaileMariam stated that incoming students often ignore or fail to mention minor disabilities rather than officially reporting them. A question required to be asked by the IBHE concerning the diversity of viewpoints in the classroom was considered to be a difficulty question to answer. Senator Mazumder stated that diversity is difficult to address in the variety of classes offered and that diverse viewpoints in politics may not be considered diverse in biology. Senator Ashley asked if these results can be used to change policy. Nichols replied that the questions are required to be asked by the IBHE and that IBHE will use the results to encourage discussions on the topics. Overall results indicate that the students have a very positive perception of the university and that the African American perception is also positive, but less so. Students understood the value of interacting with other racial/ethnic groups, but reported that those interactions were not always happening. Outcomes of the survey will be biennial surveys beginning in the Fall of 2007, inclusion of graduate and international students, additional survey questions designed for those who indicated that would not attend Eastern Illinois University again, creation of focus groups on selected topics, use of survey results to help with student and faculty recruitment, and providing the data to the various assessment committees.

VI. Adjournment at 3:35 p.m.

Future Agenda Items: Vision for Future, Long Range Planning; Housing; Research and Sponsored Programs; Faculty Handbook.

Respectfully submitted,

John Paul Stimac