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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR March 20, 2007 (Vol. XXXV, No. 17)

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I. Call to order by Chair Assege HaileMariam at 2:00 p.m. (University Ballroom)

Present: J. Ashley, A. Brownson, L. Curry, R. Fischer, A. HaileMariam, B. Joyce, J. Kilgore, R. Marshall, R. Mazumder, J. Pommier, T. Sinclair, J. Snyder, J. Stimac, and D. Van Gunten. Excused: B. Wilson.
Guests: B. Lord (Provost and VPAA), M. A. Hanner (Dean, COS), W. Hine (Dean, SCE), L. Bulgar (Student Government), G. Lesica (Student Government), Cole Rogers (Student Government), D. Cuthbert (Student Government Representative), J. Eyer (Student Government Representative), C. Kromphardt (Student Government Representative), J. Kinsella (Reporter, *Daily Eastern News*), K. Born (*Daily Eastern News* photographer).

II. Approval of Minutes of 6 March.

Approval of the Minutes of 6 March (Sinclair / Ashley) with correction – Yes: Ashley, Brownson, Curry, HaileMariam, Joyce, Kilgore, Marshall, Mazumder, Pommier, Sinclair, Snyder, Stimac, and Van Gunten.
Abstain: Fischer.

III. Announcements

- A. The Distinguished Faculty Award Announcement is now on-line at the Faculty Senate's web site. Nominations are due by 4 p.m. on March 9, 2007.
- B. According to the news release in the DEN (2 March 2007), the on-campus interview for the three finalists for the presidency of EIU will take place during the week of March 19. The faculty and campus community are encouraged to make every effort to meet the candidates.
- C. Senator Ashley thanked Chair HaileMariam for sending the report on Athletic funding to the senators. Senator Ashley stated that he contacted the IBHE and found that only two schools in Illinois have greater funding for athletics than Eastern. Senator Fischer stated that the changes made placed a greater burden of funding athletics on the students. Senator Ashley stated that the original discussion was to identify other sources of funding for athletics. Senator Fischer stated that we should be mad at Athletics since they know how to raise money for their program. Senator Kilgore suggested we should talk about the use of appropriated money (e.g., appropriated dollars per student) then. Senator Ashley asked why McDuffie could ask Tony Romo or Sean Peyton for money before others had a chance to ask. Chair HaileMariam stated that the institution can ask anyone for contributions, and that the circumstances in Romo's and Peyton's are unusual. Senator Kilgore suggested that the question we should be looking at is whether or not we are spending more on athletics than we should be. Senator Fischer replied that other institutions get money from the students. Chair HaileMariam suggested that a discussion with Director McDuffie might be appropriate. Senator Joyce suggested that reviewing the need for athletics might be appropriate. Senator Fischer stated that he was on the review committee that prepared the report and that the charge to the committee was how to fairly fund athletics. Chair HaileMariam stated that the questions shouldn't include whether to ban athletics since the student-athletes contribute to the University. Chair HaileMariam added that the original question posed was if there were some way to fund student research. Senator Ashley stated that it wouldn't be outside the bounds of the Faculty Senate to recommend that 1 percent of the appropriated dollars be redirected to student research. Senator Kilgore suggested that it is often better to make a recommendation to investigate other sources of funding than specify a redirect of appropriated dollars. Chair HaileMariam stated that she is not sure if it would be best for Faculty Senate to make such a recommendation.

IV. Communications

- A. Memorandum of 6 March from Provost Lord, re: Achievement and Contribution Awards Selection Committee.
- B. E-mail of 11 March from Jennifer Mottar, re: Greek Week Events.
- C. Email of 13 March from Dr. Christie Roszkowski, re: CAA alternate. Senator Ashley stated that he is not sure he would be able to find a volunteer to serve on CAA for just the last three weeks of classes.
- D. Email of 13 March from Dr. Dan Nadler, VPSA, re: Student Affairs Mission Statement. Senator Mazumder

stated that “whole” should be placed in parentheses in the Student Affairs Mission Statement.

V. Old Business

A. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee: no report.
2. Nominations Committee: Senator Pommier stated that he will wait until after elections are complete to place a call to faculty.
3. Elections Committee: Senator Ashley reported that ITS will send an email out to all faculty giving detailed instructions on how to vote. Hopefully this will be another successful election. Senators Sinclair and HaileMariam volunteered to help on Monday review the results.
4. Awards Committee: Senator Brownson stated that the Distinguished Faculty Awards Committee met and had chosen the Distinguished Faculty Award recipient for 2007. Having taught history around the world, at the secondary and collegiate levels and receiving his doctorate in African history, Dr. Roger Beck is this year’s award recipient. Senator Brownson (Ashley) motion that Dr. Roger Beck be awarded the 2007 Distinguished Faculty Award. Yes: Ashley, Brownson, Curry, Fischer, HaileMariam, Joyce, Kilgore, Marshall, Mazumder, Pommier, Sinclair, Snyder, Stimac, and Van Gunten. Motion passes 14-0-0.
5. Faculty – Student Relations Committee: Senator Fischer reported that the email from Jennifer Mottar is an attempt to get faculty involved in Greek Week events. Senator Brownson stated that Greek Week is the week of 13 – 20 April. Senator Fischer added that the committee is still looking at the WebCT® question.
6. Faculty – Staff Relations Committee: no report.
7. Budget Transparency Committee: no report.
8. Faculty Forum Committee: Senator Sinclair asked if there were any comments on the letter drafted by Senator Wilson concerning the Faculty Forum. Senator Fischer suggested that a statement on having faculty representation on any publicity committees be included. Chair HaileMariam stated that the drafter letter will be going to Student Government since they co-sponsored the forum. Senator Sinclair said that he will pass comments on to Senator Wilson.
9. Other Reports
 - a) Provost’s Report: Provost Lord asked for two volunteers to serve on the ACA Committee for next year. Senators Ashley and Pommier volunteered. The Provost reported that the General Counsel’s search is progressing and that candidates should be brought to campus the first couple of weeks in April. Provost Lord added that the first floor hall outside Academic Affairs has been re-opened.
 - b) Other Reports:
 - i. Senator Brownson stated that the Great Beginnings Window Committee had received approximately 230 submissions and that the committee will begin to narrow that to 20 – 30.
 - ii. Senator Pommier stated that the Development Communication Committee met with an outside consultant concerning ideas about the new capital campaign. The committee will try to solicit donations from the nearly 17,500 non-donating alumni as well as make special appeals to the Greek community. Senator Pommier added that with respect to the report last week from Director McDuffie that the wrestling team was having difficulty with the NCAA, that he looked into it. If a wrestler leaves Eastern Illinois University prior to graduation (e.g., transfers to another school), then that hurts the program’s numbers. With so few men competing in the program, even just one or two transferring will have a detrimental effect on the NCAA rating.
 - iii. Senator Fischer reported that Dean Irwin went to the National Student Exchange meeting. Of the 12 Eastern Illinois University students making requests to study elsewhere in the country this first year of the program, 11 were granted their first choice. Eastern Illinois University will also be receiving one student from another school on campus next semester. Provost Lord added that these numbers are very impressive considering that this was the first year for the program.
 - iv. Chair HaileMariam asked for two volunteers to serve on the Student Success Center Committee. Senator HaileMariam and Pommier volunteered to serve on the committee.

V. New Business

A. Levi Bulgar, George Lesica, and Cole Rogers, Student Government, on Recognized Student Organizations (RSOs) funding. Rogers presented a brief report on the status of the research that has been done with respect to funding RSOs. The potential for funding RSOs would be greater school spirit, diversity, increased educational opportunities outside the classroom, and potentially increased student recruitment. Challenges associated with RSO funding included legal liability, misuse of funds by students, increased student fees, and not all RSO might be funded equally. Research that has been conducted thus far included looking at peer institutions, talking with the administration, and surveying students. Student government had five focus groups and surveyed approximately 400 students, of which 88 percent were in favor of an additional student fee to fund RSOs. In response to a question from Senator Ashley, Rogers stated that there are about 150 RSOs now. Senator Kilgore stated that he thought funding RSOs is a good idea, but did mention he was a little biased, being the adviser for the rugby club. Chair HaileMariam asked why the Apportionment Board isn't funding the RSOs. Rogers stated that is one possibility. Senator Pommier asked about how students who responded in the survey thought a fee should work. Rogers replied that 12 percent thought no additional fee was needed, 13 percent thought a fee of \$5 - \$10 would be acceptable, and 76 percent thought a fee of less than \$5 would be acceptable. C. Kromphardt asked how students were surveyed. Rogers replied that the survey was sent to the 400 students and that the focus groups were done with peer institutions. Rogers asked if the senate had any concerns. Chair HaileMariam stated that the Faculty Senate had no concerns right now, but that they should survey the students more and ask if they wanted additional student fees. Chair HaileMariam thanked the Student Government members for their presentation.

VI. Adjournment at 2:55 p.m.

Future Agenda Items: Construction Updates; Athletics; Research and Sponsored Programs, Faculty Retirement Reception, EWP Survey Results; Family Friendly Campus Initiative; Faculty Handbook.

Respectfully submitted,

John Paul Stimac