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Faculty Senate

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**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR October 14, 2003 (Vol. XXXII, No. 8)**

The 2003-2004 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 3556 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 Chair David Carpenter at 2:00 p.m.** (Library Conference Room, Booth Library)

Present: J. Allison, R. Benedict, D. Carpenter, D. Carwell, L. Comerford, R. Fischer, B. Lawrence, M. Monipallil, W. Ogbomo, J. Pommier, S. Scher, J. Stimac, J. Wolski. Guests: Blair Lord, R. Augustine, J. Owen, W. Hine, L. Hyder, S. Miller, M. Walsh, J. Hohenadel, T. Martin, K. Henderson, K. Donash, A. Sartore, N Zegler.

**II. Approval of the Minutes of October 7, 2003:**

Motion (Wolski/Fischer) to approve Minutes of October 7 with the following corrections: In IV. D. to replace "the Board's" with "in the Board's" and in Future Agenda Items, "Luis-clay" with "Luis-Clay." Yes: Carwell, Fischer Lawrence, Ogbomo, Pommier, Scher, Stimac, Wolski, Allison, Benedict, Comerford, Carpenter. Passed.

**III. Election of Recorder:**

Motion (Ogbomo/Pommier) to elect J. Allison as Recorder: Wolski, Stimac, Scher, Pommier, Ogbomo, Monipallil, Lawrence, Fischer, Comerford, Carwell Benedict, Carpenter. Passed.

**IV. Communications:**

Vice-Chair Lawrence explained the Senate's *By-Laws* regarding the replacement of vacated Senate positions. Senators agreed that she should proceed to replace the Senate's vacated positions in accordance with *By-Laws* and past practice.

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**Resolution to Honor Johnetta Jones (Scher/Benedict)**

**Whereas Johnetta Jones was an outstanding member of the Eastern Illinois University Community for over 25 years,**

**Whereas Ms. Jones provided invaluable leadership and friendship to students, faculty, and staff of Eastern Illinois University,**

**Whereas through her service as Director of Minority Affairs, as Director of the Gateway Program, as former Director of the African-American Studies program, and as an active citizen of the EIU and greater community Ms. Jones did much to advance diversity and quality of life for our community, And whereas Johnetta Jones touched the lives of all those she met at EIU and beyond,**

**Be it resolved, that the Faculty Senate of Eastern Illinois University hereby honors the life and legacy of Johnetta Jones, mourns her passing, and will hold her in our hearts and memories.**

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The resolution passed unanimously.

**V. Old Business:**

**A. Motion (Ogbomo/Wolski) to approve proposed change of summer schedule for 2004.**

Yes: Wolski, Ogbomo, Monipallil, Benedict; No: Stimac, Fischer, Comerford; Abstain: Allison, Carwell, Lawrence, Pommier, Scher, Carpenter. Passed.

A number of Senate members expressed reluctance to vote for the change before hearing an explicit explanation from W. Weber about plans to protect academic programs and internships from adverse effects. Senators Fischer and Comerford voiced concern about compressing the eight-week session into a six-week one, and both Senators also objected to allowing the needs of the Physical Plant and ITS to drive decisions about academic scheduling. Ogbomo noted that the 2004 date for the change is not set in stone and that the change will be judged by the results it produces. Pommier noted the six weeks of paid vacation many administrators take during the summer while many faculty continue to work without pay. Student Senate member Nancy Zegler said six-week sessions would benefit students who prefer classes that are neither too short( 4 weeks) nor too long (8 weeks).

**B. Motion (Scher/Monipallil): that the Senate approve the recommendation of the Parking Committee to allow faculty, staff, and administrators willing to pay \$150.00 to "buy" reserved parking spaces near Blair Hall.**

Yes: Comerford, Fischer, Lawrence, Monipallil, Pommier, Scher, Wolski, Allison Carpenter; No: Wolski, Ogbomo, Benedict, Carwell. Passed

Carwell objected to the recommendation, calling it "fascist and elitist." Scher and others asked how the proposal originated. Carpenter explained that when it was suggested that the spaces be allocated for reserved administrative parking (administrators now pay \$125.00 for reserved spaces), some staff members also wanted eligibility for the spaces. It was then decided to offer the spaces to employees willing to pay \$150.00. Allison asked, tongue in cheek, if he could displace a bidder by offering \$160.00. Laughter ensued. Scher noted that he voted in favor of the motion only because the decision was a foregone conclusion, and Lawrence noted that she voted in favor of the motion in light of the IBHE's interest in generating revenue.

#### **VI. New Business:**

- A. R. Augustine, who was accompanied by other members of the Eastern's North Central Accreditation team, asked the Senate to draft a report addressing the Senate's role in addressing relevant topics related to the NCA review: contribution to Eastern's mission, planning, learning, and communication. In response to questions, he stated that he would like to receive the report during spring semester. He intends to forward the full NCA report for the Senate's review by the end of next fall semester. After some discussion of formatting (Carpenter) and scope (Pommier), Carpenter appointed the following volunteers to a drafting committee: Lawrence, Carpenter, Wolski, Benedict.
- B. IBHE Report from Les Hyder: Dr. Hyder reported that the Board of Higher Education expects Illinois public universities to increase productivity and quality while receiving less financial support. He noted that one Board member said it is not the role of the IBHE to be a "cheerleader" for the universities. Scher, Fischer, and others asked what the IBHE means by "productivity." Fischer distinguished between the nature of corporations and universities, which are not profit driven. Hyder stated that he did not know the exact criteria for "productivity" the IBHE has in mind. However, he said IBHE members had mentioned such steps as review of mission statements, avoidance of duplicative programs, and a centralized control by the IBHE. In discussing how the university in general and the Senate in particular ought to respond, Senators attempted to gauge the extent to which the IBHE and state government might react to responses of various sorts. Some Senators were concerned that, since higher education has always been a politically expedient target, the IBHE will be unresponsive to the needs of universities and the diminution in quality and productivity resulting from further cuts in funding for universities. A number of Senators stressed the importance marshalling the best case possible for the value of higher education -- to communicate in new ways with both the IBHE and citizens. Hyder expressed his sense that the IBHE believes their position to be a "no lose" one since they believe most Illinois citizens believe higher education and faculty are unproductive. He believes another 5% cut may be mandated by January. Chair Carpenter urged Senate members to read Paige Smith's Killing the Spirit as an informative source for faculty to understand a push to relegate all but the most prestigious research universities to the role of teacher colleges and community colleges in which the link between research and active learning plays no role. Fischer noted that teaching results from learning, and he emphasized the life-long benefits for students who have participated in undergraduate research with faculty mentors. Among recommendations for response suggested by Senators are these: communicate more effectively with the IBHE and the public by inviting members of the IBHE and government to visit Eastern and to "follow" the work lives of faculty members; document our accomplishments; explain the cost of not being able to accept as many students and to prepare as many students to contribute to the state's economic prosperity; to gather data from Faculty Activity Forms and to generate the sort of statistical information to which government and the IBHE might respond.

**Adjournment: The Senate adjourned at 3:47 P.M.**

#### **Future Agenda Items:**

Activities of Enrollment Management, Distributions of Scholarships and Awards, Commencement Committee, Academic/Faculty Advising, Evaluation of Administrators, Faculty Representation on the Board of Trustees, Facilities Naming Procedures, Shared Governance for Academic Technologies, Community Service Programs and Opportunities, EIU Foundation, Faculty Participation in Fund-Raising Priorities, Instructors with Bare Bachelors, Vote of No Confidence in Board of Trustees, Service Award in Name of Luis Clay Mendez.  
Respectfully submitted,

John Allison