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Minutes

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Faculty Senate

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Nominations and supporting materials for the Distinguished Faculty Award are due at Senator Steve Scher's office (3143 Physical Sciences) by 4:00 p.m. on February 20, 2004. Nomination forms are available through the CAA and Faculty Senate's web sites and Academic Affairs. Nominees must be in at least their fourth year of full-time employment at Eastern. Nominations of faculty from last year are still considered active, although files can be updated. If you have questions, call Steve Scher at 581-7269.

All faculty are urged to complete the survey for the North Central Association accreditation process.

Faculty members interested in serving as the Senate's appointee on the Development Communication Committee (related to fundraising initiatives and activities) should notify Chair David Carpenter or any other Senate member as soon as possible. The Committee meets the third Thursday of every month at 8:30 a.m. in the Neal Welcome Center.

I. Call to order by Chair David Carpenter at 2:00 p.m. (Library Conference Room, Booth Library):

Present: J. Allison, R. Benedict, A. Brownson, D. Carpenter, D. Carwell, L. Comerford, B. Fischer, B. Lawrence, A. Haile Mariam, M. Monipallil, W. Ogbomo, J. Pommier, S. Scher, J. Stimac, J. Wolski. Guests: Blair Lord, Herbert Lasky, Gary Aylesworth, Ali Moshtagh, James Tidwell, Gail Richard, Betty Ralston, Brenda Winkeler, Jone Zieren, Stephen Ballard, Charles Delman, Kyle Donash, Amanda Sartore, Kevin Sampier, Brian Nielsen.

II. Approval of the Minutes of January 20, 2004: Motion (Scher/Comerford) to approve with the following correction under V.B: In the sentence "He [Bill Davidson] stressed that faculty participation would be involuntary," the word "involuntary" should be "voluntary." Yes: Benedict, Brownson, Carwell, Comerford, Haile Mariam, Monipallil, Pommier, Scher, Stimac, Wolski, Allison, Carpenter. Abstain: Lawrence, Ogbomo. Motion passed.

III. Communications:

- A. Jill Nilsen (1/20): E-mail including the following communication: "Senator Allison asked how to increase faculty involvement in establishing fundraising goals. Although the Development Communication Committee does not set goals, it does discuss fundraising issues. I would like to request that Faculty Senate consider appointing a faculty representative to this committee." Carpenter suggested appointing Allison since Allison had initiated the opportunity. When Senator Pommier expressed interest in serving, Allison yielded to Pommier's request. However, Pommier and other senators then agreed by consensus to invite all faculty members interested in serving to notify the Senate.
- B. Minutes (12/12/03): Council on University Planning and Budget
- C. Amanda Sartore (1/27): E-mail stating that Nikki Kull and Nancy Zegler will no longer be the student representatives on faculty Senate. Kyle Donash will serve as a replacement, and a second replacement will soon be announced.
- D. Judy Gorell (1/26): E-mail announcing that the President's ad hoc committee on productivity and budget issues will meet Thursday, January 29 at 4:00 p.m. in the President's Conference Room. The Senate's Executive Committee (Carpenter, Lawrence, Allison) regularly attend.
- E. Chair Carpenter asked if Senate members would like the Senate's Executive Committee to meet with the CUPB Executive Committee to discuss the Senate's resolution concerning the size and membership of

CUPB. Carpenter will arrange a meeting.

IV. Old Business:

A. Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: Chair Carpenter reported on the CUPB meeting of December 23. External Relations has developed a new focus statement, and other vice-presidential areas are continuing to revise focus statements. On February 19, the Student Action Team and External Relations members will visit Springfield to meet with legislators. Interested faculty members are welcome to participate. At CUPB, Gail Richards presented an Athletic Task Force Report. She agreed to send copies to Senators upon request.

Nominations Committee: Senator Scher introduced three motions related to faculty awards.

Motion (Scher/Benedict) to approve the procedure of determining the Luis Clay Mendez Distinguished Faculty Award during the fall and conferring the award at winter commencements. The motion passed unanimously. Motion (Scher/Fischer) that chairs be eligible for the Distinguished Faculty Award. After a brief discussion of the importance of chairs' contributions to teaching, research, and service, the motion passed unanimously. Next Scher asked the Senate to approve a similar motion regarding the Luis Clay Mendez Distinguished Service Award. **Motion (Scher/Fischer) that chairs be eligible for the Luis Clay Mendez Service Award.** Carwell asked what Professor Mendez thought of chairs. Carpenter stated that Professor Mendez did not judge people by position, but by character. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Elections Committee: **Senator Lawrence asked Senators to approve a previous motion (Lawrence/Allison) regarding the Senate's Bylaws concerning the Council on Faculty Research (see Minutes of December 9). After nonsubstantive propositional adjustments, the motion passed unanimously.**

Other Reports: Athletic Task Force's Recommendations: Professor Gail Richard conducted a power-point presentation regarding the charge, procedures, and recommendations of the Task Force. President Hencken charged the group to explore the feasibility of reducing appropriated funds (state funding and students' tuition) allocated to athletics over a three to five year period.. After explaining that members of the Task Force were chosen based on their experience in issues and on groups related to athletics and explaining Eastern's cost-ratio for athletics relative to costs at like institutions nationally and in state, Richard highlighted the groups' reasons for maintaining the "status quo" for appropriated dollars and increasing student fees. She stated that the Task Force believes the alternative -- reducing or eliminating appropriated dollars and further increasing student fees -- would jeopardize Eastern's current athletic programs. A number of Senators voiced concern about further increasing student fees for already financially hard-pressed students who are not athletes to fund additional scholarships to students who happen to be athletes. Senator Ogbomo characterized the recommendations as "robbing Peter to pay Paul." Richard advocated the campus-wide benefits derived from a strong athletic program and athletic facilities. A number of senators questioned whether the cost of remaining in the Ohio Valley Conference is justified, especially in light of the state's financial condition and continuing cuts to academic programs at Eastern. Pommier asked if Eastern is really doing its best to keep costs down. At this point (at the conclusion of the meeting -- 4:10) the recorder (Allison) said that he had to leave to attend other obligations and that he would appreciate a continuation of the discussion at the next Senate meeting. Senate members agreed to continue discussion and invite Gail Richard and all interested parties to attend a future Senate meeting.

B. Discussion of Honors Council:

This discussion resulted from a difference between the Faculty Senate and the Council on Academic Affairs concerning the means by which members of the Honors Council are determined. Last year the Senate recommended elections by colleges; the CAA advocated the current method of appointments. Professor Tidwell explained CAA's rationale. CAA has been the "overseeing body" for Honors since 1981. The CAA, which is a faculty elected body, recommends members of the Honors Council before candidates are installed on the Council. Tidwell noted that procedures for determining membership of similar councils vary -- that each council varies in its procedures and functions.

Senator Scher compared the Council to the Council on Graduate Studies, which is widely

representative, and Senator Lawrence stressed that there is a difference between a program and a college. Senator Monipallil explained that, once the program became a college, the Senate saw the Council as an advocacy group that would benefit from wide representation. He expressed reservations about an appointment process that may place too much power to appoint in the hands of a new dean. Lawrence was concerned about a perception on campus that the Council is not working well as a committee.

Allison asked about what problem needed to be fixed and whether the Council might be weakened if it were opened to a process that could place opponents of Honors on the Honors Council. He was concerned about initiating a change that would convert the Council to a political body -- a "debating society." Fischer agreed that there seemed to be no problem requiring a change. He also referred to the Senate's *Constitution*, which confers responsibility for academic programs and curricula on CAA.

Carwell suggested converting the Council into a curriculum committee. Tidwell responded that courses are generated from the other colleges, not from the Honors College.

Ogbomo wondered who would ultimately resolve the conflict between CAA and the Senate. Chair Carpenter stated that the Provost would do so.

C. Academic Technology Advisory Committee (ATAC):

Professor Tidwell stated that ATAC is continuing reorganization. The main task of the Committee is to determine how to distribute approximately \$800,000 of student fees for technology. About \$300,000 a year funds department proposals for improving technologies. Money also is used to support a cycle of computer replacement. The group has discussed a UNI print system whereby the university rather than departments would fund expenses for printers and printer-related supplies and equipment. Such an arrangement would significantly reduce expenses to departments.

Adjournment: 4:10 p.m.

Future Agenda Items:

Activities of Enrollment Management, Academic/Faculty Advising, Evaluation of Administrators, Faculty Representation on the Board of Trustees, Shared Governance for Academic Technologies, Community Service Programs and Opportunities, Faculty Forum, Athletics Costs and Budgeting.

Respectfully submitted,

John Allison