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Faculty Senate

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**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR February 10, 2004 (Vol. XXXII, No. 20)**

The 2003-2004 Faculty Senate minutes and other information are available on the Web at [www.eiu.edu/~FacSen](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.

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**The Faculty Senate will provide a Faculty Forum from 2:00-4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 24, in the Grand Ballroom. The Forum will focus on the following topic and subtopics: "Building a Learning Community for EIU: Scholarship at EIU; EIU and Charleston -- Building on Strengths for Quality of Life; International Programs and Life at EIU." All faculty and other members of the campus community are invited to attend.**

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**The Faculty Senate requests nominations from Booth Library faculty interested in standing for election to the Council on Faculty Research. A nomination-petition form with instructions is attached to these Minutes.**

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**An International Tea focusing on China will be held from 2:00-4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, in the Charleston-Mattoon Room of the MLK Union. Faculty Senate members will attend, and all members of the campus community are invited.**

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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.**

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

**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, L. Comerford, B. Lawrence, A. Haile Mariam, W. Ogbomo, J. Pommier, S. Scher, J. Stimac, J. Wolski.  
Excused: B. Fischer, M. Monipallil. Guests: Blair Lord, Betty Ralston, Keila Lacy, Kyle Donash, Kevin Sampier.

**II. Approval of the Minutes of February 3, 2004: Motion (Brownson/Wolski) to approve.** Allison recognized the need for the following corrections: Under "Old Business" (V. C.), Charles Delman's question about Division I membership should read as follows: "Charles Delman asked if it might be more cost effective for EIU to be in Division II or III. Richard stated that Divisions II and III actually require more appropriated dollars." Also in the discussion, Senator Fischer's statement about numbers of student athletes should read: "Senator Fischer noted that 540-650 of our students are student athletes." **Passed unanimously.**

### **III. Announcements:**

- A. Carpenter: Dean Robert Augustine will introduce the "International Programs and Life at EIU" topic at the Faculty Forum.
- B. Provost Lord provided an update concerning the searches within Academic Affairs, the recent IBHE meeting in Chicago, and the activities of ATAC. Four searches are now ongoing or about to be ongoing: Director of Admissions, Director of Minority Affairs, Dean of Honors College, Director of Research. All of these are national searches. The IBHE has recommended "flat" budgets (neither cuts nor increases) for the twelve universities. At the meeting there was also discussion about the nature and implications of the recent ethics legislation. This legislation presents logistical challenges. For example, Lord indicated that it takes at least one-half hour a week to record activities in fifteen-minute increments. University presidents, in consultation with attorneys, will determine how to comply with the legislative guidelines, which must be met by March 4. Senator Haile Mariam stated that, when she lived in Michigan, the Michigan public schools were subject to incremental reporting. When consultants were called in to assess the reportage, they could make nothing of it. The system collapsed beneath its own cumbersome complexity. Lord reported that ATAC (Academic Technology Advisory Committee) is, among other activities, assessing needs for classroom software upgrades. In response to questions from Senator Scher, Lord stated that officials continue to affirm money will be forthcoming for Doudna renovations. However, so much time has elapsed that contracts will have to be bid all over again. Once the project begins, completion will take about three years.

### **IV. Communications:**

- A. Newton Key (2/3): E-mail regarding ATAC. Key was especially concerned about funding for "new department proposals." Key ends the communication by writing, "Tidwell's statement suggests ATAC is receiving dept. proposals for installing new multimedia systems, but I fear that this is not, at the moment, the case." Lord reported that an ATAC subcommittee headed by Alan Baharlou decided to "re-think soliciting additional new proposals." There is currently equipment "ready to die in various classrooms." For this year the subcommittee recommended "upgrading or replacing classroom media" and to continue working on "a couple of labs." The subcommittee does continue to discuss additional solicitation of proposals from around campus.
- B. Andrew Methven (2/9): Memorandum informing the Senate about CAA's plans to adjust its election process according to "bylaws that were approved Spring Semester 2003." He outlined the resulting proposal approved on January 22, 2004 and invited the Faculty Senate to invite "one or more" CAA members to explain the proposal.

### **V. Old Business:**

- A. Committee Reports
  - Executive Committee: Chair Carpenter reported on a meeting between the Senate's and CUPB's executive committees on Friday, February 6. The group discussed the size of CUPB, which now includes thirty-seven members, not including ex-officio members. Carpenter assured CUPB members that the Senate is not interested in a "power grab." At the meeting, he suggested a membership of seventeen members whose constituencies would be determined by CUPB, not the Senate. The CUPB executive members decided to invite President Hencken to meet with them and express his wishes concerning the size of CUPB.
  - Elections Committee: Senator Lawrence referred to a memo from Provost Lord indicating the need for a new member of CFR to be elected by faculty within Booth Library. She recommended using a mailed-ballot approach, and she asked that these Minutes include the necessary petition form as an attachment. Senators then discussed the timing for general faculty elections.
  - A motion (Lawrence/Benedict) to hold the general faculty elections on March 31 and April 1 passed unanimously.**
- A. Discussion of Faculty Forum
  - Carpenter invited Senators to suggest introductory speakers and steering people to serve on subgroups at the Faculty Forum. Concerning "Scholarship at EIU," a number of Senators suggested appropriate faculty members for Carpenter to approach. With regard to "Building on Strengths for Quality of Life in Charleston," student member Kyle Donash and Senator Benedict expressed willingness to serve. As noted under "Announcements," Dean Augustine has expressed

willingness to introduce "International Programs and Life at EIU."

B. Discussion of Athletics Funding

Senator Stimac explained that in the *Catalog*, description of 00 courses in Physical Education allows students who are on the intercollegiate teams to take 00 courses up to eight times (four times graded, and applied to their cumulative GPA). Some faculty members had asked Stimac why the athletic program has such courses and why other departments aren't accorded similar courses just for their majors. Athletics students Stimac spoke with indicated that the 00 courses serve students who have, say, 11 hours who need a bump up to 12 hours and students who need a boost in the GPA as well. Faculty from other majors and programs told Stimac that their majors are also difficult and wondered why students within other majors couldn't be accorded such courses as well. Stimac then asked Provost Lord to provide an explanation to Senate members that Lord had earlier provided for Stimac. Lord stated that all departments offer independent study courses, a point Senator Scher also stressed. The courses in Physical Education are "pretty much analogous to participation courses" in other majors. Senator Pommier asked why as many as four courses can be counted. When he was a student athlete, only one course could be counted, and that during the freshman year. Student member Kyle Donash stated that non-athletes can count only one course in the GPA, not four. At this point, Ms. Betty Ralston stated that it is intended to phase out some of the 00 courses, especially since instructors are no longer compensated for them. The courses were originally created not to make life easier for students but to acknowledge that many coaches were also instructors. She distributed a handout showing that far fewer athletes take the courses than one might think. The four-course limit was intended to discourage students from running up an excessive number of such courses. Senator Lawrence said she would like students to be encouraged to take more academic courses than experience courses whatever the major.

Senator Scher asked if the Senate wanted to take a position on the report regarding athletics funding. Carpenter asked Senators whether or not they wished to do so. Senator Ogbomo stressed that, if the university intends to support athletics, the money has to come from somewhere. He did not think formulating a Senate position would be productive since the Task Force had done its job. Carpenter suggested waiting until the President takes a position and asking the President to share the decision with the Faculty Senate before presenting a position to the Board of Trustees. Lawrence conveyed the "outrage" many of her colleagues expressed about talk of increasing support for sports at a time when other areas face hardships and cuts. Senator Comerford reminded Senators that new money for sports would come from student fees, not tuition. Allison suggested that members of the Senate's Executive Committee discuss the matter with the President and report the President's views to the Senate. The Senate could then determine whether to pursue the topic further. Since no Executive Committee meeting was currently scheduled (because of a preoccupation with the President's Ad Hoc Budget Committee), Carpenter agreed to try to schedule one.

C. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

In the course of considerable discussion, Senators decided to continue Evaluation of Administrators, Academic Advising, and Faculty Membership on the Board of Trustees. In the course of discussion, Senator Pommier stated that by now Eastern should have a web-based system to avoid needless errors in advising students about their degree programs. Senator Scher referred to the "Switch" program. Pommier stated that the program doesn't catch all the problems and exceptions. Stimac spoke about Advise One improvements. Provost Lord stated that Pommier's concern was related to a kind of "degree audit system" that would prevent errors in students' progress toward degree completion. Lord noted that both approaches -- the one Stimac described and the one Pommier advocated -- are important components currently on the "radar screen" to improve advisement. Senator Benedict wondered if Evaluation of Administrators had been a Senate issue and asked what the practical aims of discussing the subject might be. Allison recalled the Senate's discussion about the issue some years ago and emphasized the role the Senate played in contributing to a process of administrative evaluations. He stated that it would be useful to find out about current practices for administrative evaluation and to find out if practices remain in place or have been changed. Before the meeting ended, both Scher and Allison advocated continuing efforts to provide a faculty position on the Board of Trustees. Senator Lawrence and others noted a possible conflict of interest resulting from a faculty employee member on the Board. Lawrence also stated that members of the Senate of Senates are divided in their opinions about faculty on the Boards. Scher stressed the importance of shared governance and the differences between a university community and a business corporation, and he also said that a faculty member could recuse himself or herself if a conflict of interest arises. Allison recalled the Senate's efforts to secure a faculty position nearly ten years ago when the current Boards replaced the Board of Governors and included student membership. He suggested that members of the Executive

Committee inquire about the views of the President and Board members. With the additional information, the Senate could better determine how to proceed and whether or not to contact appropriate people in state government.

**Adjournment: 3:40 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.

Respectfully submitted,

John Allison