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Minutes

Faculty Senate

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### January 8, 2002

Faculty Senate

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## **FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR JANUARY 8, 2002 (Vol. XXXI, No. 14)**

The Faculty Senate agenda is posted weekly on the Web, at 1162 Life Science Building, and at 2504 Buzzard Hall.

### **I. Call to order by Bud Fischer at 2:03 p.m. (Conference Room, 2540 Buzzard Building)**

Present: R. Benedict, J. Best, D. Brandt, G. Canivez, D. Carpenter, D. Carwell, L. Clay Mendez, J. Dilworth, R. Fischer, M. Monippallil, J. Pommier, S. Scher, J. Tidwell, B. Young, A. Zahlan. Guests: J. Fetty, R. Deedrick, D. Fernandez, B. Lord.

### **II. Approval of the minutes of December 4, 2001.**

#### **Motion (Dilworth/Clay Mendez) to approve the minutes of December 4, 2001.**

**Yes:** Best, Brandt, Canivez, Carwell, Clay Mendez, Fischer, Scher, Young, Zahlan. **Abstain:** Carpenter, Monippallil. **Passed.**

### **III. Communications**

- A. Recommendation from CAA on participation in the Commencement Ceremony.
- B. Request from Julie Dietz that we change the word "graduation" to "commencement" on our recommendation regarding exceptionality and summer commencement.
- C. Fiscal Year 2003 budget request spreadsheet.
- D. Email from Bonnie Irwin regarding the spring forum on faculty development.
- E. A telephone call from Jone Zieren requesting that we appoint a person to serve on the search committee for a new associate director of financial aid. The position is now on hold.
- F. Minutes from the Library Advisory Board's November 14, 2001 meeting.
- G. Response from Curt White, ISU Faculty Senate Chair, regarding the next meeting of University Faculty Senate Chairs on February 13th and the position papers on funding and faculty on boards of trustees.
  - Zahlan: The faculty members on the boards of trustees need to be voting members.
  - Tidwell: They are going to lobby the legislature to make it a statutory requirement.
- H. Minutes of the Presidential Search Committee's meeting on December 3, 2001.
- I. Email from Andy Methven regarding program changes.
- J. Proposed CUPB Bylaws.
  - Fischer: Please look at Article IV.
- K. Minutes of the CASL meeting.
- L. Memo from Lou Hencken requesting the Faculty Senate's input on a proposed change in date of the Fall 2002 Commencement Ceremony from December 21 to December 14.

### **IV. Old Business**

#### **A. Committees**

**1. Executive Committee:** Fischer: I would like to welcome David Carpenter and Matthew Monippallil to Faculty Senate. The executive committee met with the President last Friday. He advised us of the status of campus projects. The library is not open because the stairway at the South entrance had to be redesigned. Scher: Why couldn't they open the North entrance? B. Lord: The finishing order of the project is from the South end to the North end of the building. There is still quite a bit of work to do at the North end. The change that was made to the design was that two stairways separated by a wall were opened up to a single wide stairway. The change order took six months to go through the state. Fischer: Reed and I walked through last Friday and we recommended that the library not be opened until it is complete. Clay Mendez: Can the temporary chain link fences be removed? It is really an inconvenience. B. Lord: That property is not under the control of the University at this time. It will be under negotiation how that is moved. Scher: Are there any events planned to celebrate the opening of the library? B. Lord: Yes. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony and the library staff is also planning something. Fischer: The chilled water loop is completed on one side of Coleman Hall and they are working on the other side. The Food Court will be open soon. Benedict: This is going to be a great facility. There is seating that has internet connections available. Scher: Who will be operating Panther Grill? Fischer: Food Service. Fischer: President Hencken has responded to the state budget reductions. His response was that we are on a bare bones budget to begin with and further reductions would sacrifice quality and affordability. There will be no cuts in the staff. Some of our reductions will come from savings in utilities and sick leave pay-outs for retirements. A hold has been placed on the equipment budget and deferred maintenance. Pommier: What about ATAC grant equipment? Fischer: That is different money. Pommier: What about searches? B. Lord: The current reduction is for Fiscal Year 2002. Most of the current searches are for appointments beginning in Fiscal Year 2003. I am having academic units continue their searches. The problem is in whether these reductions are adjustments to the base budget. At this time we are moving forward. Fischer: This includes all searches.

Tidwell: It was rather harsh for the student workers that were to be employed to help with the move into the library when the move didn't take place over break. Fischer: The University stepped up and hired the students to do other things when the moving contractor couldn't hire them over break. Only four or five of those students took advantage of the University's offer. Scher: Somebody withheld information from the students. It is inexcusable for that to happen. Benedict: Lou Hencken tried to accommodate everyone as best as he could. Dilworth: The ad was very clear that employment was contingent on the library being in condition to move in. Scher: Someone should have let these students know that it wasn't ready. B. Lord: The first that I knew that they would not be hired was when I received a copy of the email from CDB to the students telling them. Zahlan: In December, you did say it was premature to say our next meeting would be in the library.

**2. Nominations:** Canivez: No report.

**3. Elections:** Benedict: We need to discuss dates for elections. Fischer: I would like to hold them before Spring Break.

**4. Student-Faculty Relations:** Benedict: No report.

**5. Faculty-Staff Relations:** Young: No report.

**6. Search Committees:**

**a. University President Search Committee:** Fischer: Read the profile. It will be posted on our web site. We approved an evaluation form. Zahlan: Will the financial problems affect the Dean searches? Fischer: No.

**b. AVPAA for Technology:** Tidwell: We meet on Friday.

**c. Deans:** B. Lord: The search committees for COS and LCBAS have begun reviewing applications. There are about twenty-five complete applications for the LCBAS position and about seventeen for the COS position. There are also a number of partially complete applications. Now, CEPS is in need of a dean and the process is getting underway. Carpenter: Why are there seven to nine members rather than ten? B. Lord: The IGP states that.

Carpenter: I read that the Presidential Search Committee is breaking into groups to evaluate the references offered by the candidates. When will references not offered by the candidates be checked? Fischer: When we get to the point of inviting candidates to campus, other references will be checked.

## V. New Business

**A. Recommendation regarding Fall 2002 Commencement date:** Fischer: We need to make a recommendation to the President regarding the date of commencement for Fall 2002. Dilworth: We set the policy, so we should stick to it. B. Lord: The problem of commencement occurring that close to Christmas will recur on a rotating basis. Carwell: I feel commencement should follow final exams. Benedict: Donna, what do you think? D. Fernandez: I spoke to several students that said they like commencement to follow finals. Some others felt the other way. Personally, I like commencement before finals, so I can leave as soon as my finals are done. Scher: Students can't celebrate with parents when they have a pending final exam. Carpenter: How is this a religious issue? Dilworth: We are talking about moving the date of commencement because of Christmas. Scher: A practicing person of Jewish faith could not attend any of our commencements because they are always held on Saturday.

**Motion (Carwell/Dilworth): Recommend that the President maintain the current policy regarding the selection of the date of Fall Commencement 2002. Yes:** Brandt, Carpenter, Carwell, Dilworth, Dilworth, Fischer, Pommier, Scher, Tidwell. **No:** Benedict, Clay Mendez, Monippallil. **Abstain:** Best, Canivez, Zahlan. **Passed.**

## Return to Old Business

**B. Spring Forum:** Fischer: I want to start discussions on what questions we should put under the general topics we have listed: Zahlan: I am somewhat uncomfortable with this because it looks geared toward creation of another bureaucracy. Scher: I think we should step back and ask what faculty development is. Then we should have three sessions on what is faculty development for teaching, what is faculty development for research, and what is faculty development for service. Fischer: We need someone to be in charge of faculty development. Carpenter: We have had in title, but not substantively. Zahlan: It just looks like more little things we have to do. Best: If we have

something we are going to call faculty development and no one agrees on what it is, does that mean it does not exist? Zahlan: Lack of uniformity does not imply a lack of need. Benedict: How can we carry out faculty development under the constraints of Eastern? Fischer: To this point, its been this nebulous thing that is done in some colleges, but not in others. What can we do to structure this? Zahlan: We all do have different needs. My development occurs when I go off campus. I would like to suggest another breakout session with faculty cooperation for faculty development. Benedict: What about our senior faculty? How do we keep them going? Zahlan: We need to decide what can be done with money and then ask for it. There are different kinds of productivity. Clay Mendez: I am a little disheartened by the linkage between faculty development and money. There are many ways I have developed without the University putting in money. Tidwell: If it does involve money, it's important, and we decide to do it, we need to go find the money. Fischer: We need to organize, rather than have nebulous little pockets so we can do things better.

**C. Spring discussion topics:** Fischer: We will invite Jill Nielsen, the Foundation, Legislators, and Bob Augustine to come and talk to us. Anyone else we should invite?

**D. Faculty retention:** Fischer: By faculty retention, I not only mean keeping them on campus, but also keeping them in the community. The fraction of faculty living in the community is decreasing. What is the reason? Zahlan: Lack of grocery stores. Carpenter: Property taxes are high. Scher: As one who doesn't live here but once did, this is an unpleasant community to live in. Faculty members need to participate in government. The community needs to attract other businesses. Pommier: Eastern can be a political voice and tell the local government what we need. Carwell: No one will listen to you if you don't vote. Zahlan: Maybe we can ask some city government folks to come and talk to us. Carpenter: What is the goal? Monippallil: We live in a set of concentric circles of communities. Our smallest circles are our departments. The departments are within a larger circle, the campus. What types of activities will help build communities? Scher: Family employment and schools are reasons for many faculty members to live outside of Charleston. Monippallil: Is faculty retention a major problem or not? If it is, then I think we should work on developing our University community. Benedict: I'm on the External Relations Committee. What does Eastern do for the community? Zahlan: What is important about faculty living in the community? Fischer: I don't know if it's any better or worse. I just think it is a very different community than if ninety percent of the faculty lived within the community. Clay Mendez: We knew that we were moving into a rural community when we moved here. Scher: My involvement in this campus is less because I don't live in Charleston. Carwell: It can cause problems within departments as well. Some faculty members can't teach early, some can't teach late because of travel. That puts a burden on faculty members that do live here. Fischer: I'll look at some data on retention.

**VII. Adjourn: Benedict/Clay Mendez: 3:56 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Brandt, Recorder