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Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR February 27, 2001 (Vol. XXX, No. 23)

The 2000-2001 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 2540 Buzzard, and at 2107 Buzzard Hall.

I. Call to order by James Tidwell at 2:05 p.m. (Conference Room, 2540 Buzzard Hall)

Present: W. Addison, R. Benedict, M. Boshart (S), D. Brandt, G. Canivez, C. Eberly, P. Fewell, B. Fischer, F. Fraker, G. Kelly (S), J. Tidwell, and A. Zahlan. Excused: J. Best, J. Dilworth, B. Young, and N. Greer. Absent: M. Toosi. Guests: J. Ryan, L. Wall, J. Jones, J. Nilsen, B. Good, K. Evans, J. Allison, J. Heumann, and J. Bishop.

II. Approval of the minutes of February 20, 2001.

Motion (Greer/Fewell) to approve the minutes of February 20, 2001.

Yes: Addison, Benedict, Brandt, Canivez, Eberly, Fewell, Fischer, Fraker, Greer, Tidwell, and Zahlan. **Abstain:** Best, Dilworth, and Young. **Passed.**

III. Communications

- A. Minutes of the Library Advisory Board--Nov. 15, 2000
- B. E-mail from Associate VPSA Shirley Stewart concerning re-opening of Coffee Express--Feb. 21, 2001
- C. Memo from Bill Witsman, acting director of ITS, concerning TEDE models--Feb. 20, 2001.
- D. Proposed agenda for meeting of university senate chairs at Illinois State University April 5, 2001.

Fischer will attend the meeting.

E. E-mail from Steve Shrake, manager of campus design and construction. He will present an update to Senate on Doudna construction, March 27, 2001.

F. Zahlan was asked by D. Radavich to distribute a UPI report to the Senate on Budget Priorities and Higher Education spending.

G. Best thanked the Senate for the card of condolence.

H. Greer: Keith Sanders, IBHE Executive Director, will speak to Senate on April 3, 2001. He will be on campus that day speaking to several classes.

Tidwell suspended the regular Order of Business to address pressing matters:

IV.A.2. Elections: Fischer distributed a list of committees and vacancies for the coming year. Individuals/offices in bold type were those up for election/re-election. Fischer has e-mailed committee chairs to verify open positions and questions for candidates. He asked the Senate to set the dates for the election. Young: Could we hold the elections a week later in April? Fischer: The by-laws said the elections are to be held near the end of March. Best: There were uncontested elections the last time. Holding the elections just after spring break might exacerbate that again this time. **Motion (Fewell/Canivez) moved that Senate suspend the by-laws for election due to the timing of spring break this year.** Vote: Benedict, Best, Brandt, Canivez, Dilworth, Eberly, Fewell, Fischer, Fraker, Greer, Tidwell, Young, Zahlan, and Addison. **Passed.** Fischer: We can distribute petitions twice, once before and once after spring break, then hold the election on April 11 and 12, 2001.

Related to the Illinois State Senate Chairs meeting on April 5, 2001, Fischer requested that the Senate receive the agenda from Tidwell so he could gather comments to enable him to reflect the opinions of the Senators.

IV. B.: Administrative models from the TEDE Steering Committee: Fewell/Canivez: Fewell distributed a copy of an e-mail from D. Brandt, who reported that his constituents were concerned about the role of faculty development and the place of ITS in any new unit. Increasing the number of technicians overall might be better than changing the organization. There might be reduced service with ITS broken up into parts. Tidwell: I agree, the technicians should not be split up or assigned to the colleges. I don't see anything wrong with moving the whole unit into the TEDE unit. Brandt: A lot of the problems are across the boundaries between technicians working on the desktops, and the technicians working on the servers and system. Wall: It really is just a report line; they will not be physically separated. Brandt: My concern is the report line, and that could create a barrier to communication. Fraker: Viewing this as a resource pool, who will be in charge of assigning the technicians to work units? Brandt: The procedure is to call the help desk and be put in the queue, then just wait to go down the list unless someone else says otherwise. Instructional support services now has input to determine the order of response when help requests are critical. Fraker: Instructional Support Specialists should have some ability to prioritize. They are close enough to the situation to be able to prioritize. Tidwell: We have to do something today; Friday is the deadline. Canivez: I highlighted several items: "we have a complex network environment"

that does not work real well with each other. We do not have one standard. The other thing mentioned is that the University may lose cost-savings from Gateway. If that is the case, maybe we buy from another company. We are dealing with so many different perspectives. It would be nice to have one model. How Model B works in practice will have to shake out across time. Gateway is not the only windows company. Zahlan: Is Brandt suggesting that everything still be under the VVBA? Brandt: No. The ITS unit should stay together as one complete unit wherever it is placed. There will have to be redundancy between the technicians in a split unit. That would be less efficient. Zahlan: Many people have perceived it a problem that the ITS unit was under business affairs. Brandt: I have seen it be very cooperative between faculty and technicians. There are policies that have been railroaded by business affairs, but that can be changed. I don't know what happens at that level. Those policies could be changed to provide for better cooperation between business affairs and academic affairs. Tidwell: The consensus is that Model B is the best to start with, but with concerns about faculty development, and about the technicians. Young: There's also a concern about cost. Tidwell: There will always be a problem when it comes to cost. Fischer: A lot of the people I represent feel like they have been ignored by ITC. One way to take care of the problem is to move the unit into an academic area. That then puts the group to be directly responsible to the academic people on this campus. This gives us a unit that we can go to as academics and make a case for getting repairs made. Canivez: I agree with Fischer. Appendix C in Witsman's report states that the overwhelming number of help requests come from academic affairs. Tidwell: The alternative would be to put all of them into the new unit rather than assigning them to the colleges. Dilworth: How many colleges have a technical support person? Tidwell: There are three. Fraker: Reading from Witsman's document, I guess I would recommend model B with modifications, based on the fact that the University will provide the funding resources to support the model. The university has to build the necessary staffing. Zahlan: Why can't we go with Model B with the four recommendations and concerns? **Motion (Zahlan/Fraker): On the assumption that the structure of Model B will be adequately staffed and funded, the Faculty Senate would like to go on record as supporting Model B with the aforementioned recommendations and concerns addressed. Vote: Yes: Best, Canivez, Eberly, Fewell, Fischer, Fraker, Greer, Young, Zahlan, Addison, and Benedict. No: Brandt. Abstain: Dilworth, Tidwell. Passed.**

V. New Business, A. Future of Radio-TV Center: Nilsen and Jones. Nilsen gave a brief history of the radio-TV center's beginnings under President Dan Marvin. The center was to provide an academic and a community service outreach mission. It became a PBS affiliate in 1992, and has a budget of 1.2 million, with two-thirds of that funded by federal and state grants. We have faced several challenges in the past year both in terms of personnel and format of the station. We are working diligently to comply with the federal mandate that the station goes digital in May 2003. Nilsen introduced Carla Evans and Brenda Good, radio-TV staff members, and James Jones, Acting Director. She recognized all of their hard work in the past year, and said they deserve a lot of credit for advances in the last twelve months. We must return the analog signal by 2006, and if we do not comply, then the station goes dark.

Jones described the advantages for Eastern if the station goes digital. The change to digital is a federal mandate, however, up to this point, it is an unfunded mandate. Dr. Nilsen has made it clear that there is not university funding available for this conversion. If this is going to happen, we are going to have to seek the funding ourselves.

The advantages of digital is that from an educational perspective, digital will allow the station to broadcast up to four discrete channels at the same time. Educationally, in combination with our ability to broadcast digital data, that will create an interactive environment that can benefit K-16 programs. We are looking into an opportunity to support GED education, for example. Other things are something geared to the growing areas of the Hispanic market. We can also coordinate with distance education programs. We are researching all of these areas. First, we need to prepare a solid plan with support, and then talk with constituents within and without the university community for feedback on the plan. Tidwell: You mentioned in the DEN the amount of money you have. Nilsen: Let me talk about cost. PBS estimates to make the conversion is from \$4 to 6 million dollars. The State Legislature has provided \$2.5 million for each of the universities and the public television stations in Illinois to help in the conversion effort in FY 2000, FY2001, and FY2002. The remainder could come from two sources: appropriated dollars through the University, and for us to look for grants and partnerships with PBS or public TV stations. The staff feels confident that we can find those dollars. If we choose not to go with the conversion, we could go black and continue to broadcast through the cable system on campus. And the fourth option is to shut the doors and rent the space to the highest bidder. In considering the options, we should go for no. 2, keep the station going, find the partnership interests, and continue to be an outreach mechanism. We do provide for an eleven county area. Canivez: Just to be the Devil's Advocate, we are in the broadcast range for two public television stations in the Charleston area, the University of Illinois and SIU-C. How do we justify that we continue to operate? Jones: It would not be wise for us to attempt to compete with those two stations. We must look at a more community-oriented station--a more specific service, not the same service. We also provide for an academic

mission, and we do play a major role in the preparation of students in public broadcasting. They could not get that background in those other stations. What about a cable system? In responding to a cable system, it is more like "playing television"; students would not be responsible for FCC rules and guidelines. Tidwell: Under FCC rules, they have what is a "must carry" rule, is that the case with the digital stations? Jones: On Feb 5, the FCC finally addressed that, where cable stations will be responsible for carrying one of the digital channels. They acknowledged that would place an undue burden on public television stations. Fischer: What about costs? Jones: For the first three years, we will be running two television stations simultaneously. As the technology develops the price will be reduced, but as of now, there is additional cost. I definitely see funding opportunities. Most of them are centered on community service. So the station is going to have to be a better leader in community services. That could actually help enhance our academic mission. Best: So your response is we are not competing, we are providing a different service. Students are getting some hands on experience at Eastern they could not get elsewhere. Jones: Take WILL--students have a very limited hands-on experience near the end of the semester. It airs on the Champaign local public access channel and the Internet. Our students at EIU produce a newscast five nights a week from day one of the semester, plus public affairs and coaches show programming. Students have far more hands-on experience than at the University of Illinois. Southern does have hands-on involvement, but it is more limited to upper-class students, and it is not as broad based as our program here. What I am saying is that what we will have to do to make this transition is to do a better community service job, and I don't think we are doing it now. Young: Could you give us some examples that might present a model? Nilsen: Providing some theatre, community events, sports activities, and political forums. . We are not doing that sort of outreach now. Fewell: In the Denver area, they have rented some of the channels to other colleges. Have you considered that? Jones: Yes, we have looked into collaboration. I would like to proceed with some caution in making agreements, however. We have to ensure that we do have the ability during special events to broadcast a high definition picture. Otherwise we would have a substandard appearance compared to other television stations. Fraker: Can you choose to do one or the other of the digital technologies? High definition or not? Jones: Yes, we can do so. During the main programming day, we will multicast to provide a more diverse service, then on special occasions, broadcast in high definition. Fraker: Are you building two different systems to do that? Jones: It will cost more, yes, to go to high definition. Zahlan: You are talking about 4 to 6 million to maintain the same signal as now, or is it more? Jones: To increase our signal it is more toward the top end, to maintain it would be more to the bottom end. When we received the money it was understood that it would not have to be spent within the same fiscal year. Fischer: Best's question was great. It seems the next logical step would be to have a major in that. Nilsen: It is unusual to have a TV station without a broadcast major. Hyder: Journalism and Speech Communication next week is planning to discuss a new academic program where this would be a part of it. Tidwell: We may have to teach students to deal with all the media. Young: How much to run an analog station now, and how much in 2003 to run the digital? Jones: The costs right now run to 1.2 million, but I cannot answer the second part, because we have not designed the new station yet. Young: Is there a timetable for this design process? Tidwell: Can you take the digital and turn it back to analog? Jones: You have to have two sets of equipment. Tidwell: Where are we with television receivers? An analog television cannot pick up a digital signal. Nilsen: You have to get a little black box. Jones: About a month ago, a transmission system was finally agreed upon. Now that the FCC has ruled, the manufacturers are more willing to get on board with producing sets that will pick up the signal. Manufacturers should start to become more focused. You will be able to use converter boxes on current sets, but they will not have the ability to be as interactive as the digital set. Allison: I serve as the Faculty Senate appointee to the Radio-TV Advisory Board, but I could not attend the meeting yesterday. I have several questions: Will it be necessary to hire a consultant, and how much fundraising were you able to raise for the TV station last year? Jones: Yes, we will need to hire an engineering consultant to set up the system. Allison: So some of the money will be used to pay that person? Jones: Yes. Allison: How much have we raised in the last year? Karla Evans: I am Director of Development for WEIU. Our resources come from a number of sources such as supporters, patrons, and contributors. In the last four years we have brought in between \$80-120,000 per year. Allison: I am glad to hear that, but that is a small proportion of the total cost needed annually. In my mind it will take a very aggressive fund raising campaign to reach the goal. Evans: There are some opportunities out there for us to address. Jones: There are some grant opportunities that are available specifically for the digital transition and we will have to go after them. I understand your concern, and we are actively working on that, including federal funding for the conversion. Zahlan: I don't think there is a person here that would disagree with this, but we need a business plan to raise the money. Jones: We are working on that now. We are behind in writing the plan, and we do understand to really get support, we need the plan. Zahlan: Will the consultant's salary come out of the state appropriation? Nilsen: Correct. Tidwell: Is the 4-6 million the start up or capital costs? Jones: The capital costs. Nilsen: These questions are being discussed on every other university campus. including Ohio State. Dilworth: Do we have to pay the money back if we don't use it? Nilsen: Unspent dollars will have to be returned to the state. Best: I have a question about radio. There was a lot of turbulence in the station a year ago. Have we stabilized things now?

Are there safeguards now to make sure that we do not have a repeat? Nilsen: We have worked hard to make sure that the student voice is being heard. The radio budget is much less than the TV budget. We are going to have to make some choices in the future in order to staff the station. The former director's salary left with him. Jones: Anyone on campus is certainly welcome to visit us at the station and ask questions. We may not have all the answers, but we will be open to respond to you. Best: That is absolutely what has to happen here. You are talking about the delivery of academic services outside of academic affairs. We need to be confident that such services are on stable ground. I happen to think that after students the second most important people are the faculty, and we are often taken for granted that we would be there. Greer: What kinds of safeguards are in place to ensure that the students receive ample experiences, and at the same time, quality instruction? Jones: I think it is not unknown to anyone that we are definitely understaffed. We are in the process of hiring now to replace the key personnel lost. On all these different search committees, we have sought representatives from both Journalism and Speech Communication, the departments we work with most closely. We are developing a more positive relationship with our advisory board, and one of my mandates is to work and build a closer relationship with the academic departments. If there is a question about the academic mission, there is one person accountable: me. We are working to get rid of the mystery of responsibility, and we are working with our partners more. It is going to grow. Kelly: What types of events does EIU broadcast? Recently I was trying to procure publicity for an event, but was not able to procure either EIU radio or TV for the event. Will students be able to procure media coverage from the stations? Jones: The request in question came late to my desk. As a community organization, we have to look at both on campus and off campus programming opportunities. Students have to be adept at covering events, and there is an opportunity for increased coverage. Zahlan: One of the most popular programs is Jeff Lynch's program? Why was it cancelled? Jones: We put it on hold this semester because we are short-staffed, and I could not do it all. We realized we were behind on the digital transaction, and we have to get back on board. We did not take the action to put the Lynch program on hold lightly. Allison: Is there a consultant report called the Kennedy Report? Nilsen: Yes. Allison: What did it conclude about the prospect of community support/financial support? The one I read suggested that it was very difficult to do, and prospects in the area are very limited. Jones: If you read the report, yes, that is what the report said. But that report was looking on a very local basis, and we are going to have to look in a broader area of coverage. We are going to have to reach out more. Tidwell: Thank you very much.

IV. Old Business

A. Committee Reports

- 1. Executive Committee:** no report
- 2. Elections:** see above
- 3. Nominations:** deferred to next meeting
- 4. Student-Faculty Relations:** Benedict: We met last Friday morning and redrafted their proposal. The question will be addressed in Student Senate this Wednesday. Tidwell: The question will not be a part of the Core? Benedict: No. and we have contacted Radavich (UPI) and VP Wall to make sure we are following channels.
- 5. Faculty-Staff Relations:** no report
- 6. VPAA Search Committee:** Best: We met Friday, February 23, and will be meeting people in Indianapolis on Monday and Tuesday. We will announce five finalists and we are talking with seven or eight people.
- 7. VPBA Search Committee:** Hank Davis,
- 8. CAA Taskforce:**
- 9. Electronic Grade Book Committee-** French Fraker:
- 10. Steering Committee for Technology Enhanced and Delivered Education:** see above
- 11. Search Committee for Director of Greek Life--**Norman Greer:
- 12. Search Committee for Director of Housing and Dining Services--**Charles Eberly:

13. Council on University Planning and Budget:

14: Other Committees:

B. Administrative models from the TEDE Steering Committee: see above

C. Senate sponsorship of an International Tea--April 25, 2001

D. Proposed change in BOT regulations regarding tenure for vice presidents.

E. Parking on Fourth Street: Wall: There has been a plan for some time to close Seventh Street, and we have pictures and plans already. Wall distributed two drawings of the area, Alternative I and II. The new science building is either horizontal or vertical to the street.

F. Other Old Business: Tidwell: We cannot adjourn until we have a Secretary for next week. Fewell: We could just not meet next week. Fischer: We could just pass the announcements out on March 6 and March 20, and the 30th would be the date for the petitions to be due back. We can publish responses the week of April 3, with the election the following week on April 11 and 12. The slate is in front of you. **Motion (Fewell/Young) for the Senate to approve the election slate as presented and the schedule of the election as presented.** Vote: Brandt, Eberly, Fewell, Fischer, Fraker, Greer, Tidwell, Young, Zahlan, Addison, Benedict, and Best. **Passed.**

G. Distinguished Faculty Award: Tidwell: I have contacted the Alumni Association and the Student Body President, and they are getting representatives.

V. New Business:

A. Future of Radio-TV Center--Acting VPIA Jill Nilsen and Jim Jones, acting station manager of WEIU. See above

B. Other new business.

VI. Adjourn: Fischer, 4:06 p.m. **No meeting next week. Next Meeting: March 20, 2001.**

Future Agenda Items

- A. EIU Foundation President Jack Schultz and John Laible, the foundation's executive officer, will meet with Senate March 20, 2001.
- B. Reorganization of School of Adult and Continuing Education--March 6, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles G. Eberly, Recorder