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Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate
Minutes of September 27, 1988

Vol. XVIII-5

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Foster at 2:00p.m. in the Martinsville Luther King Student Union.

Present: Luis Clay Mendez, Gary Foster, Michael Loudon, John North, Robert Barford, Evelyn Goodrick, Anthony Schaeffer, Ron Sutliff, David Carpenter, Pat Fewell, Laurent Gosselin, Ed Marlow, Nancy McMillan, Glenn Hild

Absent: Linda Leal

Visitors: Lori Tharp, Sociology Intern; Mike Harris, Eastern News

I. Minutes of the September 20th meeting were approved unanimously as presented. (Schaeffer/McMillian)

II. Communications:

- A. Received agenda of the BOG meeting of September 19.
- B. Received minutes of the BOG meeting of July 28.
- C. Received a phone request from the President's office to identify a replacement for Martha Brown on the CUPB (College of Applied Sciences or HPER). The alternate for Martha Brown had already been designated and is Mahyar Izadi, Technology.
- D. Received a request from the President to nominate faculty representation to the BOG Policy Monitoring Committee.
- E. Received from Dr. Kindrick, a copy of Review of Undergraduate Education questions.
- F. Received from Lewis Coon, a memo concerning discussion of faculty salaries.
- G. Received from BOG, action summary of BOG Board meeting of September 18-19.

III. Old Business:

- A. Luis Clay-Mendez reported on the Council of Faculties at Western Illinois University, September 25-26.

Dr. Robert Pringle, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs spoke to the council about current issues that affect the BOG system including: 1.) The BOG will request a report on quality of programs within the system, not strictly to be in traditional quantitative values, but from data collected from students and alumni and other indicators of excellence. 2.) The FY 90 appropriations were approved on 9/19/88. With no tax increase anticipated, a 20% increase for system was approved. 3.) The BOG is leased with the quality of faculty chosen for internships through the Administration Fellows Program. 4.) The BOG would like to design and implement a series of learning of outcomes that all students will have by the time they graduate.

Reaction to the Council of Faculties report centered around item #4 of the report, regarding learning outcomes. Mendez replied that they are items that students should have achieved by the time they have reached their academic goal, or graduated. Sutliff questioned how the learning outcomes will be measured, once they are established. It was noted that for teacher education there already exists a type of test for learning outcome, the teacher certification test. Question was also raised as to a concern for academic freedom, with uniform measurable outcomes and perhaps teaching to a test, poses a threat to academic freedom. Also question was raised as to possible testing for student outcome and how that might be done. It was noted that cognitive testing is easier to accomplish than that of affective domain or attitude change experienced through the education process. Loudon suggested that accountability is established already, prior to the learner outcomes, that is credits, grades and degrees.

A motion was made that we support, in principle, the idea that there are certain general outcomes or knowledge that college students should have, and that internally the university should monitor these outcomes. (Marlow/Loudon) Motion was defeated.

A motion was made that: Faculty Senate feels that item 4 on the Report of the Council of Faculties meeting of September 25-26 intrudes on EIU's discussion on the Study of Undergraduate Education. We request Dr. Rives to ask Dr. Pringle to work within the procedures that the IBHE has established to consider this report. (Schaeffer/McMillian) Motion was defeated.

After further discussion, a request was made to add item #4 on the Report of the Council of Faculties report to the agenda for the next Faculty Senate meeting.

- B. Undergraduate Study was discussed. Gosselin suggested a process of review of the undergraduate study take the form of a review period, where concerned faculty would be able to participate in the review of the Undergraduate Study document. Faculty could write on individual issues that concerned them within the report, with Faculty Senate acting as a collective agency processing those concerns, issuing a summary document of the faculty submissions. McMillian suggested that Faculty Senate could publish the schedule of what committee or group is reacting to certain sections of the study, making faculty aware of where they could go to voice their concerns about sections of the document. Also, that groups, when discussing the Undergraduate report, have detailed report of the discussion in their minutes. A motion was made that Faculty Senate abandon the forum format because of lack of support, release time, financial support and duplication monies. (Loudon/Barford) The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair of Faculty Senate was requested to contact CAA requesting that they expand their minutes of discussion of the Undergraduate Study to reflect the thoughts of the group, as well as to note that the CAA meetings are open for all faculty to attend.

IV. New Business:

- A. The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate met with the President, September 21. The following items were brought before the Senate: 1. The downsizing of the University was discussed, noting that downsizing could be a precarious situation, that students might get the impression that it would be difficult to get into E.I.U. The President noted that the earlier closings had lead to more applications, rather than fewer applications. The President also indicated that there had been indication of support for the downsizing of the University by the faculty. 2. The President was asked about an educational effort to the public noting that any raise received by the faculty above the amount appropriated by the state came at the expense of the BOG reallocating monies internally. The President noted that he is philosophically opposed to a tuition increase above the rate of inflation; but in reality, to stem faculty flight and to meet budget requirements, a tuition increase is necessary. 3. The President noted that, in the new budget just approved by the BOG, there was a faculty equity plan included, but will require substantial additional appropriations to meet that plan. 4. The issue of Faculty Senate forum was raised with the President, who welcomed the thought, but cautioned not to usurp the powers of the committees working under the auspices of Faculty Senate. Additional monies for publishing of possible forum reports on the Undergraduate Study, and secretarial assistance was discussed. The President indicated that no additional money was available at this time. 5. The President indicated that referrals to committees for the various sections of the Undergraduate Studies Report would be made within approximately three weeks.
- B. The appointment from Faculty Senate to the Academic Computing Committee was discussed. Nominations for this position were opened. Bill McGowan was nominated (Schaeffer/Goodrick). Don Sundheim was nominated (Mendez/Sutliff). A motion that the nominations be closed was made. (Loudon/Mendez). Don Sundheim was elected to serve on the Academic Computing Committee representing Faculty Senate.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. Next meeting, 2:00 p.m., October 4 in the Martinsville Room.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia J. Fewell