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Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR 15 APRIL 2014

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Note: These minutes are not a complete verbatim transcript of the Senate meeting.

- I. **Call to Order by Chair Grant Sterling at 2:01pm (Booth Library, Room 4440)** Present: J. Ashley, T. Burns, J. Conwell, M. Dao, S. Knight-Davis, J. Ludlow, A. Methven, J. Oliver, K. Padmaraju, J. Robertson, A. Rosenstein, G. Sterling, K. English.

Guests: Provost Lord, Dean Ornes (COS), Dean Lanham (Booth Library), Dr. Jeff Stowell

II. **Approval of Minutes of 1 April, 2014**

Minutes from April 1, 2014 Senate meeting were approved. Motion made by Senator Bruns and seconded by Senator Ashley. Senators Methven and Knight-Davis abstained.

III. **Announcements**

Faculty Senate/UPI Faculty Retirees Reception: April 23, 3:30, Tarble Arts Center – Senator Sterling encouraged all senators to attend.

IV. **Communications**

- a. 3/27/14 CAA Minutes – No action needed
- b. 4/3/14 CAA Minutes – No action needed
- c. NCA Self-Study Feedback memorandum – No action needed
- d. ELM task force followup – No action needed
- e. e-mail from Les Hyder to Mary Herrington-Perry, re: PARCC (plus attachment) – No action needed
- f. Call for Volunteers for Nominated Committees (Discussed during committee reports)
- g. UPC membership problems (Discussed during committee reports)
- h. Sanctions and Terminations membership problems (Discussed during committee reports)
- i. Mission Statement Resolution (defeated in CUPB) -
- j. 4/10/14 CAA Minutes – No action needed
- k. 4/17/14 CAA Agenda – No action needed

- V. **Presentation to the Senate:** Allen Lanham, CUPB and Program Analysis – Dean Lanham, Chair of the Program Analysis committee on CUPB reported about the program analysis final steps. He mentioned that Dr. Weber had planned to join him but was unable to due to another engagement that had come up.

Dean Lanham mentioned that the Program analysis was still under way and there was another meeting scheduled for Friday of that week and then a final one before the end of the semester. The committee was trying to finalize the list of recommendations they would take to the President. The charge given to the committee by President Perry was to make recommendations for reducing the operating budget by 7 million \$ over 2015-16 and then find another million that could be devoted to programs that could increase enrollment. Eastern has a budget need for enrollment of 10,000 to 12,000 students but with lower enrollments over the last few years that haven't reached these numbers, the institution has been struggling.

For the program review, three subcommittees were formed, one for Academic Affairs, one for Student Affairs and one for the rest that included Business Affairs, University Advancement and President's office. Press Releases had been coming out about the reports from various subcommittees but nothing was final till the meeting that week on Friday.

Some comments Dean Lanham made about the charge to the committee:

- We have not really come up with anywhere near 7 to 8 million cuts. A lot of questions had been raised by each of the subcommittees.
- We have been doing with less for several years now, going as low as 25% less by this year. But the truth is that these cuts had been for other emergencies and other budget shortfalls. What we need to consider is what needs to be done for 2015-16.
- An issue that has often been discussed is an increase in retirements. However, we need to note that there was already a provision of some retirements built into the projections, so the additional retirements that may be over and above the average yearly retirements may not add much to cutting down the costs.

Senator Ashley remarked that the CUPB motion to view Academics as not being central to the mission of the university was disturbing to him. When CUPB voted down the resolution proposed by Senator Sterling that Academics was central to the mission of the University, it shows that CUPB does not believe in Academics being the central mission.

Dean Lanham clarified that the vote had not been to say that the mission was going to be changed but rather that the mission remains as it is. He added that there was more than a touch of resentment towards Academics Affairs that faculty considered that others in the university were not important.

Senator Ashley added that he had heard comments being made that faculty need to teach enough number of students to at least pay for their own salaries. It was troubling for him to hear such comments. Dean Lanham replied that it was important to note that Academic Affairs was such a big piece of the budget that, to say that they should not be held accountable would not work. That motion failed based on the belief that faculty should not be allowed to consider they were the only ones who mattered and that others were unnecessary.

Senator Rosenstein again asked why CUPB was unwilling to support the mission statement that had been developed and adopted after going through all the channels. She wanted to understand why the issue of the mission statement had come up during the discussions. Dean Lanham replied that CUPB had no intention of revising the mission statement. President Perry had said they had a mission and they were going to follow that. What came up was that Academic Affairs was central to the mission and everyone else wasn't.

Senator Sterling noted that his interpretation of the mission statement had prompted him to propose the resolution at CUPB. His interpretation was that academic learning was central to the mission and so entities outside Academic Affairs were the ones that should be making the cuts more than the Academic Affairs. Dean Lanham again reiterated that CUPB decided that the mission needed to be used as it is.

Senator Rosenstein asked if the subcommittees would make references to the mission statement in their reports. Senator Sterling replied that they were not. Dean Lanham added that

other institutions that had gone through a similar program analysis had taken the approach to rank programs but Eastern had not taken such an approach as we want to remain collegial.

Senator Ludlow said that in the wake of these efforts, various rumors had been floating around; one which concerned her was the one that it wasn't President Perry who had come up with the 7 Million number but rather that CUPB had. Dean Lanham replied that the previous year, Dr. Weber had walked them through an exercise using the budget and had shown that there was a deficit of 7 million for the upcoming years. This was before President Perry had given them a specific target. Different groups had come up with different numbers ranging from 0 to 10 million dollar cuts. Initially President Perry had not given them a specific target but eventually when he saw the recommendations made by various bodies, he gave them the charge of finding the 7 million dollars in cuts.

Senator Ashley noted that when they saw this big number, and then they hear about the funds from the Science building that may be used for the deficit for one year; he was concerned what would happen the following year. This was more of a structural deficit. Dean Lanham replied that it had been Dr. Weber who had mentioned that there were monies from the Science building fund that could be used to offset the deficit for some time. These monies were from different pools and they could be used for a while but eventually they would have to be replaced. And this does not solve the issue long term.

Senator Ludlow commented that Dean Lanham's reporting that they had not reached the target cuts with their recommendations made her nervous. Dean Lanham replied that there was a bit of money embedded in the recommendations and those needed to be explored for potential savings or for increasing revenue. For instance, there was a recommendation that ITS and CATS be put together; we do need to see if that would result in savings and by how much.

Senator Oliver hoped that external forces may help with some of the savings. Provost Lord replied that one of the subcommittees had recommendations that we look at retirements and because of some of the unplanned retirements that are coming along, he had been looking at leadership positions and evaluating the impact of these retirements. Senator Oliver asked if the deadline for the retirements had already passed. Provost Lord replied that there were multiple deadlines and this was confusing in determining the savings from retirements as such. The subcommittees had also looked at options for encouraging people to retire, but again we have to consider how to balance that with the needs of each program. The exercise has proven that these decisions are hard to make. There are no bad programs, every program has grown in ways that they could. We are trying to consider that these cuts do not reach the major curricular areas that have been established and consolidated for many many years at Eastern.

Senator Conwell asked how many faculty members were on CUPB who were not administrators. Senator Sterling also asked Dean Lanham and Provost Lord if they foresaw that CUPB will continue to do these discussions next year. Dean Lanham replied that he didn't see that the charge will be the same; it may be that they may be charged to look into more detail at some specific recommendations. Senator Sterling added that the plan for the upcoming meeting on Friday was to accept the recommendations made by each subcommittee and pass them on to the President. Dean Lanham concluded that they were going to look at each report by itself as all the members had needed time to look at all the reports, some of which had had just come in that day.

A. Committee Reports:

1. Executive Committee – No report
2. Nominations Committee: Filling committees – Senator Knight-Davis reported that names had been coming in to her and there were only 1 or 2 committees left that had no volunteers yet. One of the committees, Music Artist Series committee wanted 3 members names to be submitted, out of who they would select one (as per their by-laws). However as per Senate by-laws, we nominate one. Senator Oliver asked if we should ask them to change their by-laws. Senator Knight-Davis replied that she would like to stick to our by-laws for now and nominate one member.
3. Elections Committee: UPC and S&T openings – Senator Oliver distributed a summary of the 2014 election results. After congratulating Dr. Stowell for getting reelected to the Senate, Senator Oliver noted that there were a few issues he wanted to bring to the attention of the Senate:
 - Since Dr. Stowell was on Sabbatical for the Fall, he will encourage Crystal Duncan (the runner-up) to serve for Fall.
 - Senator Rosenstein had decided to serve on the Senate and not on the Enrollment Management Advisory Committee as she had been asked to choose only one (as per discussion of by-laws during previous meeting).
 - Senator Oliver noted that he had been unaware of the UPI agreement requirements for the Sanctions and Terminations Hearings committee; he was going to ask Dr. Okransinski to serve as she was the only one who would be eligible as per the UPI agreement.
 - For UPC positions, there was a tie. As per a motion made in the previous meeting to have a coin toss, Jie Zou was selected for Position # 26 and Linda Ghent for Position # 23.

Senator Oliver concluded saying that he could foresee some more councils and committees that may be impacted due to retirements. As such he felt that we will need to continue to recruit for volunteers to serve on these councils and committees. For positions that had not been filled, another Special election will have to be held in Fall.

Senator Ludlow moved to accept the election results and Senator Rosenstein seconded. Motion carried through unanimously.

4. Faculty-Student Relations Committee – No report
5. Faculty-Staff Relations Committee – No report
6. Awards Committee – No report
7. Faculty Forum Committee – Senator Rosenstein thanked the Senators for coming to the Forum on Program Analysis.
8. Budget Transparency Committee – No report
9. Committee on Committees – No report
10. Constitution/By-laws Revision – No report

11. Other Reports:

a. Provost's Report – Provost Lord encouraged all to read the draft of the NCA self-study report available online and added that if anyone saw anything, they could use the "Respond to..." option. Dr. Stowell also requested everyone to read the report, if not all of it, at least sections that pertained to them.

b. Other – None

B. Other Old Business: None

VII. New Business

A. Future Agenda:

Spring 2014 Meeting Dates – April 29 (Admissions)

B. Other New Business – Senator Ludlow presented a proposed Faculty Senate resolution (attached as communications for this meeting) adding that it had been put together in response to CUPB's failure to pass the resolution proposed by Senator Sterling. Senator Ludlow added that while she now better understood why CUPB voted that resolution down, she still would like the Faculty voice to be heard through this proposed resolution. Senator Sterling commented that his preference was to vote on this resolution at the next meeting, so the campus community could review this and comment on it. Senator Oliver commented that to him, it didn't sound as if CUPB was intending to change the mission statement. Senator Sterling noted that he had offered that resolution at CUPB based on his interpretation of the mission statement that clearly seemed to not match the interpretation others had about the mission statement.

VIII. Adjournment – Adjourned at 3:25 pm.