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Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

21 April 2015 meeting

(The 2014-2015 Faculty Senate agendas, minutes, and other information are available on the Web at:

<http://castle.eiu.edu/facsen/>)

* Note: These minutes **are not** a complete verbatim transcript of the Senate meeting. (J. Oliver)

I. Call to Order by Chair Sterling at 2:02 pm (Booth Library, Room 4440)

Present: J. Ashley, T. Bruns, M. Dao, S. Eckert, J. Ludlow, M. Mulvaney, J. Oliver, J. Robertson, A. Rosenstein, S. Scher, G. Sterling, J. Stowell, D. Viertel, S. Ahmad (Student VP).

Guests: Diane Jackman (CEPS), Rich Jones (CAA), Barbara Lawrence (CHM) Blair Lord (VPAA), Rebecca Throneburg (CAA)

II. Approval of Minutes from 07 April 2015 Senate Meeting

- Revisions – none cited
- Motion to approve minutes - Ludlow (2nd – Viertel)
- All in favor? – 11/13
- Abstain – Bruns and Rosenstein
- Minutes from 07 April 2015 Senate meeting were approved.

III. Communications

- a. CAA Agenda for 4/16/15
- b. COIA Request regarding Intercollegiate Athletics, w/ HR 275 – Sterling – proposal for a US presidential commission to analyze behavior of athletics departments nationwide. Discussion? Viertel – background on this group? Sterling provides background on the group – it is an organization with representation from various faculty senates – mostly at Division 1 schools – looking for faculty senate support at other institutions. Resolution? Seeing none = tabled.
- c. Election results – comments under ‘Elections Committee’ report
- d. E-mail from Angie Campbell, Re: Faculty/Staff Luncheon
- e. E-mail from Marita Gronnvoll, Re: CAA replacement
- f. Memo from Blair Lord, Re: ACA member
- g. Flier for EIU Students to Springfield lobbying trip

IV. Presentations to the Senate: CAA - General Education and Learning Goals – Jones and Throneburg

Rich Jones – update on Gen Ed and Learning Goals

Ashley – seeks clarification on the limitations of today’s presentation vs future plans of the initiative

Jones – clarifies that year 2 of the 5 year plan is what we will report on today

Throneburg – we have made significant progress this year on Gen Ed – our focus right now is Gen Ed

Ashley – but what about the new course proposal? Like ‘honors’ course proposals being disapproved – won’t you be micro-managing at that point?

Throneburg – those actions are somewhat related to accreditation purposes and federal credit hour & financial aid policies. We are trying to address some of these requirements more completely through this process. We are also trying to develop ‘model’ proposals for gen ed courses. Offers additional comments.

Jones – and the ‘course proposal’ topic, in some ways, is a separate issue than what we are discussing today. Similar to federal credit hour policy and other related issues to the overall process.

Jones – referring to the handout provided = ‘Learning Goals in General Education – What Might Change? How Does It Affect Me’ – course requirements for general education. One question on the table with this is possibly moving senior seminar earlier in the academic career of students. One point of rationale for this relates to transfer students – making it an entry point experience for them. It is also a data point for assessment so moving the senior seminar towards the midpoint of the academic career could help with data collection regarding the possible impact of general education courses.

Jones – as far as the learning goals – current Gen Ed. courses need to address all 4 learning goals – but there is recognition that it is difficult to accomplish this in 1 course. What is unanimous is having elements of critical thinking in all college courses. In future, Senior Seminar will target all 5 L.G.s
Jones – additional comments regarding ‘current’ vs ‘proposed’ learning goal initiative – what might change? How learning goals will be addressed. Discusses course segmenting also.

Ashley – asks questions regarding timeline of ‘new’ course proposals being required for existing courses

Jones – thinking about 3-4 years for existing general education courses to be ‘re-certified’ using new course proposal. After 3 year renewal there will be periodic review and modification if needed.

Jones – discusses development of committee structure to support initiative – voting happening now. New committees being created – hopefully to be functioning by next year.

Dao – asks for clarification on which learning goals should/can be integrated into natural sciences

Jones – responses and provides thoughts regarding which learning goals could be possibly integrated into natural sciences courses vs social sciences courses – there will be overlap

Throneburg – makes comments about names of segments in specific disciplines – which learning goals will be integrated in which courses so students and advisors will know

Rosenstein – asks questions about restructuring gen ed classes – will rubrics be provided for the instructor to ensure quality and consistency across courses and programs?

Jones – 1 resource will be Gen Ed faculty handout plus sample course proposals identifying ideal or best practices. But that will be different depending level of course as well as major/discipline. Learning goals groups are ‘curating’ models and resources for use by faculty for the benefit of students.

Rosenstein – offers additional comments about the variety of different ways to assess learning goals

Throneburg – comments on critical inquiry project – offers details about goals and objectives of the project. But there will be latitude for instructors to determine what works best in their classrooms.

There should be instruction and practice provided in the classroom.

Ashley – new course proposals – required for general education courses or all courses?

Throneburg – at some point in the future, probably all courses to satisfy federal requirements

Ludlow – provides additional comments on the external pressures that CAA may be responding to with this initiative – suggestion = provide info about those pressures and put it all in one place for faculty to see – many faculty don’t understand what external requirements you are facing – it would provide ‘positive publicity’ for this initiative – might reduce skepticism

Ludlow – there is a fear from faculty that more detailed course proposals will inhibit pedagogical experimentation – especially for non-tenured faculty. I do much of this. So how can we respond to external pressures but also encourage pedagogical creativity/experimentation?

Jones – we are sensitive to this – we are trying to find the balance in this process to provide guidance in how to systematically integrate the learning goals but not stifle pedagogical flexibility.

Throneburg – the course proposal will have to be more detailed, which will provide better guidance, especially to the newer faculty. There will still be freedom in developing the course as long as the teacher is integrating the targeted learning goals.

Ludlow – some of newest faculty bring in fresh ideas from their previous teaching

Dao – I think it would be a good idea to incorporate this into new faculty orientation – as well as adding guidance for new faculty members from department chairs – especially for their first semesters here at EIU.

Jones – already information overload at new faculty orientation. So workshops will be offered in the Fall and the handbook will be useful throughout the year.

Throneburg – with turnover in faculty and chairs, the website and the handbook will be invaluable

Mulvaney – I like the strategic branding of the ‘general ed segments’ terminology. Also – from an instructor perspective, I like the two learning goal approach per class opposed to the 3 learning goal approach per course. Courses would be more concentrated when focusing on 2 learning goals.

Throneburg – requests Faculty Senate consider meeting 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 2 pm in the Fall to allow for CAA to schedule learning goal committee meetings on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 2 pm in the Fall. This may allow some of you to serve on some of the CAA committees.

V. Old Business

A. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee: Report – met with President and Provost. More discussion on budget challenges – both academic and athletic.

- Election of Officers for 2015-16: Nominations = Robertson for Chair, Sterling for Chair, Stowell for Vice Chair, Dao for VC, Oliver for Recorder, Ludlow (FA15) and Oliver (SP16) as recorder. Comments about candidates made by Ludlow, Scher, Ashley and Dao. Separate paper ballot votes collected for each position.

* Results – Chair = Robertson, Vice Chair = Stowell, Recorder = Ludlow (FA15)/Oliver (SP16)

- ACA volunteers – Faculty senate needs to submit two volunteers. One gets chosen for the committee – but you can’t apply for an ACA next Fall (2015).

Rosenstein – it’s an easier process now – all materials are submitted electronically. The process has been simplified. It’s all online now.

Stowell and Viertel volunteer as candidates for the Fall 2015 ACA committee

2. Nominations Committee: Rosenstein - update on call for nominations – circulates the updated list of nominated Faculty Senate university boards and councils + numbers that are needed in each area

Ashley – asks question about Enrollment Management Advisory committee

Rosenstein – provides clarification on population of this committee

Scher – Stefan and I did serve on this committee this year. I represented Faculty Senate

Eckert – I represented the College. It met twice each semester

Rosenstein – so we need representation on that committee

Ashley – asks questions on ‘committee of brand champions’ (?)

Rosenstein – it’s still on the list – I will find out more information about it

Stowell – offers historical context to ‘committee of brand champions’ – established when Pat Early arrived on campus – marketing focus

Sterling – refers Rosenstein to VP Martin to find out what representation is needed

Rosenstein – discusses Faculty Senate Awards committee – populated by Faculty Senate volunteers

Eckert – there are 2 committees that I have not heard back from yet – waiting for response

Rosenstein – not sure who to contact for Parking advisory and Parking appeals committees

Bruns – contact head of EIU police for those

Rosenstein – what about campus recreation board?

Stowell – I have not been able to get information from/about campus recreation board

Rosenstein – what about Environmental Health and Safety? – who should I contact?

Ludlow – contact Ryan

Oliver – yes, Ryan Seigel

Rosenstein – I will clean up this list and send to J. Oliver to distribute to EIU faculty. Hopefully by Friday. Enough time? Time frame on deadline for volunteers?

Ludlow – correction on Environmental Health and Safety – contact Dan Deekin

Ludlow – the more time the better for recruiting volunteers

Sterling – pushing the deadline back a bit would be preferable – maybe into Finals week

Rosenstein – to Viertel – can we meet during finals week to finalize this?

Stowell – mentions a name change recommendation for one of the committees from Amy Lynch – ‘Records and Registration Advisory Committee’ to ‘Office of the Registrar Advisory Committee’

Rosenstein – any other volunteers for any of these committees right now?

Ashley – yes

Sterling – when IAB was here earlier this semester, we requested that a member of the Faculty Senate be involved in the process of reviewing/selecting candidates for IAB – maybe somebody serving on the nominations committee?

Rosenstein – maybe Dave or Todd? (current members of the nominations committee)

Viertel – volunteers for this task

3. Elections Committee: Sterling - Election ratification needed – any discussion? – vote taken - unanimous support – 13/13

Constitutional vote – working well – runs through tomorrow night at 11:59 pm

Ludlow – yes – vote today or tomorrow.

Ludlow - John Allison visited me to discuss historical context of proposed amendment to remove presidential and BOT oversight of Faculty Senate – the original reason for that oversight was to make sure Faculty Senate was fully recognized by the BOT and president. He wanted to bring this to our attention.

Sterling – and there is a BOT policy that would require their constitutional to be revised if we move the amendment forward.

Scher – it would have been nice to discuss this earlier in this process, not right at the end.

Ludlow – he did not want us to recall the vote

Sterling – if it passes, we could encourage the EIU BOT to revise their policy but still formally recognize Faculty Senate

Scher – makes additional comments about Chicago State situation – can’t imagine it happening here

Sterling – the election left vacancies and a need for the CAA at-large replacement – what should we do? Fill vacancies during first meeting of the Fall?

Ludlow – motion – appoint Jim Bruehler for CAA at-large vacancy because he had most write-in votes

Ashley – 2nd the motion for Jim Bruehler

Rosenstein – asks for clarification on the voting process

Sterling and Ludlow – provides clarification on the process – election votes vs write in votes

Vote on motion – 13/13 – Jim Bruehler to fill CAA at-large vacancy

4. Faculty-Student Relations Committee: Proposed Student Athletic Fee Increase

Scher – to S. Ahmad – shares her insights and feelings about potential student fees increases.

Ahmad – students serving on student senate seem to be supportive of increasing student fees

Scher – who makes the final decisions on the student fee increases?

Ahmad – Dr. Nadler presented on it last week. The students vote on it. He takes voting results to the EIU BOT.

Ashley – unfortunately, what Dr. Nadler presented to you was not entirely accurate information. Vice President McCann provided a more accurate breakdown of fees during a recent discussion with members of the budget transparency committee. There are other student fees that are also directed towards athletics as well – specifically the GIA fee. When factored all together, EIU students are paying as much in student fees towards athletics as other schools being compared. Asking for more in fees from the students for athletics is not right.

Robertson – does GIA go exclusively to athletics?

Ashley – yes, \$11.95 per credit hour. So to ask for such a steep increase in athletic fee is not in the best interest of current and future students. They need to stop spending not just asking for more funding.

Eckert – adding on other fees would actually make our fee more expensive?

Ashley – yes, that is possible if proposal is approved.

Oliver – you bring up some important considerations. It caused me to visit ISU website to see what other fees on their campus are directed towards athletics. There were others. Shouldn't we extend the analysis before making final decisions or taking certain positions? Don't we need further data?

Ashley – continues to make comments about the athletic fee situation. It is not transparent enough for our students to vote on in an informed way.

Rosenstein – my concern is 'how does the average student benefit from all of these fees?' Makes comments about the question.

Ahmad – offers additional comments from the student government's perspective

Ashley – motion regarding student fee increase propose. Roberston – 2nd the motion

Stowell – this is a student fee that will ultimately be recommended to the EIU BOT – the emphasis should be on students being 'fully informed' and the process 'transparent'

Ashley – I don't feel like the VP of Student Affairs is being fully transparent with this. We need to send a statement about this.

Mulvaney – I agree with J. Stowell – this is important to discuss but it is ultimately a student decision – the students need to be fully informed on it before voting

Eckert – should we ask for more transparency?

Ashley – provides additional comments – we are trying to recruit students and keep fees down to make EIU affordable as possible. So asking for fee increases without full information is not in the students' best interest.

Ahmad – students are 'ok' with potential student fee increases

Ashley – would you feel that same way if you had full information up front?

Lord – let me provide additional context – we are asking for a \$3 per credit hour increase in tuition – between tuition and fees the overall total increase will be less than 2% - lower than ½ of Illinois institutions. There have been some other occasional minor increases during the past few years.

Scher – provides concerns about Athletics not being able to live within it's budget, and those who are making the decisions about budget, as well as the % increase of the proposed athletic fee.

Dao – is the fee applicable to all credit hours or just the first 12 CUs per semester? That could make a significant difference in semester-by-semester expense.

Sterling – we have a motion and a 2nd. I recommend that we take a vote.

Rosenstein – please repeat the motion

Ashley – 'the faculty senate opposes the idea of an athletic fee increase'

Vote – 7 = 'yes', 5 = 'abstain', 1 = 'no' (Oliver)

Sterling – motion carries. Any other business before CAA report.

5. Faculty-Staff Relations Committee – no report

6. Awards Committee – no report

7. Faculty Forum Committee – no report

8. Budget Transparency Committee – Ashley – additional insights from meeting with Paul McCann. Science building reserve funds and if they will expire? Expense to host playoff basketball game = \$36000 + normal game operational expenses. We kept ticket sales. We did experience a net loss. Panther Club promised to make up any deficit. Biggest concern – where does money for athletics come from? Large portion comes from income fund. So overspending does have an impact on academics. Discussed past and current budget deficits by athletics. Discusses 2.25% reduction on base appropriations this year – will impact funding this year. Suggestion – budget transparency committee meeting with VP of budgeting. Eckert – ongoing frustration regarding impact of this on academics on this campus. Sterling – CUPB - makes comments about difficulty of finding 2.25% at this point of the fiscal year. CUPB discussed-helped to find short-term solutions, but will create longer-term fiscal challenges.

9. Constitution and By-Laws Review Committee – no report

10. Committee on Committees – no report

11. Other Reports

a. Provost's Report – to Ludlow – CAA initiative started several years ago. There are several forces impacting the CAA initiative. Provides historical background. EIU BOT meets on Friday. Important item = approving tenure recommendations. Tuition and fee discussion will also be a part of it. Looking at a 2% increase for next year. There is also a EIU BOT meeting with Lake Land BOT on Thursday. Search for interim graduate program dean – 12 internal candidates interested. Council of Graduate Studies led by Dean Lanham is leading the process. Reception for Mike Watts today. Piece of Illinois Legislation passed recently – smoke and tobacco free campus – July 1st, 2015. Ludlow – smoke and tobacco? Lord – each campus can decide - President Perry decided to add tobacco free. Ashley – what about e-cigarettes? Lord – faculty controls classroom. We are going to include e-cigs in this policy. It will take a while for the culture to change but it will gradually happen. Mulvaney – timeline on interim Grad Dean search? – Lord – within the next few weeks – my goal is to have a decision made by the end of the semester, and plan for full search next Fall. Lord – thanks to all for serving on Faculty Senate this year – especially to Grant Sterling – two years as Chair of the Faculty Senate.

b. Other

B. Other Old Business

VI. New Business

A. Future Agenda: Summer 2015 Meeting Dates:

- Faculty Senate/UPI Retirement Reception: Tarble Arts Center Atrium, May 5, 2015, 3:30-5:00 PM;
- Summer Meeting Date: TBD

B. Other New Business – none

VII. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 3:57 pm.