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Minutes

Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate

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The meeting was called to order by Chair Simpson at 2:00 pm.

Present: R. Beck, G. Foster, F. Fraker, R. Gholson, W. Kirk, H. Nordin, J. Ozier, G. Richard, J. Schmidt, J. Simpson, J. Tidwell, L. Walker, D. Wolf

Visitors: Lewis Coon, Chad Gallagher, Terry Weidner

Minutes: A motion (Richard/Schmidt) to approve the minutes with the following corrections was unanimous: II.A., B. Kirk is also a member of the Student/Faculty Relations Committee; II.C., "Janice Coons," not "Janet Kuhns"; "departments," not "department"; II.D., "Ozier's," not "Oziers's"; IV., "80,000," not "85,000"; "no office cost," not "housing cost"; "[Accountancy and Finance]," not "[Business]."

I. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. From Jane Lasky, memo (8/29) circulated regarding "Ratification of June 1 Special Senate session resolutions.
- B. Minutes of President's Council (8/23) circulated. Chair Simpson noted that minutes having general campus distribution, with consensus approval, will no longer be circulated during Senate, though Senators should bring concerns from such minutes to the Senate's attention.
- C. Copy of memo from Floyd Merritt (8/30) to the President requesting that the varsity tennis courts be named in honor of Rex Darling.
- D. Memo from Mary Grivetti (8/31), Secretary of the Library Advisory Board, reporting the resignation of Tom Wascom, and reminding the Senate of the need to replace him as representative of Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences.
- E. E-mail from Tom Wascom (8/31) to Senator Foster announcing his resignation from LAB because of his appointment as Acting Chair of Technology.
- F. E-mail from John Best (8/31) to Foster regarding election of representative and alternate from Fine Arts area to UPC.
- G. Memo from John Allison (9/1) inquiring as to the release of the spring evaluations of President Jorns.
- H. Phone inquiry from Mary Ann Hanner, CAA Chair, regarding Senate plans to discuss +/- grading.
- I. Phone call from Senator Weber regarding Senate absence (9/5) due to family emergency.
- J. Phone call from Senator Allison regarding Senate absence (9/5) due to illness.
- K. From Chair Simpson to the Senate regarding scheduling of guests 9/12: Dean Allen Lanham, 2:15; Dr. Charles Evans, 2:45; Chris Merrifield, 3:00.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Summer Enrollment - Full-time summer status has been redefined from 8 semester hours to 12 semester hours. Chair Simpson distributed copies of pertinent memos from VPAA Weidner. The memos indicate that there have been no changes in the definition of Academic Load requirements, in eligibility and amount of financial aid, hours required of GAs to be eligible for tuition and fee waivers, policies regarding Student Rec Center use in the summer. VP Weidner noted only 2 changes - students are assessed additional tuition dollars for each hour taken past 8 (up to 12), and that students not enrolled in the spring who took 8 hours in the summer were (would) not (be) billed for fees entitling use of student health services. VP Hencken will be meeting with all parties experiencing real or perceived problems this past summer so that they may be avoided in the future. Senator Kirk noted that resolution of insurance accessibility is paramount since some students may not otherwise have health coverage. Senator Gholson expressed concern that the new definition of full-time status in the summer not come back to haunt the university with the appearance of a precipitous decrease in full-time enrollment. Senator Kirk suggested that administrative discussion continue with the graduate dean who can then better inform graduate coordinators. Senator Nordin asked in VP Weidner would request that minutes of the President's Council be made more specific. Summer enrollment status will continue as an agenda item.

B. Committee Reports

1. The Elections Committee is reviewing a draft of a memo to be sent to all university councils with area representation which will request membership realignment to reflect the new university colleges.
 2. Student/Faculty Relations Committee suggests that the co-hosted tea last year was not a profitable effort. The committee will attempt to have one member present at each Student Senate meeting.
 3. Faculty/Staff Relations Committee will attempt to have a member present at each Staff Senate meeting.
 4. Senator Walker noted that his name was inadvertently omitted from the composition of the Drafting Committee.
- C. Senate Secretary - VP Weidner has talked to Diane Ingle in Human Resources and has requested that Senator Allison talk to her directly.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Naming Varsity Tennis Courts - It was moved (Nordin/Kirk, as amended by Richard and accepted by Nordin/Kirk) that the Faculty Senate endorse Floyd Merritt's idea of honoring Rex Darling by naming the varsity tennis courts after him. Senator Schmidt noted that specific mechanisms for naming campus facilities are in place. Senator Beck noted that any library expansion might eliminate the tennis courts, but Senator Nordin suggested that the name would follow any new tennis courts. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Funding of CUPB Priorities - Senator Walker stated that new monies were approved for new faculty positions in general education, approved by VP Hill, and ranked 3rd by CUPB. With none of the priority positions filled, Walker asked Senator Tidwell, as a CUPB member, what became of the monies approved. Senator Tidwell indicated that no money may have actually been left, but he did not know since CUPB has not met since spring. Both Senators agreed that between \$100,000 and \$300,000 was anticipated to be set aside. VP Weidner indicated that monies available this year will be used to fund unfunded priorities from last year, e.g., summer research grants will be funded, but funding won't get beyond \$500,000 on the priority list. Senator Walker, citing recaptured monies being used to convert temporary and part-time positions to tenure tracks, noted that this could adversely impact student/faculty ratio and will cost more. Senator Gholson noted that there is no necessary decline in numbers and Senator Tidwell noted that since temps receive benefits here, there is not as much incentive to NOT replace them. Senator Nordin noted that the national trend is to hire more temps and part-times. Chair Simpson noted that the issue is of interest to the Phi Beta Kappa chapter efforts. VP Weidner stated that Eastern's goal is to increase tenure tracks - the issue is how.

C. Computer Services - Senator Tidwell requests Senate to revisit Computer Services because of delays in services. Senator Kirk requests inquiry into statistics consultant(s) for faculty and students, a need acknowledged by numerous senators. Senators offered high praise for Doug Bower, lamenting his limited time and numerous responsibilities.

D. Conflict of Interest Policy - VP Weidner, from Bud May, noted that the NSF and NIH require that conflict of interest policies be on file for grantee institutions. One will be drafted and circulated to campus groups for input. If time demands dictate, in order to protect grant recipients, the President's Council may have to tentatively approve such a policy first and then solicit input.

E. Senior Seminar Funding - Senator Walker noted that 59 senior seminar sections were offered during the spring and intercession of 1995, but for spring and intercession of 1996, 190 sections are being requested with no increase in funding, and he requests that Dr. Evans either address this during his visit next week, through memo, or with a return visit.

F. Personnel Action Calendar - When Senator Gholson asked about distribution, VP Weidner indicated that he thought it was in the mail.

G. Lewis Coon noted that the current BOG legislation makes it a board of control, giving it the right to even pick textbooks. He noted that in the middle of November, the law would be re-written to reflect the disappearance of the BOG, and he urges all at Eastern to take this opportunity to influence its revision. Senator Tidwell expects many problems over the next year because of the way language/law has been thrown together.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm. The next meeting is 2:00 pm, Sept. 12, BOG Room, Booth Library. AGENDA ITEMS: IBHE Articulation Plan, full-time summer students, visits with Dean Lanham, Dr. Evans, Ms. Merrifield.

Respectfully submitted, Gary Foster