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Faculty Senate

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I. Call to order by Chair John Pommier at 2:00pm. (Booth Library Conference Room)


Guests: Blair Lord (Provost), Jeanne Snyder (Assoc. Dean, LCBAS), Erica Whelan (DEN), Grant Sterling (Philosophy/CAA)

II. Approval of the Minutes of 12 April 2010

Senator Brownson (Fero) moved to approve the minutes. Motion passed 10-0-2. Abstain: Methven, Viertel.

III. Announcements

Vice Chair Van Gunten stated that volunteers are needed for Prowl’s service day, Jump Start to Service, August 21, 2010, 9:30am-2pm. Faculty volunteers will go with a group of freshman to a service site, participate in the activity, and lead a discussion. The program is coordinated through Kimberlie Moocks’ office, faculty interested should contact her at kamoock@eiu.edu. She will need 100 faculty or staff volunteers, and is attempting to get 25 from each college. Van Gunten stated that more EIU Reads facilitators are also needed, and asked faculty to contact Moock or Bonnie Irwin (bdirwin@eiu.edu).

IV. Communications

1. Email of April from Joe Gisondi re: Article 13 bylaws

V. Old Business

A. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee: no report
2. Nominations Committee: Senator Worthington noted that the list of nominations/appointments was distributed. She stated that all positions have been filled, and that she does not believe any are not Unit A. VanGunten asked how many volunteers did not get positions. Worthington stated roughly 22. Chair Pommier asked how many individuals total sought nomination. Worthington stated there were 69, for 41 positions. Pommier asked about the process the committee used to determine nominations. Worthington stated that for each committee we determined how many volunteered, and put that many slips of paper in a cup, and selected the needed number. Pommier asked if people selected were crossed off the list once selected. Worthington stated that, if a faculty member volunteered for more than one position, the committee generally waits to ensure that the subsequent committee does not require an appointee from their college, but that this was not necessary this time. Worthington (Methven) moved to accept the list of nominations. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Elections Committee: VanGutent reminded Senators about the special election for one at large position on CAA, and asked Senators to help securing candidates for the position.
4. Faculty—Student Relations Committee: no report
5. Faculty—Staff Relations Committee: no report
6. Awards Committee: no report
7. Faculty Forum Committee: Pommier stated that the recent forum on the budget co-sponsored with UPI was well received by all faculty he’s talked with. He commended the forum committee and UPI for putting on a splendid forum.
8. Other Reports

a. Provost’s Report: Lord stated that Monday April 26 is a board meeting, tenure recommendations will be acted on, presumably approved without dissent, and also the meeting at which tuition and fee recommendations will go to the board. The Board will also consider the calendar for AY2012. Lord stated that the search for a new General Manager for WEIU is
proceeding. Lord stated he has received the committee’s report, and the search should be resolved very shortly. Faculty should also get information for the Honors Dean search announcing the internal interviews for three candidates. Lord urged faculty to attend open sessions with the candidates, and also stated that since faculty should be familiar with all the candidates, they should feel free to turn in reviews even if you don’t attend open sessions. Lord stated that a survey by Faculty Development Advisory committee will remain open for the rest of the semester, and urged faculty to complete the survey, as it is a good chance to give me feedback on Faculty Development. Lord thanked Senators for their service, and stated it has been a great year as well as a busy year.

b. Budget Transparency Committee: no report

c. Other: Pommier stated that CUPB met last Friday to discussion on budget issues. Pommier stated that the President is unbelievably transparent, encouraged the committee to have an open discussion regarding revenues and expenditures, and stated that a new cost containment/cash flow management system will go before CUPB in the fall. Pommier encouraged faculty to send questions or ideas regarding ways EIU can save energy to CUPB this fall.

Pommier reported on attending a meeting of the Council of Illinois University Senates at Northeastern Illinois University. Pommier stated that based on conversations at the meeting about Senates’ relationships with administrations and Boards of Trustees, that Eastern is faring quite well, and faculty have a voice. Pommier stated that the only other institution which had a comparable voice to CUPB regarding budget issues, only Illinois State Senators believed they had something comparable.

Pommier stated that the Senators discussed ways in which the state universities might combine buying power in similar ways as the U of I system. Brownson stated we already do that with the library, in purchasing databases, and that the library does lots of consortia buying. Pommier hoped the discussion would carry over to the late summer.

Lord stated that the retirement wall is up and the names of qualifying retirees are on the wall.

B. Other Old Business

VI. New Business

Executive Committee Elections: Senator Best (Russell) nominated Pommier to serve as chair for 2010-2011. Pommier accepted the nomination, which was approved by unanimous vote of the Senate.

VanGunt (Fero) nominated Senator Mulvaney for Vice Chair for 2010-2011. Mulvaney accepted the nomination. Mulvaney (VanGunt) nominated Senator Best for Vice Chair. Best declined the nomination. Mulvaney’s nomination was approved by unanimous vote of the Senate.

Van Gunten (Pommier) nominated Recorder Coit to serve as Recorder for 2010-2011. Coit accepted the nomination. The nomination was approved by acclamation.

VII. Adjournment at 2:41pm

Future Agenda items:
Senate’s Summer Session is scheduled for July 13, 2pm, Booth Library Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Coit
May 1, 2010