10-7-2003

October 7, 2003

Faculty Senate

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I. Call to order by Chair David Carpenter at 2:00 p.m. (Library Conference Room, Booth Library)


Guests: John Hohenadel, Caleb Judy, Blair Lord, Tim Martin, Mike Walsh, Amanda Weisbacher

II. Approval of the Minutes of September 30, 2003.

Motion (Ogbomo/Wolski) to approve: Yes: Allison, Benedict, Carpenter, Carwell, Fischer, Lawrence, Monipallil, Ogbomo, Pommier, Scher, Stimac, Toosi, Wolski. Passed unanimously.

III. Announcements:

A. Chair Carpenter: Funeral Service for Distinguished Professor Luis Clay-Mendez at 4:00 p.m.

B. Chair Carpenter: Penelope Mendez's request that the Senate meet as regularly scheduled.

IV. New Business (Chair Carpenter asked that the Senate suspend Communications to consider New Business)

A. After thanking Drs. Anne Zahlan and Bonnie Irwin for proposing the following Resolution honoring Distinguished Professor Clay-Mendez, Chair Carpenter read the Resolution:

  Whereas, Luis Clay-Mendez, over many years and with dedication and distinction, served Eastern Illinois University, Charleston and the larger community, his adopted country, the United States of America, and the cause of international understanding;
  Whereas, he was a dedicated educator, instructing Eastern Illinois University students in the Spanish language and the literature and culture of the Hispanic world, in order that they might become educated citizens of a world society;
  Whereas, he promoted international understanding at Eastern Illinois University through his work with International Programs and the International Students Scholarship Committee, and by organizing programs on Latin America and Latino Heritage;
  Whereas, he put his knowledge of Spanish at the service of the community by designing and directing a Service Learning initiative for Spanish language teaching, by acting as interpreter for the Coles County Courts, and by visiting and supporting members of the Cuban Unit at the U.S. Penitentiary in Terre Haute;
  Whereas, he has served his country by teaching U.S. Coast Guard personnel, and by serving as linguist and interpreter/translator in the Coast Guard Auxiliary;
  Whereas, he was a valued member of Eastern's Faculty Senate, championing and embodying ideals of forthright discussion, academic freedom, and shared governance; and
  Whereas, his example of engagement and service inspired his students, colleagues and fellow citizens, and his generosity of spirit and love of life brought joy to all who knew him; therefore, be it

  Resolved, That the Faculty Senate of Eastern Illinois University hereby honors the life and legacy of Luis Clay-Mendez and deeply mourns his passing.

  We will miss him.

The resolution passed unanimously.

B. After some discussion of Senator Scher's proposal of means to further honor Professor Clay-Mendez, a committee of the following members was formed to pursue establishing a faculty-service award in to honor Professor Clay-Mendez: Scher, Wolski, Carpenter, Stimac, Benedict, Fischer, Pommier, Caleb Judy, Allison.

C. Chair Carpenter stated that Senator Toosi had requested an opportunity to make the following five-point Statement. Toosi stated that (1) he intends to resign from the Faculty Senate if a replacement can be found; (2) that he voted “wrong” during the previous week’s vote concerning the presidential search; (3) that while he believes that Mr. Hencken can run the university, that Mr. Hencken cannot lead the university, but that Dr. Lord
can while Mr. Hencken directs the day-to-day operations of the university; (4) that the Faculty Senate should be a decision making body, not an advisory one, so long as the president and provost retain veto power, and that members of UPI leadership should be excluded from Senate membership; and (5) that he believes that the current Board of Trustees is not qualified to direct the university, especially because the Board members lack the necessary time to do so.

D. Allison introduced the following resolution (Allison/Lawrence), noting that Luis Clay-Mendez had intended to introduce such a resolution:

Whereas, Eastern Illinois University's Board of Trustees has cancelled an ongoing national search for a new president;
Whereas, the Board has violated its obligation to assure meaningful shared participation in university governance as specified the Board's Governing Policies ("Article II, Section 5. Participation in University Governance");
Whereas, the Board has ignored requests to continue a national search and, in so doing, to assure open access to all eligible applicants; and
Whereas, the Board's decision to end ongoing search violates the principles of equal opportunity for employment in hiring; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Faculty Senate of Eastern Illinois University lacks confidence in Eastern's current Board of Trustees, excepting the Board's student trustee, who voted against the Board's peremptory decision.

Senator Ogbomo and others requested that discussion on the resolution be deferred to the next meeting. Allison stated that such was his wish also.

V. Communications:
A. Student Government: A card of condolence expressing sympathy for the loss of Luis Clay-Mendez. Chair Carpenter expressed the Senate's heartfelt gratitude.
B. Chair Carpenter: Memorandum to Dr. Anderson conveying the Senate's motion recommending continuation of the presidential search.
C. Notes from President's Council (9/17)
D. David Radavich: Memorandum thanking Senate for "informed, thoughtful" discussion of search.
E. Janice Coons: Memorandum in favor of continuing search.
F. Sarah Marinacci and Steve Mefford, Presentation Product Specialist: Memorandum thanking James Tidwell and EIU for "interest in keeping up with technological changes."
G. College of Education and Professional Studies: Curriculum Committee Minutes (9/23)
H. Provost B. Lord: Re: Academic Calendar

VI. Committee Reports:
A. Nominations Committee: Senator Wolski recommended Dr. Joseph Williams (Psychology) for the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee and Dr. Dawn VanGanten (Secondary Education) for the Records and Registrations Advisory Committee. It was moved (Ogbomo/Wolski) that these appointments be accepted, and they were approved unanimously.
B. Faculty/Student Senate Relations: Senator Scher announced that the group will meet on the coming Monday.

VII. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:30 in honor of Distinguished Professor Luis Clay-Mendez.

Future Agenda Items
NCA Accreditation Process, Activities of Enrollment Management, Distributions of Scholarships and Awards, Commencement Committee, Academic/Faculty Advising, Evaluation of Administrators, Faculty Representation of Board of Trustees, Facilities Naming Procedures, Shared Governance for Academic Technologies, Community Service Programs and Opportunities, EIU Foundation, Faculty Participation in Establishing Fund-Raising Priorities, Parking Fees and Spaces, Instructors with Bare Bachelors, Service Award in Name of Luis-clay Mendez.