

ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES**(Approved)****October 10, 2001****Volume XXXIII, No. 4*****Call to Order***

Chairperson Curt White called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Senator Crothers called the roll and declared a quorum.

Approval of Minutes of September 26, 2001

Motion XXXIII-26: by Senator Albrecht, second by Senator Bathauer, to approve the Senate minutes of September 26, 2001. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator White: My principle comments have to do with the IBHE Big Picture Meeting held this week. One of the items discussed was that, in the current economy, the 3 + 2 + 1 raises for next year are very much in limbo. A number of scenarios are being discussed. They include 1) the salary incrementation process being limited to certain employment groups; 2) returning to 3 + 1 + 1; or 3) the IBHE and the State reneging on their commitment to that program. The situation is fluid and very uncertain. The major statement made at the meeting was Keith Sanders' expectation that there is probably going to be a 2% rescission for this year's budget. The governor had made a commitment of at least 51% of the state budget for education each year. However, because the overall budget will be reduced, 51% may not be sufficient. We also talked about the impact of the Illinois Coalition, which is a group of universities constituted by Northwestern University, University of Chicago, University of Illinois, Northern Illinois University and Southern Illinois University, which succeeded in getting a large block of capital dollars for building. That is somewhat controversial because it ends up being public monies to private institutions and actually cuts into the State's ability to pay for public education.

I attempted to pursue the subject of public monies to private institutions and received a very interesting analysis from Keith Sanders. He stated that we are likely to see a reduction in a rescission year for capital projects for the Illinois Coalition, but the IMAP (Illinois Monetary Assistance Program) monies are another matter. Dr. Sanders accurately described that money as a kind of voucher system for the private universities and colleges in the state. He was also discouraging in terms of thinking that we should try to change this situation. In his opinion, the current arrangement is less damaging than a sort of *laissez faire* situation in which the private universities and colleges would go directly through their representatives and lobby for support. Dr. Sanders also commented on the *Illinois Commitment* and admitted that the one flaw in that document was the absence of language responding to liberal arts education and the value of an educated citizenry.

Vice Chairperson/Student Government Association President's Remarks

Senator Kording: The Student Government approved a measure advising President Boschini that the student body supports the limited inclusion of disciplinary probation status in the proposed parental notification scheme, which will be forwarded to the Senate with the Student Code of Conduct proposed revisions. Last year's student government recommended that disciplinary probation should be completely excluded from the parental notification scheme. SGA also approved the measure, which the President plans to recommend to the Board of Trustees, for the increases in tuition and student fees. We have three new student senators who have

been appointed by the Student Government Association and we now have all student senator positions filled. The newly elected senators are Amanda Magnabosco, Brandon Ballard and Sally Kwitkowski.

Administrators' Remarks:

- ***President Boschini:*** Excused Absence.

- ***Designee for President Boschini***

Dr. Richard Dammers: I would like to share with you the change in the structure of the IBHE Big Picture Meeting. In the past, this was a closed meeting and was generally attended by the IBHE and just the President. Now, it is a meeting that included Curt White, representing the Academic Senate, Chika Nnamani, representing the AP Council, Christa Lawhun, representing the Civil Service Council, and Zoe Hudock, representing the Student Government Association. There were seven members on the IBHE, including the director, which made for an interesting and valuable conversation.

- ***Provost Al Goldfarb:*** The Muslim Student Association and the Jewish Student Union put together a rally on campus today. I was greatly impressed once again by the kind of leadership our students are taking in terms of bringing people together on campus and confronting the issues going on in our nation and globally.

The IBHE staff at the Big Picture Meeting was highly complimentary of the *Educating Illinois* plan. I don't think I would be overstating if I said that they thought that it was one of best strategic plans they had seen in higher of education in the State of Illinois. Dr. Sanders spoke about changes he has seen over the past three years on campus. He complimented faculty, administrators and our Board on bringing the campus together and working on a united vision.

Dr. Sanders did say that he was predicting a 2% budget rescission; I want to underline that this was a prediction. The vice presidents are going to meet tomorrow morning to discuss this and I will get together with the Provost's Advisory Council and the deans to try to do some planning for Academic Affairs and institutionally in an attempt to try to protect ourselves in case there are budgetary rescissions.

We were in invited to the regular IBHE meeting on October 2 to do a Best Practices presentation on Foundations of Inquiry and our focus on general education. One of our students made a presentation on FOI and did an excellent job.

- ***Vice President of Student Affairs***

Senator Mamarchev: I also want to comment on the rally today. We really appreciate everyone coming out, particularly our faculty, staff and students who had some very inspiring words of comfort and hope in this difficult time. Tomorrow is National Coming Out Day and so our PRIDE organization will have some activities on the quad. I have just come from the Midwest Meeting of the Vice Presidents for Student Affairs. This is a group of public and private universities who come together annually. One university vice president reported that because they had had a very severe shortfall in their state during the past fiscal year, their university is facing an immediate budgetary call back of \$18.5 million. Other universities reported that they were down quite a number of students from their projections for this year. We all need to keep in mind that this is affecting everyone and that it is all just a matter of degree.

- ***Vice President of Finance and Planning***

Senator Bragg: I would add one other perspective to the Big Picture Meeting. Provost Goldfarb made a

very eloquent presentation on *Educating Illinois* as being a guide for the University, not only during good times, but during also what will hopefully be a very short period of economic down turn. It is a guide that helps us focus our priorities and that really is the key to surviving short-term economic down turns. The key is just to stay the course. I would also like to remind you that on Friday, October 19, 2001, the Board of Trustees will be meeting on campus and I invite all of you to the discussion hour at 8:00 a.m. in the Circus Room. We will be doing a presentation on an update of the Master Plan for the institution. On the agenda, we will also have the Results Report that we send annually to Springfield on the accomplishments of the institution, the Under-Represented Groups Report and we will be presenting our fiscal year 2003 budget recommendations, including the increases to tuition and fees recommendations.

Committee Reports

Academic Affairs Committee

Senator Borg: The Academic Affairs Committee will be forwarding to the Senate several proposals related to tiered admissions policies, the current General Studies Degree and a potential University Studies Degree program. In addition, we will forward to the Senate a proposal to create a policy on our graduation rate goal. In the near future, we will return to our discussion of the University's Mission Statement. If any of you have any further comments on the Mission Statement, please forward them to me.

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee

Senator Wells: The committee continued to discuss the issue that had been raised previously relating to a visit last year by Disney recruiters, student protests and the handling of those protests. Many of the original questions were answered, but two remain and we continue to collect information about those. One of them had to do with the criteria and procedures by which various companies were invited to campus for recruiting and the other had to do with the handling of student protests, an issue, given recent events, that is likely to be an increasingly important topic. Clarification of that would seem called for since the available guidelines are vague in general. We should be able to get back to you in a much more definite light at the next Senate meeting.

Faculty Affairs Committee

Senator Deutsch: Faculty Affairs continued its discussion on several important policy issues. One of these concerns the University's policy on employment in excess of full time. The other concerns a policy formulated by a subcommittee of the University Research Committee on integrity in research. Both of these policy issues are considerably important and we hope to bring them before the Senate before the end of the semester

Planning and Finance Committee

Senator Kurtz: Since the last Senate meeting, the Planning and Finance Committee has had two more meetings on the issue of collegiate restructuring. This evening we performed a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis. There seemed to be a growing consensus in favor of what we are beginning to term "minimalist" models of restructuring, which we will continue to talk about at our next meeting.

We are beginning to formulate recommendations in terms of the following: 1) Concerns about structuring that have surfaced either in the email survey that was sent out to all constituencies or in the course of the focus groups that are ongoing this month; 2) Problems internal to the existing colleges in terms of structure; 3) Revising plans for periodic self-study to monitor and handle honestly and responsibly

changes within and between colleges. In regard to the final point, I have spent a fair amount of time over the past week in the University archives looking at ISU's last experience at reorganization 30 years ago and it did not really make for edifying reading. There were storms of protests, storms of position papers, expressions of horror and consternation. It has begun to seem to the committee that this is not a very good way to go about this business and we need to develop processes for this to occur in a better and more deliberate manner. I will also call your attention to the materials that are being periodically placed on the Academic Senate web site. They are there for your perusal and your commentary.

Rules Committee

Senator Reid: The Rules Committee dealt with three items this evening. The first was again the non-tenure track faculty Senate representative proposal. We talked about rewording of the ISU constitution for the election process. We have agreed on a final recommendation and will bring that to you at the next Senate meeting. We also looked at the revised Council for Teacher Education and Milner Library bylaws. We will have recommendations for several small changes to both of those documents.

Illinois Board of Higher Education-Faculty Advisory Committee Report

Senator Crothers: The IBHE held its meeting on October 2, 2001 in Wheaton, Illinois. Provost Goldfarb and an ISU student made an excellent presentation on Foundations of Inquiry. They made a very good impression on the committee. Additionally, President Boschini presented the Presidents Commission's Report on Retention and Graduation Rates. There was a brief presentation on improving access and diversity in the state.

The University of Phoenix did get operating authority to offer courses in the State of Illinois now. They were granted operating authority, but not degree granting authority. The IBHE was concerned that members of out-of-state private institutions seem to be coming to community colleges to provide degree completion programs, where as the state institutions do not. The expected answers were overload of faculty and lack of resources; however, the IBHE was strongly resistant to these answers. We raised the point that the only models that have ever worked are those that use part-time, non-tenure track faculty; so, we therefore asked the question 'do you really want a university based on part-time, non-tenure track faculty?' They did not seem to care; they just want this program underway.

We also then had a brief discussion about budget questions. The IBHE members clearly work off the notion that universities are in the customer service business. I challenged that pretty hard for I agree that universities exist to help students, but it is impossible for students to judge immediately if they are satisfied with what they are learning. The next IBHE-FAC meeting will be held in Edwardsville next month.

Senator Reid: Would you explain in more detail what is involved in offering a degree completion program?

Senator Crothers: They want us to go to community college campuses and offer junior/senior level courses such that students who cannot get to the twelve public universities can finish their degrees more proximal to their home locations. The problem, of course, is staffing. We know that they are not going to give us more tenure lines to assign people to work at those community colleges; so they want the programs to be, as with the private models, self-supporting. I think the predominant model is still face-to-face on campus teaching, although web-based instruction might also be acceptable.

Senator Crothers' entire report can be found on the Senate web site at: . Click "Committee Sites" and go to the IBHE section on that page.

Motion XXXIII-27: To adjourn by Senator Reid, second by Senator Chang. The motion was unanimously approved by standing vote.

Adjournment

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