

ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES
(Approved)

January 23, 2002

Volume XXXIII, No. 9

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 December 12, 2001

Senator Crothers: The figure for the State budget shortfall this year is \$450 million, not \$4.5 million as recorded in the minutes.

Motion XXXIII-74: By Senator Borg, second by Senator Wells, to approve the Senate minutes of December 12, 2001, as revised per Senator Crothers' comment. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Chairperson's Remarks:

Senator White: At the Senate meeting of December 12, 2001, we talked with Professor Roger Anderson about the formation of the Dean Search Committee in the College of Arts and Sciences. There was a problem expressed by the College Council of CAS about the appointment of non-tenure track faculty, AP and civil service representatives on that search committee. The objection basically had to do with the fact that those three members would lessen the voting strength of the faculty within the college. The Executive Committee took this up again on Monday, January 14, 2002, and we approved the following revised recommendation to the Provost about the construction of that committee. We stipulated that NTTs, APs and civil servants should stay on the committee but as ex-officio, non-voting members. At some point in time, those search documents should be revisited if it is the desire of the community that those areas have representation on dean search committees. As far as I know, the college is going forward with its search.

The Mission Statement is on the agenda again tonight. It needs to be very clear and the Blue Book (Supplement to Senate Bylaws) clearly states that the primary responsibility for the Mission Statement as part of the Academic Plan is with the Academic Affairs Committee. In the interest of fairness, after having conversations with student senators and with the concurrence of the Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, we are going to remove the Mission Statement from the agenda this evening; it will be back on the agenda on February 6, 2002 as an action item. It needs to be acted on by the Senate on February 6th in order for it to be a part of the business of the next Board of Trustees' meeting. We also need to get it into next year's catalog. The debate on the Mission Statement should be limited to the *substance* of the statement and not be about procedural matters.

Additionally, the Comprehensive Campaign is moving very quickly towards its public phase. This year, we begin the "University Family" part of the campaign. The Executive Committee will meet with representatives from the Foundation Board on January 28, 2002 and will talk about our leadership role in the campaign. On February 6th, someone from the Foundation Board and President Boschini will talk to the Senate about the campaign. The expectation and anticipation is that the Senate and the Executive Committee will provide leadership for the rest of the community in terms of taking part in the Comprehensive Campaign.

You will note on this evening's agenda that the employment policies are advisory items. Those were erroneously entered as information items on the last agenda. Information items are items on which the Senate votes. We do not vote on advisory items. We do not have authority over these particular policies. If we had a union or we were going to put these in the ASPT document, then we would have a vote.

Senator Kording will serve as chair at the next Senate meeting. I will be out of town on February 6th.

Senator Lawhun: I need to state for the record that I have had many calls on the dean search committee issue. There are many staff members upset about the Executive Committee's decision to take away the vote of the civil service, AP and NTT representatives.

Senator White: The Executive Committee's decision on the issue seemed to be a civil compromise.

Senator Lawhun: The concern is that you are setting a precedent for future dean search committees on which civil service representatives would not have a vote.

Senator White: Civil servants do not have a vote now or even a place on the search committees, per the current policy for dean search committees. Our mistake was attempting to place representatives on the committee that were not called for in the policy. Please convey my apologies to your colleagues.

Vice Chairperson/Student Government Association President's Remarks:

Senator Kording: The student leaders have put into effect, effective Monday, a revised Student Elections Code that will govern this year's student elections. The new Code is accessible on the SGA web site. I have been reporting for several weeks that SGA is compiling a statistically significant survey for the Downtown Renewal Commission to gather input. We have completed that and we are working with the Town of Normal to put it in a format that it would find useful. If you are interested in seeing the results of the random mail survey, they are accessible on the SGA web site. We have some student leaders working to lead the Student Campaign Committee, which is coordinating the student contribution efforts for the University's Comprehensive Campaign. We are told that we would increase the President and Dr. Kern's ability to raise funds from donors external to the University if we can demonstrate our own students' commitment to the campaign. On January 16, 2002, the Student Government authorized that a student referendum be placed on the student election's ballot in the first week of March regarding a new campus recreation and wellness center. We are still developing plans and we have launched an information campaign. We have worked with the University administration to determine that perhaps we should move forward.

Administrators' Remarks:

- ***President Boschini: Excused Absence***
- ***Provost Al Goldfarb: Excused Absence***
- ***Vice President of Student Affairs:***

Senator Mamarchev: I want to acknowledge the contributions of Senator Trask and other student leaders in putting on a wonderful Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration for our University last night. Many faculty, staff, students and colleagues from the Bloomington/Normal area attended. Next Wednesday, January 30th, we will have a ribbon cutting ceremony for the formal opening of Brewster's Lounge, as well as a ceremony to acknowledge the renovation of the Barnes and Noble University Bookstore in the Bone

Student Center.

· ***Vice President of Finance and Planning***

Senator Bragg: As you have probably already read in the letter from the President, we are still working our way through the spending cutbacks due to this year's budget shortfall. We still have not heard the final word from Springfield on the group insurance issue, but it is getting late enough in the year that we have to take action. We are assuming that our share of the shortfall is approximately \$3.1 million and we are moving it through the budget process. The Board of Trustees' meeting on February 22nd will have an action item approving the Master Plan. At the last Board meeting, we presented it to them as an information item, so if you have not yet provided the Master Plan Steering Committee with any feedback or your ideas, you have one more week to do so. We have had great attendance at follow up meetings and focus groups. I had hoped to report tonight on the process of an issue raised earlier, the nine-month/twelve-month pay issue. However, Senator Goldfarb is not here tonight and a key staff person, who has been working on this issue, also was unable to attend this evening. We will present to you a more complete report at the February 6th Senate meeting. Finally, an issue for those of you and your colleagues who are contemplating retirement in the near future, I have just learned today that the State University Retirement System will be changing some of the actuarial assumptions behind the Money Purchase Plan as of July 1, 2002. This could mean a difference in retirement calculations. As soon as we have more information, I will distribute it to you, but you may want to alert your colleagues that are debating between the general formula and the Money Purchase Plan to be on the look out for this.

Senator El-Zanati: Can you be more specific as to what our colleagues should expect?

Senator Bragg: I wish I could be more specific. The State University Retirement System has commissioned another actuarial study on the Money Purchase Plan, which is an actuarial-based payout plan and because people are living longer, they are changing the divisor in the formula for calculating the plan. I suspect that the monthly payout will go down for some annuitants. However, it is very dependent on individual cases.

Committee Reports

· ***Academic Affairs Committee***

Senator Borg: The Academic Affairs Committee will bring to the Senate on February 6, 2002 the Mission Statement that was an information item on November 28, 2001. There are a number of other issues that we will deal with after we take care of this one matter.

· ***Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee***

Senator Wells: The committee met this evening prior to the Senate meeting. First, we discussed getting underway our solicitation of comments for the period of commentary on the President. The second item was our generally routine approval of the Academic Calendar, which was postponed slightly because of the resolution submitted by the Student Government regarding extending the length of the Thanksgiving Break. We are trying to ascertain what impact an extension would have on the calendar in the future. The issue that we dealt with most extensively was our continuing debate on the development of a more formal policy that regulates free speech and access to campus space. We had a guest attend our meeting from the Provost's office, Larry Alferink, who represents a group of administrators currently working on the same issue. We plan to coordinate our efforts. After the next meeting, we hope to have something to present to the Senate.

- **Faculty Affairs Committee**

Senator Deutsch: Faculty Affairs met this evening and discussed the committee's report on NTT faculty. The IBHE's long-awaited report is due to be released on February 5, 2002, so we will be able to incorporate portions of that report into our report.

- **Planning and Finance Committee**

Senator Kurtz: The Planning and Finance Committee met this evening to approve the committee's final report on collegiate restructuring. This will come before the Senate shortly as an advisory item.

- **Rules Committee**

Senator Reid: The Rules Committee met this evening and considered a response from the Graduate School on suggestions that the Rules Committee had made for proposed changes to the Graduate Council Bylaws. We have put together our response to their comments and hope to bring a final document to the Senate very soon. We also began work on revisions to the Blue Book (Supplement to Senate Bylaws) and hope throughout the semester to complete revisions to that document as well as the Senate Bylaws and the Constitution.

Senator White: Will the committee get to address the Faculty Ethics and Grievance and Academic Freedom Committees' handbook?

Senator Reid: The students have asked for the faculty to meet alone on this. We will be meeting every other Thursday during the weeks that the Senate does not meet to discuss this issue. We should have it completed in one to two months.

Senator Winchip: Can you tell me where you are at with the bylaws revisions for the graduate faculty?

Senator Reid: We made comments about their revisions. They have responded to that and we are responding to their response. They should be able to send us a final copy within a week and we can bring it before the Senate at that time.

Action Items:

01.26.01.02A Revisions to Milner Bylaws (Rules Committee)

Senator Reid: Summarized the changes within the Milner bylaws.

Motion XXXIII-75: By Senator Reid, second by Senator Kording, to adopt the revised Milner bylaws. The bylaws were unanimously approved.

Advisory Items:

11.18.01.01 Employment Policies (Faculty Affairs Committee):

06.08.01.12A Employment in Excess of Full-Time Assignment Policy

06.08.01.13 Secondary/Outside Employment Policy

Senator Deutsch: The Faculty Affairs Committee unanimously recommended to the Senate at our last meeting that the employment policies be adopted. Some of us have announced to our departments that these are now the policies of the University.

Senator White: We did not vote on these last time, as there is no vote to be taken. These policies are not accepted or placed on the policy page until after we have had an opportunity to conclude our comments. We have an opportunity now to make any recommendations for amendments.

Senator Reid: In the Employment in Excess of Full-time Assignment Policy, on page one, it reads "...no full-time tenured faculty, probationary tenure faculty and administrative employee shall be assigned any additional work..." I think that you want to say **or** instead of **and**.

Senator Armstrong: Is this document based on the standard 37.5-hour work week?

Dr. Sharon Stanford: Not for faculty certainly.

Senator Fowles: If a faculty member does have an administrative appointment as part of their employment, is that part of the 12 hours? Is it a general understanding that tenure and probationary tenure faculty have a three-hour release for research activities?

Dr. Stanford: For the first question, percentage appointments would apply to the full-time status. For your second question, the policy reads very clearly that 12 hours is the maximum teaching load and that adjustments can be made.

Communications:

11.16.01.01 Music Business Sequence Approved by Senate on Consent Agenda 12/14/01

Schroeder Hall Renovation Class Schedule Plan

Senator Howard: I was approached by department chairs within our college regarding the Schroeder Hall renovation class schedule plan. They have some concerns that they would like brought forward to the Executive Committee so I will bring those to the Executive Committee on Monday.

Senator White: What are the specific concerns that your colleagues have?

Senator Howard: The concerns are that within the proposal for the Schroeder Hall class schedule, there are 20 class-period timeslots and all departments must place 5% of their courses into each one of those timeslots without exception. One of the class periods is Saturday morning for three hours and there are concerns that students will not register for those classes. There are inconsistencies that we want examined and we think that there are opportunities for other alternatives, some of which have been sent forward and either ignored, rejected or not acknowledged. If other Senate members have concerns, they can forward that information to me.

Adjournment

Motion XXXIII-76: By Senator Crumpler, second by Senator Sass, to adjourn. The motion was approved by standing vote.

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