

ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES
(Approved)

March 6, 2002

Volume XXXIII, No. 13

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 February 20, 2002

Motion XXXIII-97: By Senator Hines, second by Senator Chang, to approve the Senate minutes of February 20, 2002. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Chairperson's Remarks: No Remarks

Vice Chairperson/Student Government Association President's Remarks:

Senator Kording: At 6:00 p.m. this evening, the student elections for 2002 were closed. The Elections Committee is tallying the results of the elections as well as for the student referendum. The results will be announced in Room 375 of the Student Services Building at 9:00 p.m. tonight.

Administrators' Remarks:

President Boschini: I had dinner tonight with the new Executive Director of the IBHE, Dr. Lavista. I was very glad to get to meet him. I want to invite everyone to the official kickoff of the Comprehensive Campaign on Friday, March 22 at 3:00 p.m. in the Dinning Commons at Watterson Towers. On Saturday, March 23 at 2:00 p.m., Ambassador Donald McHenry will be sponsoring a Global Town Meeting. He will bring speakers from the United Nations on to campus to give a presentation on the importance of having a global community.

The FY 2003 budget, as we know it know, gives us additional reason to work harder for our comprehensive campaign. The budget cut is \$2 million more than we thought it would be. Some of the principles I will try to adhere to in the coming year are:

1. Allow the University to provide modest faculty-staff salary increases in FY2003. By modest, I mean less than 2%.
2. Avoid layoffs of continuing full-time employees.
3. Transfer funds to Academic Affairs to meet all of our general education requirements.
4. Minimize any further departmental cuts in FY2003.
5. Honor our commitment to the Comprehensive Campaign.
6. Meet all base adjustments in group health insurance costs so that these costs will not be passed on to our employees.
7. Return some our utility savings back to the campus in general.

I would ask you to hold any questions on this topic until Dr. Bragg has presented his remarks. Then he and I will be happy to address your questions.

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

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

Senator Bragg: It has been a great season and it has allowed us to save on utilities, which will do some things for infrastructure improvement and return some to the campus. I am now distributing charts in reference to the budget. This is the Board of Higher Education's allocation of the Governor's proposed budget for fiscal year 2003. In February, the Governor proposed his budget for the State of Illinois and made a few general comments about higher education. Traditionally, the Governor has asked the IBHE to do the specific allocations for higher education. It is important to recognize that there is another significant step yet in this process. The General Assembly now has to take into consideration the IBHE's recommendations and the Governor's recommendations and it will ultimately pass the final appropriation bill. On March 14, the President and I will attend the House Appropriations Hearings and testify. On April 8, 2002, the Senate Appropriations Committee will be holding its budget hearings.

The chart that I distributed shows the last three fiscal years and the Governor's proposed allocation for 2003. The cross-hatched areas in the bottom of each column are what I am considering discretionary spending. In FY 2002, the full height of the bar was our original appropriation. About midway through the year, the Governor asked higher education to hold back \$25 million in general funds, our share of which was \$1.064 million. Then the Governor asked higher education to help with the shortfall in the group health insurance program. That equaled \$45 million for all of higher education and our share of that was \$3.087 million. We assumed from the Governor's budget address that those cuts would carry over to FY2003, but we assumed that that was all that there was going to be. There was a mention of a \$79 million base adjustment in the Governor's speech. We figured that was the \$25 million plus the \$45 million plus some other small items included. It turned out not to be the case. It turned out to be an actual base adjustment. So, in the last column, FY2003, I have inserted a diamonded area between the \$1.064 and the \$3.087 million marks, which equals a little over \$2 million. This is yet another base reduction for ISU. Again, this is proposed in the Governor's budget, but we don't know what will happen in the General Assembly.

The long and the short of it is honoring these commitments will give us discretionary spending authority that is just slightly less than what we had last year, FY2001. It is about \$600,000 less than FY 2001's spending authority.

These are only general revenue funds. The University also receives income funds from tuition and fees. There are agency funds. There are funds from the Foundation that come in to help the University. The President mentioned the importance of the Comprehensive Campaign. All told, our projected budget for next year is between \$265 and \$270 million, so this is about one-third of the University's budget. I think is about as good as it is going to get, so going to Springfield and arguing to hold on to this budget is the task before us.

Senator Razaki: What kind of faculty-salary raises are you considering?

Senator Bragg: We have done some modeling for several months and barring any significant further

reallocations among departments, I can only emphasize what the President has said, a very modest salary increase. By modest, I mean in the very low single digits. I am hesitant to give a number because I don't want anyone to think that we have a fixed number. The great unknown is what the General Assembly is going to do.

Senator El-Zanati: Is there a possibility of losing tenure track lines?

Senator Boschini: At this point, I do not see that.

Senator El-Zanati: Would you commit to saying that we will not lose such lines?

Senator Boschini: No, I wouldn't commit to that. However, I will say at this point that I don't think that we will have to do that. We are not trying to be evasive, but until we have both the House and the Senate hearings; it depends on what happens there.

Senator El-Zanati: For those who are retiring this year, my preference is to see those lines continue. I don't want to lose the number of tenure track lines. What my department and other departments are worried about with all of these cuts is the possibility of getting more students than we expected. Where do we stand on enrollment right now?

Senator Boschini: Enrollment is not a science, so it is hard to make sure that we end up with 3000 new freshmen. The best way is to look at your show rate from the previous year compared to the number of admissions. We have done that even considering a higher show rate than last year. It would definitely be my goal this year not to go over 3000. Our funding is not based on enrollment; our funding is based programmatically.

Senator El-Zanati: I understand your position on tuition and fees, but I do think we are becoming an institution of choice. Therefore, we should perhaps start thinking of having students pay for what they are getting.

Senator Boschini: In my opinion, students do pay for what they get. We are raising tuition next year at a rate higher than the per capita disposable income already. Some schools are having mid-year tuition raises, but I don't want to do that. I am really committed to affordability.

Senator Bragg: The combined tuition and fee increase for full-time students for the coming year is in fact over 10%.

Senator Reid: My primary concern is keeping the student-faculty ratio that we have. If we cut any lines, and that includes non-tenure track lines, then obviously this is going to mean larger or cancelled classes. Although I would like to see faculty receive raises, I would urge you not to give us a raise if that would in any way affect our ability to offer a full line of classes.

Senator White: The present early retirement program is up for renewal this year. What is the latest that we are hearing from Springfield about the likelihood that it will be renewed; and second, have you looked at the impact it will have if it is not renewed and you have a sudden flood of retirements with the attached payouts?

Senator Bragg: We have been monitoring the potential retirements and we have built all of those into the

budget. In fact, we have actually escalated them a little bit just in case the "30 and Out" isn't extended. It will put about the same amount of strain on the Academic Impact Fund that it has in the last couple of years. We don't think it is going to be anymore than we can handle in the budget.

Senator Razaki: Would administrative raises be treated similar to faculty raises?

Senator Boschini: Yes.

Committee Reports

Academic Affairs Committee

Senator Borg: The Academic Affairs Committee met this evening. We discussed changes in the Student Code of Conduct. We are not finished with this task yet.

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee

Senator Wells: Administrative Affairs revisited a couple of issues that are ongoing; one of them has to do with the Academic Calendar, an item that is an information item on this evening's agenda. Some related issues are still being considered. The other issue we discussed had to do with the University regulations governing student protests. Nothing official has been decided.

Senator Kurtz: Do you expect to bring the policy on protests to the Senate during this academic year?

Senator Wells: That is the expectation, but there is no clear scheduling for that because we are trying to coordinate our activities with policy formulation occurring elsewhere on campus by administrators.

Faculty Affairs Committee

Senator Deutsch: Faculty Affairs continued its discussion on the report of non-tenure track faculty. We hope to bring that to the Senate before the end of the semester.

Planning and Finance Committee

Senator Kurtz: Planning and Finance discussed and voted on a brief addendum to the final report on collegiate restructuring. We also discussed the meeting that we will be holding with the chairs and the various college councils before our next meeting on March 20th.

Senator Wells: What are the specifics of the addendum?

Senator Kurtz: It will be a formal addendum to the final report, which will be added to the web site. We added that the college councils or the equivalent bodies would be the ones to oversee the self-studies that are recommended in our final report. We also asked the Provost to send the recommendations concerning the effect of geographical location on intellectual communities and the development of informal common spaces for faculty to appropriate existing units for implementation.

Rules Committee

Senator Reid: Last week, the Rules Committee's faculty members met to work on the Academic Freedom/Ethics and Grievance document. We hope to finish that and bring it to the Senate before the end of the semester. This week we met concerning the proposed Policy and Procedures on Integrity in Research and Scholarly Activities.

IBHE-FAC Report

Senator Crothers: The Faculty Advisory Council of the IBHE met at Chicago State last Friday and had three topics of discussion. The first topic had to do with the question of the Sense of the Senate Resolution tonight, i.e., how much public money is appropriate to go to private education. Dr. Ed Hines, our distinguished professor from ISU, joined us in our conversation.

Deb Smithley, who is the Budget Director for the IBHE, discussed budget issues with us. In a prior FAC report, I mentioned that in its original budget request, the State had projected that it would receive \$450 million in new revenue for FY02. They now project that the actual number of new revenue this year is only going to be \$90 million. Additionally, the Governor announced that there was a 2.9% increase in education funding to higher education and 75 million new dollars. However, the \$75 million was compared to a base that was established by an interesting piece of accounting. In fact, the Governor had asked permission to cut the base by more than the State Legislature had given him to permission to cut it. This year, he decided that he had actually cut it to that point and therefore every new dollar after that was new money. So, actually the 2.9% increase that the Governor claims is in fact a 1.1% net decrease across the board, absent the other reduction concerning health care. Also, in terms of the so called new money that is coming to higher education, huge portions of it have already been spent structurally; that is, we have the SURS commitment and Student Monetary Assistant Program increase.

The IBHE, in response to State legislation, generated a report about the use of NTT faculty. Part of it was based on a statewide survey of NTT faculty. The report is actually fairly positive and optimistic about the status and the use of NTT in the State of Illinois. This generated substantial discussion and disagreement on the FAC and it is our intention to come back with a counter document trying to explore the areas that the report ignored.

Senator Crothers' entire report can be found at:
[/Committees/IBHE-FAC/020301IBHE-FAC.htm](#)

Action Items:***03.16.01.04A Graduate School Bylaws Revisions (Rules Committee)***

Motion XXXIII-98: by Senator Reid, second by Senator Kording, to accept the revisions to the Graduate School Bylaws. Senator Reid highlighted the changes to the Graduate School Bylaws. There was no debate. The Senate approved the changes to the bylaws. There was one no vote by Senator Armstrong.

Information Items:***06.08.01.14 Extent of Student Teaching Policy (Academic Affairs Committee)***

Senator Borg: We brought forward several policies last week and there was a question about the Extent of Student Teaching Policy. Professor Barbara Nouri from the Council for Teacher Education is here to talk about this policy. Perhaps we should start with the question from last time, which was why is the number of weeks for completion of the program not listed.

Prof. Nouri: The State of Illinois has aligned with NCATE standards. The requirement now is that students have experiences that are commiserate with the standards and that they can meet high and rigorous testing and performance standards. Last year, when we looked at student teaching, we realized that there was a whole range of weeks during a semester that students were required to participate in student teaching. Some programs even required a full year professional development experience and some required much less. Therefore, in order to standardize the requirements, we decided that we should ask all programs to move to a full semester of student teaching. We also wanted to give programs the kind of flexibility that they might

need during that semester to do activities other than student teaching in a school setting.

Senator Landau: I continue to have questions about how to operationalize what is meant by a full semester. Prof. Nouri made the point that some students will spend a full year in professional development schools. The little that I know about those is that we are not really talking about a full year, but two semesters, a full academic year. My concern is that I think this needs to be specified with greater precision.

Prof. Nouri: Our goal is for our teaching programs to all have at least a full semester of professional experience using various formats, not necessarily exclusive to on site student teaching.

Senator White: The reason that we have a role in the approval of this policy is because it seems to affect graduation requirements.

Senator Eric Thomas: This policy only adjusts the course content by establishing a minimum baseline.

Senator White: You could argue that the requirements are being raised.

The Senate continued to discuss whether the policy should be an advisory or an information/action item. Senator White stated that the Executive Committee would, at its next meeting, discuss whether or not to bring the policy back as an action item. He added that it was likely that the Executive Committee would not recommend bringing the item back to the Senate for approval.

10.19.01.02A Revisions to Draft 2006-2007 Academic Calendar (Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee)

Senator Lindblom: Does the Senate approve this calendar and did the issue concerning the lower suicide rates among students in relationship to giving students an early break with the Fall Break Day come up at all?

Senator White: Your first question had to do with the status of the calendar. In past years, the Senate spent a great deal of time discussing the calendar. However, about five years ago, it delegated that responsibility to the Administrative Affairs Committee. That committee now meets with representatives from Academic Affairs to discuss the calendar. It then brings its recommendations to the Senate as information only. The calendar is not an action item for the Senate.

Senator Borg: The former Vice President of Student Affairs first brought the issue of suicide rates forward and argued persuasively that we needed to provide time off for students, especially first year students, in the middle of the fall semester. The time that we take off for Labor Day is too soon for this to happen and Thanksgiving, how ever long the break might be, is far too late.

Senator Razaki: Have you discussed making this change earlier than the 2006-2007 academic calendar?

Senator Wells: We haven't officially looked at that; however, the topic has come up and will be revisited. We don't know what the constraints are; that is why nothing official has been done.

Senator Kording: Before we asked the Senate to consider this, we consulted the current Vice President of Student Affairs regarding the suicide rate. She agreed that times have changed since the Fall Break Day was instituted and supported this scheduling change. The Provost has said that he will present the proposal for the 2006-2007 calendar change to the Board. He also agreed to work with Administrative Affairs to determine if the change could be made earlier, as soon as he received such a request from SGA. SGA has forwarded that

request to the Provost.

Senator Borg: By altering the calendar in this way, do we lose two days of instruction?

Senator Wells: The fall semester was two days longer than the spring semester, so essentially losing two days made the two semesters the same length.

Senator Borg: Were considerations given to programmatic kinds of implications? For example, in Fine Arts, we have now lost two weekends within a month of the last semester for performance opportunities.

Senator Kording: I think actually only one weekend is lost because you are now gaining the Fall Break weekend.

Senator Borg: We lose one because of Thanksgiving and now we are losing an additional one within a month of the end of the semester.

Senator White: I take your point seriously and if the College of Fine Arts is concerned about this, then I would recommend that a letter addressing your concerns be sent to the Administrative Affairs Committee.

Senator Wheeler: Were members of our international community of students asked their opinion of these calendar changes?

Senator Wells: We did discuss the impact on international students, but input was not widely solicited.

Senator Brown: I did talk to a number of international students as well as students from other states. They were ecstatic about the change because this means that they can now go home for Thanksgiving Break.

Communications:

02.20.02.02 Public Monies to Private Colleges and Universities (Sense of the Senate Resolution)

Senator White: The Sense of the Senate Resolution concerning public monies to private colleges was prepared by the Council of Illinois University Senates, the new statewide organization of Academic Senates from the public universities. We met in the spring of 2001 and we met last month. We discussed a number of topics that would become priorities for our organization; one was public money to private universities. The other was faculty on Boards of Trustees. What we are attempting to do is give a united voice to the public universities in the state, which we don't presently have. Senator Crothers, as one of the members of the IBHE Faculty Advisory Council, was one of the original drafters of the document related to this one. We took those parts of that document that had to do with IMAP, the state program for funding need-based scholarships, and we created this statement. We are now asking all of the Senates, who are members of this organization, to approve this resolution. Once we have that done, we will begin to make contact with our legislators and key committee members in Springfield and we will begin to try to get this document placed in newspapers.

It is important for us to begin to educate the public about funding issues related to public education in order to provide some knowledge about why public education is currently floundering budgetarily. This resolution is particularly important to students. I am not sure that even if this resolution were realized that it would have much of an impact on budget bottom lines within universities, but it would have a significant impact on the amount of dollars that are going to the students who are in the public universities. I will let Senator Crothers address this point further.

Senator Crothers: I have talked briefly before about how the Faculty Advisory Council of the IBHE is structured. The FAC has 36 representatives, 12 from each of the public universities, 12 from a rotating list of community college members and 12 from a rotating list of private institutions. Additionally, there is a community college board, a private institution board and other boards that report to the IBHE. The only constituency that does not have any independent representation is the public university. Consequently, I think this feeds into a general pattern of neglect of public higher education. Approximately 9% of all public education dollars go to private institutions in one form or another. The biggest single distribution of that is through the IMAP monies, although the private institutions are doing increasingly well in terms of capital funds. Therefore, I think that this resolution is important because it informs the legislature and the public at large about these activities. At least by raising the question we can begin a debate and bring important questions to the surface.

Senator White: I would like to make a single editorial change within the resolution. In the last paragraph, it reads, "We feel that this policy is untenable given the current fiscal conditions facing public universities, which are constrained **by state legislation**." That is not strictly speaking true, so I would like to change that to "...constrained by **the state legislature**", which we certainly are in round about ways.

Senator Dave Thomas: It appears that there might be a word missing in the last sentence of the first paragraph. We have descriptors of increased class size, increased tuition, loss of academic services and we just have class availability in there. Should it be **decreased** class availability?

Senator White: Yes, we should add "decreased".

Senator El-Zanati: Do the K-12 private schools receive any funding from the state?

Senator Boschini: Yes, though not through the form of vouchers. There are many state programs in which the private schools may participate.

Motion XXXIII-99: By Senator White, second by Senator Bathauer, to approve the Sense of the Senate Resolution regarding public money to private institutions.

Senator Ballard: What is the next step once this is approved and what can the students do?

Senator White: As far as the Senate is concerned, once we pass this resolution, that is pretty much the end of our official business. The organization, the Council for Illinois University Senates, has an agenda that would include communicating this resolution to our legislators and key committee members and may even include a trip to Springfield. Secondly, we will try to get this article published as an opinion-editorial piece in as many local newspapers as we can. The third avenue we will pursue is to begin to talk to students about how much this is in their interest and get the students and their parents involved in letter writing. We may very well be back in touch with student leadership about that in the near future.

The Senate approved the Sense of the Senate resolution. There was one no vote from Senator Coliz.

Senator Razaki: I want to thank Senator White for his efforts in creating this organization and taking it where it is. I hope that our next Senate chair continues this tradition because these are very important issues.

Senator White: Thank you. This institution is sort of the official home for this organization. There is such rapid turnover in Senate chairpersons that this organization can be quickly forgotten. I do think that this

Senate is going to have to remember this one if it is going to survive and provide the promptings that I have had to provide over e-mail to keep it alive to the degree that it is.

External Committee Forms for Student Membership

Senator Wheeler: On behalf of the Personnel and Membership Committee for SGA, I would like to thank the faculty senators for filling out their nomination forms recommending students to serve on committees. If you have those completed tonight, I will take them or you can send them to Ziggy Kowalski at SGA.

Adjournment

Motion XXXIII-100: By Senator Razaki, second by Senator Stokes, to adjourn. The motion was approved by standing vote.

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