

ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES
(Approved)

February 5, 2003

Volume XXXIV, No. 10

Call to Order

Chairperson Lane Crothers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Senator Borg called the roll and declared a quorum.

Approval of Minutes of January 22, 2003

Motion XXXIV-74: By Senator Gaylor, second by Senator Ligunas, to approve the Academic Senate minutes of January 22, 2003. The minutes were unanimously approved

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Crothers: President Boschini has accepted a position at TCU. We wish him well and appreciate the many years of quality service that he has provided to the institution. The Board of Trustees wants to move forward in the search for an interim president. The Faculty Caucus will meet this evening regarding the qualities we are looking for in an interim president. Tonight is Senator Lartz' last Senate meeting. We appreciate her years of service. Nominations are still needed for the Panel of 10, Ethics and Grievance and the Academic Freedom Committee. The Provost has informed the Senate that the Academic Affairs Office will be making budget presentations on March 19, 20 and 21st. These will each be held from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in Stevenson 101.

Student Government Association President's Remarks

Senator Bathauer: The Student Government would also like to wish President Boschini the best in his new position. We begin the selection process for the new members of SGA during the first week in March. The current members will end our term on March 30. SGA voted no on holding a student-wide referendum about granting some of our ex-officio members the right to vote. We decided not to have a referendum due to time constraints. We are still reviewing student fees.

Administrators' Remarks

- **President Vic Boschini:** On February 20, we will have our Founders Day celebration in the ballroom of the Student Center. We will present awards for outstanding teachers and other outstanding performances as well as an honorary degree to Justice McCusky. The Board of Trustees will meet on February 21. The discussion hour begins at 8:00 a.m. and the board meeting follows at 9:00 a.m. That is probably the meeting at which they will announce the choice of the interim president. It is my understanding that tomorrow the legislature will introduce a bill for an immediate 5% cut across the board for all state agencies, including colleges and universities. If approved, it would go into effect immediately. We do have a contingency plan for this. A bill was introduced today in the house to take back the income fund (tuition monies) from state universities for reallocation. Dr. Presley, the new provost, will be here this weekend and is anxious to meet with everyone. He will take office on Monday, March 3.

Senator Reid: Is the 5% cut from the FY03 base budget?

President Boschini: I would assume so, but I haven't seen this yet.

Senator Holland: Is there any news on how this is going to affect hirings?

President Boschini: I would say that it will have no affect on hirings, but I have not seen the bill.

· ***Provost Al Bowman:***

Provost Bowman: We have no plans to pull back on tenure track searches. Those will proceed as planned. I am very concerned about our ability to retain faculty who receive offers from other institutions. The hiring freeze for Civil Service and AP positions will remain in effect for the foreseeable future. The President has approved a small number of exemptions on a case-by-case basis in areas where it was essential that we fill a position. Having been here for 25 years, I have seen these cycles come and go. They are never pleasant, but if we plan and stay true to our priorities, we ought to emerge a stronger institution. To date, we have over 10,000 freshman applications. That is 2% more than we had last year. Our transfer applications are up 8% and graduate applications are up 17%. Our special focus on minority recruitment has paid significant dividends. The number of Hispanic applications is up 19% and up 17% for African Americans.

Senator Pryor: Are you prepared to make counter offers to people who are thinking of leaving?

Provost Bowman: We would certainly entertain it. I would not discount that as a possibility.

· ***Vice President of Student Affairs Helen Mamarchev: Excused Absence***

· ***Vice President of Finance and Planning Steve Bragg:*** There are two additional bills that would restrict our flexibility. The first bill is for capping tuition increases at public universities at 5% or the consumer price index for the previous 12 months. The other bill is for returning us to very detailed line item appropriations. Right now, our appropriation is received in a lump sum and gives us the flexibility to transfer money across lines. The Board of Higher Education did approve the performance indicator item. This is an item in which institutions are free to develop specific performance indicators related to their goals as well as providing indicators related to statewide goals. For the last several years, the IBHE has had their program approval item on the Consent Agenda with very little discussion. However, one of the IBHE members asked that item be removed from the Consent Agenda and put on the active agenda from here on and directed the staff to provide much more detailed information about need. Perhaps Senator Jerich can follow up on that at the next IBHE meeting. We had visits by two bond rating agencies and expect to get a formal letter regarding our rating tomorrow.

Committee Reports:

Academic Affairs Committee

Senator Lindblom: The committee discussed the CTE bylaws and will continue its discussion at the next meeting. Soon, we will get a report from Senator Bragg and Joe Rives, University Planning, following up on performance indicators.

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee

Senator Lartz: The committee met again tonight with the Rules Committee to discuss the Consensual Relations policy.

Faculty Affairs Committee

Senator Winchip: The committee discussed the functions of the Faculty Affairs Committee as well as the possibility of a faculty ombudsman position. We should be providing recommendations very soon.

Planning and Finance Committee

Senator Kurtz: The committee will begin to meet weekly for the foreseeable future. The committee began its discussion this evening on a report from the subcommittee on institutional priorities. The subcommittee on institutional priorities had been looking very closely at *Educating Illinois* and developed a list of what the subcommittee believes should be the top priorities for the institution. We also continued our discussion of ways of more closely integrating shared governance into the setting of institutional priorities and budget making decisions.

Senator Winchip: Was there any criteria established in setting the priorities by the subcommittee.

Senator Kurtz: True, it is the opinion of a small group of people. Whatever report emanates from the committee will be tied explicitly to the statement of core values and institutional aspirations in *Educating Illinois*.

Rules Committee:

Senator Reid: The Rules Committee met with the Administrative Affairs Committee and we hope to have hammered out a reasonable policy for the Consensual Relations Policy. The faculty only of the Rules will meet to try to complete revisions to the Code of Ethics document.

IBHE-FAC Report

Senator Jerich: I am distributing copies of my FAC report. Performance indicators were approved at the last IBHE meeting. Many of the FAC members are concerned about this notion of testing and the alarm caused by the public announcements. On page 5, Dr. Ken Anderson, chairperson of the FAC, has provided us with a summary of the meeting. The focus of the IBHE was on assessment. The Board also adopted the participation in the Pew Study. On page 6, the Board stressed that participation by the institution in the Pew Study must be voluntary and worried about the availability of staff time for this and other projects. On page 7 is the e-mail I received from Dr. Day regarding Diane Gilleland's power point presentation on assessment and the Pew Study. I think that we do this assessment already and the question is why do we need to do more.

Senator Borg: This performance assessment will be required of all public universities. Will they also be required of private institutions, which receive student assistance?

Senator Jerich: No, they will not.

Senator Borg: Since this is another burden placed on the university, has any mention been made of providing funding to help us do it?

Senator Bragg: There is nothing in the IBHE's recommendations to add incremental funds to university budgets to comply with this. However, many of the indicators that are in the final report is information that we are already collecting and producing on campus and reporting in the Results Report that we send into the IBHE every year.

Senator Nur-Awaleh: What are they proposing for assessments for graduate programs?

Senator Bragg: The component in the assessment document that relates to graduate education is specifically devoted to licensure and certification exams at the graduate level.

Senator Nur-Awaleh: The American system has the best graduate education in the world and part of it is how it functions. You must compare it to other systems instead of piling up meaningless assessments.

Senator Bragg: That point has been made repeatedly to the IBHE and to the General Assembly.

Senator Reid: The IBHE is considering requiring us to assess outgoing seniors. What does that mean?

Senator Jerich: Item 5 of the Board of Higher Education's agenda is to look at assessing student learning as a result of the general education that students receive and then at the end of their program, within their major.

Senator Bragg: This is an important item and you ought to spend some time on this. I would like to e-mail you a copy of the actual board item that was presented at the IBHE meeting. Perhaps we can take this up at a future Senate meeting.

Senator Reid: I would suggest that Wendy Troxel be invited to the Senate to explain some of these issues since she is in charge of the present assessment procedures. We need to make these procedures clear.

Senator Crothers: We need to talk about venues first because this is a large body and these issues of assessment are both important and complex. I will take the issue to the Executive Committee.

Senator Maroules: Did the Student Advisory Council to the IBHE consider this?

Senator Bathauer: No, it was not on the Student Advisory Council's agenda.

Downtown Normal Renovation Project

Mark Peterson, City Manager: Thank you for the opportunity to share with you information about the downtown renewal plan.

Wayne Aldridge, Downtown Development Director: The basics of the renewal plan include making the downtown very pedestrian oriented and having mixed use (retail, office and residential). The existing buildings will be used along with new construction. The Children's Discovery Museum and a downtown conference center, which will be located immediately east of Watterson Towers, will be new additions. The Children's Discovery Museum will be owned and operated by the town. There will be enhanced residential areas surrounding the downtown area. There will be a roundabout constructed in the historical center of the town at the intersection of North and Beauford Streets. It will include an environmentally sensitive design, such as a water feature. There will be a multi-modal center that will include the train station, local bus system, interstate buses and taxi and shuttle services. That building may also include office and other retail spaces and a 360-space parking garage. About 100 spaces would be related to the multi-modal center and the rest being public parking. The Town of Normal is in the process of selecting a design team that will actually take this from the conceptual stage to real design.

The funding sources for the project include a quarter percent sales tax and a 2.5% hotel-motel tax. The town is also very hopeful of getting federal funding, especially for the multi-modal center, as well as funds from private investment. The costs include \$34.2 million for revitalization costs for land acquisition, parking, the Children's Museum, the conference center and roundabout. The other component is \$7.1 for infrastructure

costs—things that would have to be done in the downtown area without the renewal project, such as street repair and maintaining the water system.

Senator Deutsch: What impact is this going to have on the established neighborhoods in Normal in that immediate area?

Mr. Peterson: We are in the process of developing standards for neighborhoods that abut the central district. There will be buildings erected of three to five stories, but those will be relatively few. The general scale of the downtown will remain as it is today.

Senator Razaki: I suggest the addition of ethnic restaurants.

Mr. Peterson: There is an important part of the plan called the Retail Development Study in which we did discuss ethnic restaurants. We are looking for that type of user.

Senator Mohammadi: What is the timeframe that you are working with and how reliable are the cost measures?

Mr. Peterson: We expect to begin construction on the roundabout, underground utilities and street work in the late summer/early fall of this year. We hope to break ground on the Discover Museum in the fall with an opening about 12 months later. We are looking at a late fall/early spring groundbreaking for the hotel conference center. That is about a 20-month construction project. Construction on the multi-modal center probably won't begin until 2004. We have used the best people that we can find to provide us with cost estimates on all of these components.

Senator Reid: Are owners in the center of the town required to change their fronts according to certain rules?

Mr. Peterson: They are not required to change them, but there are some maintenance standards for the existing buildings with which they will have to comply. We will provide some incentives for them to do so. One would be a façade grant program that would provide grants to property owners wishing to restore their façades. The other possibility would be a low interest to no interest loan program to allow both for façade work as well as other building improvements.

Senator Baum: What aspects are targeted for the students' recreational needs?

Mr. Peterson: We hope to provide the types of retail, restaurants and nightclubs that will be attractive to students, as well as other places that they can go and spend time in the evening. A lot of the student recreation has moved to Bloomington. We want to bring some of that back to downtown Normal.

Senator Baum: Has there been any consideration of linking with downtown Bloomington through the multi-modal center from these recreational activities?

Mr. Peterson: We have had discussions with the City of Bloomington about a public transit link between downtown Bloomington and downtown Normal beyond the regular hours of the transit system.

Senator Pryor: Is it appropriate to place the Children's Discovery Museum in the midst of all of this?

Mr. Peterson: The current staff and board of the museum feel that it is an ideal location. They see

tremendous opportunities to work closely with the University curriculum, specifically the College of Education and the early childhood curriculum, in providing learning opportunities for students.

Senator Razaki: Are you thinking of adding new housing, such as condominiums?

Mr. Peterson: Yes, we have learned that the downtown redevelopment projects that have been successful have all had a strong residential component to help to support the retail in the central district.

Senator Burk: How do the current business owners in downtown Normal feel about the project?

Mr. Peterson: The majority of the businesses are supportive, but they are worried about disruptions. We are going to have work very closely with them to minimize the adverse impact that the construction activity will have on their traffic.

For more information, you may visit our web site is at www.normal.org or you can contact us at 433-3444 or downtown@normal.org.

Action Item:

10.31.02.01 School Designation and Name Change for Applied Computer Science (Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee)

Motion XXXIV-75: By Senator Lartz to approve the school designation and name change request from the Department of Applied Computer Science. The proposal is to change the department's name to the School of Information Technology.

Senator Reid: I received a communication from Dr. Long of Communications. That department is concerned that the new title of ACS might prevent other courses from being taught. Dr. Long has proposed the following wording as an addition to the proposal: "The name "Information Technology" in no way implies that the school will possess exclusive ownership of concepts or labels of "information" or "technology" in curriculum and teaching, scholarship, service and organization development."

Senator Lartz: Accepted as a Friendly Amendment.

Senator Landau: I have been persuaded to support those requests that may affect accreditation. Accreditation issues are not particularly relevant in this case. In spite of assurances that no additional expenses would be associated with these school designations and no changes in relative power, I feel that those are testable issues and I would like the Senate to spend more time reviewing the outcome of those designations that we have already approved. I am going to vote in opposition of this request.

Senator Boser: Where will the codicil of the Friendly Amendment be located?

Senator Crothers: My recommendation was to work out this agreement with the Provost's office and the Senate such that there would be a clear understanding. We can keep the codicil in the Senate office.

Senator Kurtz: Do we have any kind of policy governing school designations and what criteria have to be met?

Provost Bowman: In order for the Provost's office to support the change it has to have the endorsement of the faculty, department chairperson, dean and college council. I was persuaded to support the request not only

because those various individuals agreed but also because this change reflects the designation in the discipline nationally.

Senator Kurtz: So the policy really governs procedures for instituting this, but does not speak to the issue of how the increasing number of school designations fit into the overall configuration of the University and its academic mission. It should fit into an overarching vision of where we want to go as an institution.

Provost Bowman: I think that is the reason for bringing it to this body.

Senator Razaki: I have looked at the rationale provided by the college and I don't see any of them as being compelling enough to make this change. There has to be some underlying philosophy behind this designation. It does not seem to be the national norm. I will not support this proposal.

Senator Bathauer: I also did not find the reasons compelling enough to support the change. I will also vote in opposition of this proposal.

Senator Rossman: This is a national norm. Very often you will find that Information Systems, Applied Computer Science and Telecommunications are in separate colleges. When these units are pulled together, they are most often designated as Schools of Information Technology. We have a situation where the visibility is not what it should be because it is not being called what this collection of programs is being called elsewhere.

Senator Waterstraat called the question. Senator Reid objected to calling the question.

Senator Reid: If they believe that this will help distinguish the school in terms of new students, reputation and grants, then I think that would be a good argument for a school.

Senator Rossman: Having the name would help that happen.

Senator Maroules: I feel that the name change is very beneficial. The people that are best able to say whether or not it would be good for the University are Dean Rossman and his colleagues.

Senator Coliz: As a faculty member in Telecommunications, I am constantly having to explain why I am in the Computer Science Department. The name change better reflects the programs within this department.

Senator Winchip: They did follow the proscribed procedures and policy that the University has for doing this and clearly the faculty in the department are the ones who have the expertise to know what the appropriate designation is for their department.

Senator Razaki: Why bring all of these proposals to the Senate floor when it is conceded that each individual department knows best whether it should be a school or department?

Senator Crothers: I will bring this issue to the next Executive Committee meeting.

Senator Borg called the question. There were no objections.

Vote on Motion: The school designation and name change from Applied Computer Science Department to School of Information Technology was approved. Those voting against the proposal were: Senators

Armstrong, Fowles, Landau and Razaki. Those who abstained were Senators Holland and Kurtz.

Communications:

01.17.03.01 Parents Association Scholarships: Parents Association Scholarship applications are available in the Office of Student Life. Applications are due by March 28, 2003

01.16.03.01 Sense of the Senate Resolution: Normal Redevelopment Plan

Motion XXXIV-76: By Senator Crothers, second by Senator Boser, to approve the Sense of the Senate Resolution endorsing the Downtown Normal Redevelopment Plan. The resolution was unanimously approved.

Adjournment

Motion XXXIV-77: To adjourn. The motion was approved by standing vote.

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