

ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES (Approved)

March 26, 2003

Volume XXXIV, No. 14

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 March 5, 2003

Motion XXXIV-95: By Senator Ligunas, second by Senator Mehta, to approve the Academic Senate minutes of March 5, 2003. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Crothers: There are many issues yet to be dealt with this year. We will have a meeting of the Faculty Caucus tonight. I had an opportunity to attend one session of Academic Affairs area budget presentations last week and to read the budget requests in the Provost's office. I was disappointed. They lacked a sensitive and careful analysis of our current budget context. This is precisely why we must continue the budget conversations that we began last month. It is why the Senate, first through the Planning and Finance Committee and then through the committee of the whole, must continue to engage in setting priorities and hold leaders accountable for the choices they make. I am sad to report that I received a phone call from a student in Politics and Government, which I told you about at a prior meeting. She told me that her unit has received orders for immediate deployment to Kuwait. I ask you to keep her in your thoughts and wishes as she faces these responsibility and risks in the midst of this ridiculous war. Similarly, we must keep Senator Jack Howard in our thoughts as he has been mobilized.

Student Government Association President's Remarks

Senator Bathauer: After three years on the Senate, this is my last meeting. It has been a privilege and pleasure working with all of you. Last week, I had the opportunity to go Springfield. I received a request from the Student Body President at Northern Illinois University for my response to House Bill 1263, which was threatening to get rid of the University's discretion over the income fund. I wrote a letter and faxed it to all of the members of the House Appropriations Committee and received a call from one of the senators who requested my presence at the committee hearing the following morning. I attended and, with Dr. Bragg, I testified on behalf of the students at ISU as well as students all around the state. It is now my understanding that the bill may be off the floor. One of SGA's last orders of business was to establish awards for outstanding student service. The SGA unanimously passed a resolution on March 19, 2003 establishing the annual Victor J. Boschini, Jr. Outstanding Service Award. This award includes a \$3,000 contribution to the ISU Foundation, which will annually provide for the engraving of the recipient's name on a permanent plaque, as well as a personal award to the recipient. This will be given annually at the SGA passing of the gavel ceremony and any current faculty or staff member who has been nominated by a current student and has shown outstanding dedication to student services will be eligible. It will be the responsibility of the Student Government Association to solicit nominations and to conduct the selection process. This is a permanent fixture on our campus and is honor of the students' president, Dr. Boschini. We do have a plaque for President Boschini and there will be a permanent plaque hopefully placed in the Bone Student Center. Our annual passing of the

gavel is this Sunday at noon. Student Body President-elect, Ryan Meister, is here this evening, as well as his Vice President, Chad Schaffer, and Chief of Staff, Candace Thomas. They will assume their posts on the 30th. Additionally, one of our student senators, Senator Ghrist, was elected student trustee for the upcoming year.

President's Remarks

Dr. Bowman spoke in President Boschini's absence.

Dr. Bowman: I would like to thank Carolyn Bathauer for her service to the University. I particularly want to thank her for testifying in Springfield relative to the income fund issue. It made a huge difference to have students there talking about the impact that these kinds of changes potentially could have on universities. I would also like to thank Steve Bragg and his office for the enormous work they have been putting in lately. Almost daily, we are getting requests for reports and information from the Bureau of the Budget and other offices in Springfield. On the transition, the President and I continue to work very closely together. The development activities in association with the Comprehensive Campaign continue to move forward. Everyone is very optimistic that the campaign will continue to be successful. The fall 03 applications continue to pour in. The student profile continues to get better. I am very optimistic that the ACT profile for that class will be even stronger than it was last year.

Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost's Remarks

Provost Presley: I want to thank the faculty and staff who have worked very hard this week and last week to put together a series of briefing programs for me as I am going from academic unit to academic unit. I am continuing my listening tour and I am very grateful for your assistance in helping me to learn quickly about the institution. There are a couple of national initiatives that we will be involved in through my office. As of last week, we learned that we were one of 86 institutions taking part in two American Association of State Colleges and University initiatives. One is the Hallmark of Excellence in the First Year of College project. I think that the first phase will be an information project and then there is going to be more or less a competition stage in phase two when funding occurs. The second one is a project called the American Democracy Project. At this point, there is no funding for this project, but AASCU is going to look for funding. We are one of 100 institutions taking part in this. I am going to be joined in leading this initiative by Dr. Helen Mamarchev. The American Democracy Project has two goals. The goals are to make changes to increase the number of undergraduate students who understand and are committed to engaging in meaningful civic actions and to focus public and policy attention on the civic value of the college experience.

Vice President of Student Affairs's Remarks – Excused Absence

Vice President of Finance and Planning's Remarks

Senator Bragg: I would like to add my personal congratulations to Senator Carolyn Bathauer. The letter that Senator Bathauer wrote was one of the more eloquent letters I have seen on this subject from anybody in higher education in a long time. The testimony that she gave was as professional as any I have ever heard in this business.

Committee Reports:

Academic Affairs Committee

Senator Lindblom: We started tonight's meeting by remembering our colleagues who are overseas right now in the war. We approved a Social Work proposal, basically to change a Social Work degree from a B.A. to a

B.S.W. We also planned two forums for the faculty and students to discuss the current FOI review. The first forum will be for faculty on Thursday, April 10 from 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., place to be announced. The second forum is for students and that will be April 15 from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. At our next meeting, the Council for Teacher Education will be visiting and discussing the live text e-portfolio vendor and also the need for Teacher Accreditation Indicators.

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee

Senator Boser: We met this evening briefly to discuss the role of Administrative Affairs.

Faculty Affairs Committee – No Report

Planning and Finance Committee

Senator Kurtz: Planning and Finance is bringing forth this evening its report on institutional goals and priorities as an information item. The committee also continued discussion this evening of two issues, one of them is its suggested model for planning and budgeting for what is turning out to be the FY05 fiscal year and mechanisms for pre-identifying areas for potential cuts for FY05. The other item of discussion was a possible consultative model for appropriate campus input for FY04 whenever the budget picture from the governor's office and the General Assembly becomes clearer.

Rules Committee

Senator Reid: The committee finished changes in the Constitution and in the Academic Senate Bylaws. We will bring those revisions forward at the next meeting.

IBHE-FAC Report (Senator Jerich)

Senator Jerich: I would like to report on the February meeting of the Faculty Advisory Committee. It was a very spirited meeting and many of us echoed the concerns about the budget. Two major goals came out of that meeting. We developed a seventh goal to be suggested to the IBHE for the *Illinois Commitment* that may not go anywhere, but at least we have fostered that seventh goal. I want to thank Senator Reid for his wonderful input that he provided to me, which I sent out to the Faculty Advisory Council members. A spirited debate on that occurred at the meeting. Due to the encouragement of many of us, our chair, Dr. Ken Anderson, drafted a letter to Governor Blagojevich stating the many concerns about the budget. I wanted to share that letter that Ken Anderson wrote on behalf of all of us. Also, I am passing around tonight the FAC portion of the February IBHE meeting. That was also sent out as an e-mail attachment.

Senator Reid: Was a decision made on a wording for that seventh goal?

Senator Jerich: There was a decision made, but I don't recall if I sent that out. If not, I will get that out to everyone.

Action Items:

Election of Executive Committee Faculty Member (Rules Committee)

Motion XXXIV-96: Senator Hassan Mohammadi was elected unanimously to serve on the Senate Executive Committee replacing Senator Howard.

02.17.03.01A Academic Freedom, Ethics and Grievance Policies and Procedures (Rules Committee)

Senator Reid: The additional information I have is that you were sent another flow chart which simply indicates that after the Faculty Hearing Committee or the Appeals Committee has made a final decision, it goes to the Executive Committee of the Senate, which decides whether or not to send it directly to the

Provost or through the Faculty Caucus before it goes to the Provost.

Motion XXXIV-97: By Senator Reid to approve the Academic Freedom, Ethics and Grievance Policies and Procedures.

Senator Razaki: Why could some of the appeals be sent directly by the Executive Committee to the Provost and others to the Faculty Caucus?

Senator Crothers: I believe you intended to leave the decision of whether or not to go to the Faculty Caucus in the hands of the Executive Committee.

Senator Reid: How necessary in all issues is it for the Faculty Caucus to take them up? If people feel that all of these should go through the Faculty Caucus, I would entertain that.

Senator Razaki: I do. I would like to be informed of all of these cases.

Senator Presley: If all of the appeals are moved to the Faculty Caucus, I would have to excuse myself from the Caucus that considered one of these or I would be hearing each appeal twice.

Senator Crothers: Senator Reid, do you accept the amendment offered by Senator Razaki as a Friendly Amendment?

Senator Reid: No.

Senator Crothers: Senator Razaki, do you wish to move it formally?

Senator Razaki: Yes, I do.

Motion XXXIV-98: By Senator Razaki, second by Senator Jerich, to “forward the report to the Faculty Caucus, which shall forward the report to the Provost with its recommendation.” The motion was defeated by voice vote.

Senator Kurtz: I have a question about section A.6 on page 9—the stipulation that the advisor shall not be a practicing lawyer. What was the reasoning behind that?

Senator Reid: We discussed this at length. We felt in our committee that they should have the option of having a practicing lawyer there.

Senator Barone: Does that mean then that the University could have a lawyer representing the University’s action?

Senator Crothers: I believe that is a slight mischaracterization of ethics and grievances processes because those processes are generally inter-faculty and then structured through a faculty hearing board, so as for whether or not the hearing board or the complainant wished to use an attorney, I would suggest that would be a matter of their own choice.

Senator Reid: In very severe cases, I believe the complaint is brought by the administration. I believe this would allow for both the administration and the defendant to bring lawyers.

Senator Jerich: In the recent past, the institution always has a University representative throughout this whole thing. Therefore, if that representative would like to seek legal counsel through the institution, he/she has that prerogative.

Vote on Motion: The Academic Freedom, Ethics and Grievance Policies and Procedures were unanimously approved by voice vote.

03.29.02.01A *Graduate School Bylaws (Rules Committee)*

Senator Reid: When we brought these very small changes of the Graduate School Bylaws to the last meeting, Senator Borg pointed out in what was left in section 1 that there was no statement about a quorum for transacting business. Therefore, section 1 was changed to: "A quorum of the graduate faculty for transacting business shall be number present at the meeting."

Motion XXXIV-99: By Senator Reid to approve the Graduate School Bylaws. The bylaws were unanimously approved.

Information Items:

03.19.03.01 *Institutional Goals and Priorities Report (Planning and Finance Committee)*

Senator Kurtz: The document before you contains as its second item the committee's charge. All I am going to do at this point is to give you a slight additional context within which the committee's discussion took place. We decided to carry out our discussion of institutional priorities strictly within the context of and in response to *Educating Illinois*, since that is the strategic plan of the University, and specifically the action items of *Educating Illinois*. The decision to prioritize the raising of faculty and staff salaries was carried out within the context of our desire to maintain at all costs the instructional capacity of the institution. Since maintaining instructional capacity is not an action item within *Educating Illinois*, we could not strictly speaking make that our top priority, but that was the impetus behind the decision to prioritize both raising of faculty and staff salaries and also emphasis upon faculty retention.

Senator Lindblom: Will this document be available to the larger public, meaning the *Pantagraph*, the state legislature, the local community?

Senator Kurtz: Our role is advisory to the President. It would be up to him as to what use he wanted to make of the document.

Senator Crothers: This is an open meetings forum, so as a consequence, its business is openly conducted. Is it likely to be viewed by the public is another question, but it is certainly publicly available.

Senator Bathauer: The recommendations of action items that could be delayed all have to do with student needs. What types of discussions were students involved in for the priorities of the next one to two years?

Senator Kurtz: Students are represented on the committee and were involved in the discussions.

Senator Bathauer: My question is that the highest priorities have to do with faculty and staff salaries. Is that regardless of what the budget situation shows us in the next few months?

Senator Kurtz: Nothing can happen regardless of what we hear from the State. The document was developed initially quite before we started hearing the more dire budget predictions. This was in the general

context of what is our core mission as an institution. The core mission of the institution is delivering courses. We can't deliver courses unless we retain faculty.

Senator Borg: Where do we see this document going?

Senator Kurtz: The second part of the committee's discussion is how as an institution do we do a better job of carrying on conversations about prioritization. How do we do a better job to ensure that there is appropriate consultation as we make decisions about allocation of resources and about budget cutting? I don't have a very good answer to the question, nor does the committee. We are trying to put some mechanism into place, but we are not there yet. We do have a suggested administrative action at the beginning and that is what we would hope is an immediate response to the document.

Senator Maroules: Students as a whole need to start supporting the concept of raising faculty and staff salaries and not seeing that as not supporting student needs. If we want to be an institution that excels, then we need to have the top professors and staff members supporting us.

02.26.03.01 *Blue Book Revisions (Rules Committee)*

Senator Reid: Many of the changes are quite small. We have gone throughout the text and added "non-voting" to "ex officio" because it has been assumed that ex officio means non-voting, but it does not. We had some committees say that they want the ex officio members to vote, so we have changed that. We have added the chairperson to the Financial Exigency Committee. We have replaced the Senate Budget Committee with the Planning and Finance Committee, three members of that committee and the chairperson of the committee. We have corrected the titles in the Reinstatement Committee. You will notice that the Reinstatement Committee has added "monitor the process and policy for probation and reinstatement and make recommendations for improvement to such when warranted."

Senator Borg: Would you explain the membership number for the Financial Exigency Committee?

Senator Reid: Perhaps we forgot to change the number after we added the chairperson. The correct count is ten.

Motion XXXIV-100: By Senator Reid, second by Senator Borg, to move the Blue Book revisions to action, as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion XXXIV-101: By Senator Reid to approve the Blue Book revisions. The motion was unanimously approved.

08.13.02.01 *College of Fine Arts Bylaws (Rules Committee)*

Senator Reid: We asked the College of Fine Arts why the dean is a voting member, but the recommendations of the College Council then go to the dean to make the final decision. They said they needed to discuss this further. For a number of decisions that they will be making, they need these changes. Therefore, they asked us to approve the revisions and then they will come up with a further recommendation on whether the dean should vote twice. On the first page, you will notice the addition of a standing committee, which is similar to our Planning and Finance Committee. The committee will meet regularly to advise the Council and dean on future year budgets, plans and priorities. In section 2, they are allowing for things to promulgated by the dean

without going through the College Council. In section 3, page 4, they have eliminated student involvement in the method of nominating, electing or appointing student representatives. On page 6, section 7, they have eliminated faculty, administrative professional, civil service and student attendance at meetings. Since this is governed by the open meetings act, section 7 is unnecessary. On page 6, section 3, they have eliminated the dean of the College requesting a referendum vote.

Senator Crothers: On page 3, section 6, what discussion was there about the decision to make students un-elected and rather appointed and what student input was there on that question?

Senator Reid: It is not clear from which students the Director will ask advice.

Senator Hampton: This is the first time I have seen these bylaws. They were redrafted by a subcommittee of the Council. I believe that serving on that subcommittee was a graduate student and perhaps an undergraduate student as well. I think that the idea that these student members be appointed is part of the process that members of committees are appointed by the Director of the School, both faculty and student members.

Senator Crothers: The faculty members are elected to the Council.

Senator Hampton: I am talking about committees. Students are appointed to committees. You are right that faculty members of the College Council are elected.

Senator Walker: Would you like for me to consult with John Walker about that?

Senator Crothers: Yes.

Senator Landau: At what level in the college was this document approved before submission to the Senate? Has this been submitted to the various schools within the college for approval?

Senator Reid: It appears that it has not.

Senator Landau: Then it is premature for the Senate to be considering it.

Senator Jerich: Given the level of inquiry, would it be advisable for this to go back for further consultation since perhaps the faculty have not seen this document yet?

Senator Reid: I think we should first ask the Dean of Fine Arts.

Senator Crothers: I would strongly encourage you to follow up on that. On page 6, section 6, it tells you that if there is a formal issue, it refers to "Roberts Rules-Revised." There are many versions of "Roberts Rules of Order". You might need to add the language "the most recent edition".

Senator Maroules: I would also ask that you ask the dean for his rationale for having students appointed rather than elected.

Senator Reid: Would it make sense that they give numbers for the membership in article 4, section 1, page 2?

The Senate agreed that numbers should be included.

Budget Session

Senator Bragg: Yes, further cuts are still a possibility in FY03. The Bureau of the Budget is still talking about a reserve. We have been through a number of exercises over the past couple of weeks that are in the realm of anywhere from a 2% to 8% reserve. Eight percent would be about \$6.7 million. I don't know if we will get a reserve request and if we do, how much it will be. Hopefully, we will know by next week sometime.

This administration is very committed to working through shared governance. We have been put in a position of responding on a 24-hour or 36-hour basis to some complex and detailed requests. Under normal circumstances, a lot of that would be shared through the shared governance process. We have gone through similar exercises with the FY04 budget. Those exercises have focused somewhere between an 8% and 10% cut to our appropriations. Hopefully, we will know that when the governor gives his budget address on April 9.

They are bringing a very different model to the budget decision-making process. The current director has been in the private sector and is making some very different assumptions, chief among them that all funds are available for state government to look at, not just General Revenue Funds. That provides a context for the four pieces of legislation that we are monitoring very closely. The tuition retention bill was mentioned earlier. Right now, we get to hold all tuition revenues that we collect. That is an enormous amount of fiscal flexibility that we have at the institution. There have been proposals to re-appropriate that. We think for the time being that that may be off the table. There has been legislation introduced to cap tuition either at the consumer price index or 5%, whichever is less. That bill has not made it out of committee, but there are strong indications that the governor in his address is going to call upon higher education to hold the line on tuition. There is a bill that passed out of the House of Representatives to offer what is called a guaranteed plan. Students are charged a price as freshman and they pay that same tuition for eight semesters. I fully expect that bill to be supported by the Senate and signed by the governor. It would go into effect in FY05. Finally, there are numerous proposals to line item our appropriations. Right now we receive those appropriations in a lump sum. We are able to move it among objects of expenditure as we see fit.

We hope that they will meet the deadline of May 23 by enacting all legislation and we would know what our appropriation is. Unfortunately, that is going to happen when you are all going to leave for the summer. The conversations that we have been having in the Planning and Finance Committee have been very helpful. The conversations that we have been having around campus on *Educating Illinois* have been very helpful. Our number one priority is going to be to protect instruction. We will do everything we can to keep everyone as informed as possible.

Senator Waterstraat: Wouldn't the state micromanagement of our budget increase the overhead in Springfield to monitor us?

Senator Bragg: That is one of the points we have been trying to make. Not only would it increase our administrative overhead here, but it would increase staffing requirements for the State Comptroller's Office.

Senator Bathauer: Can you speculate about what the repercussions would be if these bills did pass? If we are supposed to guarantee a four-year tuition to our incoming students, is tuition going to have to go up at astronomical rates for the next year's incoming freshman?

Senator Bragg: This is actually an old model, especially popular in private higher education. It was

abandoned when we hit a period of very high inflation because you simply could not raise tuition fast enough to offset the loss in purchasing power with four years of flat prices. It is a model that works ok when inflation is low and you can raise prices to new students coming in slightly above inflation.

Senator Reid: How can we accommodate major cuts in our budget if we cannot have tuition increases?

Senator Bragg: If we absorb a 9% cut in appropriations, if we cannot raise tuition and if we protect instruction as best as we can and take most of the cuts out of support services, many of those units would have to absorb a 20% to 25% budget reduction.

Senator Reid: Since virtually all of our money is in personnel, we are talking about major lay offs or ending of programs.

Senator Bragg: I haven't taken it that far yet to know what flexibility we have and in what time frame. President Boschini instituted a hiring freeze, so we have vacant positions that could help meet some of these budget cuts.

Senator Reid: And this could lead to a reduction in tenure lines and an increase in non-tenure track lines.

Senator Bragg: Again, I will say that we are committed to protecting instruction and instructional capacity.

Senator Reid: Have they connected the 8% to 10% for FY04 and the 2% to 8% for FY03?

Senator Bragg: No, the reserve for 03 would be a one-time reserve. Technically, what would happen is that it would carry over into revenue available to the state for FY04 to help meet the budget crisis.

Senator Schilb: The governor has said that we have to guarantee summer school even with the reserve.

Senator Bragg: The institutions were asked to report back to the Bureau of the Budget how we would accommodate an 8% cut for our reserve for FY03. With three months left in the year, we looked where we have flexibility and one of those areas is in summer school. I think we were all criticized for suggesting something that would affect students.

Dr. Bowman: Summer school was an expenditure that was identified by all of the public universities simply because it was a way to avoid lay offs in order to deal with the cut.

Senator Lindblom: Is it possible that a line item veto could help this institution? Would pointing out our distinctiveness in terms of our budget effectiveness help us?

Senator Bragg: There are a lot of members of the General Assembly who appreciate Illinois State University's contribution to higher education in Illinois and understand our distinctiveness and appreciate our commitment to instruction. A lot of that is overwhelmed by the magnitude of the budget crisis. This is the deepest recession in which this state has ever been. I would not be surprised, however, if the Bureau of the Budget came out with some differential recommendations.

Senator Deutsch: Given that the governor's aim is to cut administrative bloat, is the state administration trying to control the way in which these cuts will be implemented?

Senator Bragg: They have asked us in these exercises that we have been through to give them a scenario of an 8% cut on operations and a 10% cut on what they call administration. Administration includes all academic support functions, technology, advising, utilities, everything on campus. That is the extent so far that they have tried to control it as well as comments that the governor and the Bureau of the Budget have made about protecting students.

Senator Razaki: If they do cut our budget, I suggest that we make a drastic cut in the number of students that we enroll as freshman. Perhaps if all state universities did that, Springfield might get the message from that. What is the exact position in terms of summer school?

Dr. Bowman: It is difficult to say with any certainty where we will be on summer school. I believe that we will go forward with summer school, particularly with the mandate from the governor. The issue of enrollment is something that the administration is talking about and wants to talk about with the faculty. The rhetoric out of Springfield is that universities will be advised to not go in that direction. I will be very surprised if an institution takes that approach and is able to do it without some intervention from state government.

Senator Kurtz: Approximately what percent of the state budget goes to higher ed?

Senator Bragg: It is down to 11.2 to 11.8%.

Senator Kurtz: What percent goes to education overall?

Senator Bragg: Between 40 and 45%.

Senator Kurtz: In the scenarios for FY04, would we be permitted to use variance funds to come up with the 8%?

Senator Bragg: It is probably the only way we would be able to come up with it.

Senator Kurtz: 78% of our budget is in personnel. How much flexibility do we have in terms of making immediate lay offs and how much is tied up in contracts?

Senator Bragg: In the short run, next to nothing. In the long run, more.

Senator Kurtz: Is it really not the case that we can't do very much right now about the size of the freshman class anyway?

Dr. Bowman: No, there is not much we can do at this point.

Senator Hampton: Has anybody brought up the issue of tax monies going in support of private higher education?

Senator Bragg: That is brought up routinely. There is a very strong political and philosophical base in this state for continuing to support private institutions.

Senator Radhakrishnan: Assuming the 8% cut, will summer school be operating at the same level as last year?

Dr. Bowman: With an 8% cut now, it would be virtually impossible to offer the same level of coursework.

Senator Jerich: I wonder if ISU might be informing their alumni to speak to the people in Springfield? It seems like community colleges are not taking a big hit like we are. Is that a myth?

Senator Bragg: That is a myth. The community colleges were very quick to offer the full 8% reserve. The proportion of their budgets that are paid for from state funds is significantly smaller than ours.

Senator Pryor: You said that approximately 11.2% goes to higher education. Is this all to public institutions of higher education?

Senator Bragg: No, that is the entire state budget, a big portion of which goes to SURS. Approximately 8.5% of the higher education budget goes to private institutions in one form or another. The bulk of that is through the MAP of the Student Assistance Commission.

Adjournment

Motion XXXIV-102: To adjourn. The motion was approved by standing vote.

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