

ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES
Wednesday, September 15 2004
(Approved)

Volume XXXVI, No. 2

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Senate Secretary Borg called the roll and declared a quorum.

Approval of Minutes of September 1, 2004

Motion XXXVI-7: By Senator Koutsky, seconded by Senator Kauzlarich, to approve the Academic Senate minutes of September 1, 2004. Correction to minutes, page 6: "...process of completing conducting a self-study at of the University...". The minutes, as revised, were unanimously approved.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Crothers announced that he would schedule lunches with Senate members, as has been his practice, in order to get to know Senate members better.

Student Government Association President's Remarks

Senator Rinker welcomed Barry Tolchin back to the Senate. Senator Tolchin served on the Senate during the 2003-2004 academic year. He is a graduate student in Political Science and will serve on the Senate as an "under-represented student" member. "Closing the Gaps", a program to organize volunteers to work in Milner Library to extend its hours of operation, has recruited approximately 35 student volunteers so far. Closing the Gaps has set a goal of recruiting 100 students to donate 1,000 volunteer hours to permit the library to remain open until 2:00 a.m. Senator Rinker invited anyone interested in volunteering to contact SGA. SGA will continue to invite speakers to address its members in informational sessions at least once a month. Senator Rinker welcomed any student, staff or faculty member, who desired to speak to SGA in this format, to contact him. The Student Government Association will launch its new website later this month; the website will establish a link directly between student senators and their constituencies through mass e-mail and, eventually, I-Campus Portal. SGA will hold its fall retreat during the upcoming weekend.

President's Remarks

President Bowman was unable to attend the Senate meeting.

Provost's Remarks

Provost Presley: The University will soon have a signed contract with the non-tenure track faculty union. Dr. Sharon Stanford and Dr. Ira Schoenwald, Human Resources Assistant Vice President, have begun conversations with department chairpersons and deans about the provisions of the new contract. In dealing with several personnel issues, we have located a policy called the Locus of Tenure Policy. It is not a new policy, but one that is obscure. Since we intend to probably use it at one point, I have placed the policy on the Provost's website.

Senator Adams: Has the President signed the non-tenure track faculty contract yet?

Provost Presley: I don't believe that he signed it before he left for Washington, D.C.

Senator Reid: Does the Locus of Tenure Policy refer to the University level or the departmental level? If I

remember correctly, if it is on the University level, you can move people; but if it is on the departmental level, you can't.

Provost Presley: The policy is so new to me that I would rather not quote it. I believe that it is on the University level.

Vice President of Student Affairs Remarks

Senator Mamarchev: We have kicked off the first of our many multicultural celebrations. This month is devoted to the celebration of Latino heritage. I encourage you to look at the Student Affairs website and click on Intercultural Programs and Services to find the extensive list of activities planned. The Minority Scholar in Residence, Kathy Perkins, Professor of Theatre at the University of Illinois, will be on campus September 26 through October 1, 2004. She will present a public presentation and book signing for her book, *Creating Theatre for Change: Works by Contemporary African Women*, on Tuesday, September 28 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Bowling and Billiards Activity Room.

Dr. Mamarchev reported that, sadly, ISU lost two of its students in very tragic car accidents during the preceding two weeks.

Vice President of Finance and Planning Remarks

Senator Bragg: I have received questions about the slowdown related to construction and capital projects on campus. Even though we have had monies appropriated for capital projects, the funds from which contractors are paid has been depleted because the State has not yet issued new bonds. The State does plan to issue a new set of bonds on September 28th. This has not affected the move-in plans for both the College of Business building and Schroeder Hall.

Senator Bragg will bring tentative FY06 budget requests to the Senate Administrative Affairs Committee and report these requests to the full Senate at the meeting of September 29, 2004.

Committee Reports

Academic Affairs Committee

Senator Reid: The Academic Affairs Committee met with representatives of the committee that was created to incorporate the responsibilities of FOI into COM 110 and ENG 101. The committee is considering ways in which to teach argumentation over a two-semester period, which would mean that students would continue to build critical thinking skills.

Senator Crothers: Does the Senate need to approve the proposals from this committee by November 1 in order to make sure that they are in the catalog?

Senator Reid: Jonathan Rosenthal, Council on General Education, stated that the committee needs to get the proposals to the University Curriculum Committee by November 12th. Additionally, between now and then, they would need to go through departmental and college curriculum committees. I am not sure if they will all need to come to the Senate, since these are course changes along with a general program change.

Senator Crothers: It is my interpretation that we required that the content of the courses be approved by the Senate, in addition to the program changes. Therefore, all three proposals should at least come to us for review and comment.

Senator Reid: Is that before it goes through the curriculum approval process?

Senator Borg: The courses would come to the Senate, after the curriculum approval process, as part of the framework for revisions to a program. We would not approve the individual courses, COM 110 and ENG 101.

Senator Crothers: I agree that we would not approve those courses; however, those courses would come to us for comment and discussion.

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee

Senator Brockschmidt: The Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee hopes to complete its discussion on revisions to the Administrative Selection (Search Committee) Policy and report to the Senate within the next few weeks.

Faculty Affairs Committee

Senator Wylie: The Faculty Affairs Committee has set an agenda for the issues pending before it. The committee hopes to get the ombudsperson issue settled soon.

Planning and Finance Committee

Senator Plantholt: The Planning and Finance Committee continues to seek a volunteer from the committee to serve on the Academic Planning Committee. The committee spent a lot of time on a question from the Graduate School concerning exactly which programs require the completion of the new program approval form developed by the Senate. The form assures that financial resources have been considered for any new curriculum proposal. The committee discussed items pending, including the Organizational Change Policy and the setting of institutional priorities.

Rules Committee

Senator Hammel: The committee concluded discussion on the College of Arts and Sciences bylaws, making only minor revisions. The committee also spoke with Dr. Richard Dammers about the confidentiality of administrative, civil service and A/P staff personnel issues. The committee will continue its discussion in two weeks.

IBHE-FAC Report

Professor Curt White, IBHE-FAC Representative: For those of you who don't know, the Faculty Advisory Council to the Illinois Board of Higher Education is composed of representatives from the 12 public universities and all of the private universities and community colleges in the state. Our official job is to advise the IBHE and work with its staff on policy issues that it confronts. We see ourselves primarily as lobbyist for higher education. (The FAC Reports are posted on the Senate's web site at the bottom of the Committees Page at: </committee.html>.)

Senator Reid: Did the legislators involved in your last meeting mention anything about possible rescissions this year or further cuts to the higher education budget?

Professor White: No. As you may know, the legislature did get the Governor to sign off on letters of understanding stating that he would not cut the budget in mid year this year for the state university system. They really do not have any idea what the legal status of those letters is, but they will certainly object if he attempts make additional cuts.

Senator Hampton: One of the demonstrable changes that we see occurring around us is the move of the community colleges away from their charters toward four-year programs. I have noted that the Governor seems to have considerable support for the community colleges. Was this ever discussed by the FAC?

Professor White: Yes, but from what I can see, there is little support for this.

Senator Koutsky: Can you give us the mood for federal support for Illinois universities?

Professor White: I have no idea about federal support.

Senator Hammel: Has there been any discussion on the part of politicians to the effect that as state funding of higher education decreases, state regulation and oversight of those institutions will also decrease?

Professor White: There has been no discussion of that. I don't think that that will happen.

Senator Jerich: The legislation seems to be very supportive of FAC as an advocate for higher education. It also seems that, according to your last report, Representative McCarthy is very upset with university presidents who don't say anything at the board meetings.

Professor White: While we were talking with legislators at the meeting, FAC actually received an invitation to testify before the House Higher Education Committee, which is unprecedented. They will hear something quite different from FAC than what they have been hearing from the IBHE and the presidents. I think that there are political realities that oblige the IBHE and the presidents to be discreet in ways that we are not obliged.

Senator Jerich: Do you see any negative implications of university faculty saying one thing and university presidents saying another?

Professor White: I don't think that it will be incongruent so much as it will be different kinds of tones and facts brought to the fore. The kind of nuts and bolts of how budget realities affect the daily life of teachers and students is not something that the presidents or the IBHE are probably even capable of bringing, but we are. I think that the politicians really want someone to come forward and tell them these kinds of things because they would like to help, but they need help helping. I read it as good faith at this point.

Communications:

08.30.04.01 Powers and Responsibilities of the Committees of the Academic Senate

Senator Crothers: You received in your packets a document from the Senate Executive Committee called Powers and Responsibilities of the Committees of the Academic Senate. This gives some sense of what the parameters are of the Senate's authorities and responsibilities. I have been in the position of having senators ask me 'if we pass something, will the administration really do it?' Also, I have had staff people ask 'Why don't they (internal committees) just ask me? I will be happy to do it if they just ask.' The information contained in this memo is an attempt to bridge these notions. The first two pages of the memo are a discussion of the Senate's role in shared governance, reminding you that the Academic Senate is the central governance body on campus and that that brings with it authorities and responsibilities. We tried to outline, at least on a sketch basis, what some of those powers and responsibilities are. Very important among the responsibilities is 'timeliness in addressing issues before them', as noted on page three, bullet number one. There is one notation that is not included, but should be because of the way in which the administration is supporting the Senate's internal committee activity. You received a list of university staff persons who are designated to the internal committees by the issue pending, rather than by committee. These designations place a strong burden on committee chairs this year to contact these people when the issues come up for discussion.

08.24.04.02 Patriot Act Sense of the Senate Resolution

Senator op de Beeck: At the last meeting, we brought the proposed Patriot Act Sense of the Senate Resolution back before the Senate. It was mentioned at that time that more information was needed before the resolution could be endorsed by the Senate. We have, therefore, asked Professor Robert Bradley of the Department of Politics and Government here tonight to share information about the Patriot Act.

Professor Bradley: I am here to provide information about the act, as I have been asked by the two senators,

rather than argue for or against the act. I have prepared a two-page handout that should be informative. The Patriot Act was passed very soon after the attack on the World Trade Center. It is a huge law—approximately 342 pages as configured as a proposal. The act is actually substantial changes to 15 federal laws which deal with everything from FERPA, which governs the university in terms of student records, to acts dealing with immigration and naturalization. Basically, the act states that it was established to deter and punish terrorist acts, enhance law enforcement investigatory tools and ‘for other purposes’.

There are essentially three goals to the act; the government’s biggest goal in this act was to break down the wall between intelligence gathering and law enforcement. They wanted a lot more coordination between the FBI and CIA, as well as other agencies. Not all sections of the act will come up for reauthorization under the sunset provision. There are parts of the Patriot Act that are permanent and the only way to get rid of them is to pass another piece of federal legislation to repeal those parts. There are a number of ways in which the act directly impacts universities. One, obviously, concerns library records—who has access to them?—how long are they kept?, etc. There are a number of libraries that have adopted the policy of purging records as soon as a book is returned. Another impact is felt in instructional technology. The federal government, by the act, can actually insert what looks to be a virus into an e-mail and collect e-mail messages remotely. There are a variety of items within the act that affect students. The Patriot Act basically eliminates the requirement of a student’s consent for release of student records. Other parts of the act refer to biological substances. We have a variety of science departments at this university that have in their possession things that would be deemed to be toxic substances. There are many websites dedicated to the act:

The Congressional Research Service Overviews of the Act:

<http://www.fas.org/irp/crs/RL31377.pdf>

<http://www.fas.org/irp/crs/RS21203.pdf>

The Century Foundation Basics of the Patriot Act: (Overview)

<http://www.tcf.org/Publications/HomelandSecurity/USAPatAct.pdf>

Patriot Act: (Full Text)

www.aclu.org

www.lifeandliberty.gov (Department of Justice’s defense of the act)

www.ala.org (American Library Association’s opposition to a variety of parts of the act)

Specifics on Higher Education:

The Bill of Rights Defense Committee has a list of many of the campuses across the country that have adopted resolutions on the act. That committee also has a web bibliography of the articles on the act’s impact on higher education. The site for the University of North Carolina is very good on this. That university’s legal counsel prepared a memo on what the university needed to do in response to the Patriot Act.

Bill of Rights Defense Committee: Campus Resolutions

<http://bordc.org/campus-resolutions>

Bill of Rights Defense Committee: Higher Education Impact

<http://bordc.org/Student-tools.htm>

Senator Koutsky: Are there any universities within Illinois that have adopted resolutions condemning the act?

Professor Bradley: I am almost positive that a university in Illinois has adopted a resolution, but you could check the Bill of Rights Defense Committee’s website, which lists resolutions by state.

Senator Koutsky: I believe that the City Council of Chicago did adopt a resolution condemning it.

Professor Bradley: That is correct.

Senator Crothers: I would ask Senators Reid and op de Beeck if they wish to move this resolution to a vote now or, in light of Professor Bradley's comments, amend the resolution or give people a week to reference these sources.

Senator Reid: Professor Bradley, have you looked at our particular resolution?

Professor Bradley: I did and probably would suggest some changes.

Senator op de Beeck: The format you provided of the typical resolutions is extremely helpful. I would suggest that we amend our proposed resolution; it would be very helpful if you would assist us in the editing process.

Professor Bradley: I would be happy to do that.

The Senate will consider the resolution at a later date.

09.01.04.02 Presidential Inaugural Ceremony

On Friday, October 8, 2004, Dr. Al Bowman will be installed as Illinois State University's 17th president. The inauguration ceremony will take place at 2:00 p.m. in the Bone Student Center Braden Auditorium and a reception will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the ballroom.

Registration to Vote

Senator Koutsky reminded the Senate that there were exactly 20 days left to register to vote in the November election. There are various areas on campus in which voter registration is being conducted, including Milner Library, Normal Public Library, university residence halls and the quad.

Adjournment

Attendance