

**ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES****Wednesday, February 9, 2005***(Approved)***Volume XXXVI, No. 9*****Call to Order***

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

***Roll Call***

Senator Borg called the roll and declared a quorum.

**Attendance and Motions*****Approval of Minutes of January 26, 2005***

**Motion XXXVI-37:** By Senator Evernden, seconded by Senator Rackauskas, to approve the minutes of January 26, 2005. The minutes were unanimously approved.

***Chairperson's Remarks***

**Senator Crothers:** Welcome to Senator Perez of the History Department who joins us for the remainder of the semester. I wanted to remind all senators about the e-mail you received inviting you to the NCA reaccreditation session at 7:15 a.m. on Tuesday. I hope to see as many of you there as possible. There are also open meetings with faculty, staff and students separately. I want to continue to encourage the committees to forward items to the Senate Executive Committee for the Senate Agenda.

***Student Government Association President's Remarks***

**Senator Rinker:** As I reported at the last Senate meeting, SGA has established Redbirds 4 Relief, a commission to assist tsunami victims in Southeast Asia. I would like to tip my hat to this very hard-working group of about six individuals who are working to help accomplish this goal. We encourage groups or individuals that would like to be involved to contact me at [studentbodypresident@ilstu.edu](mailto:studentbodypresident@ilstu.edu) or Zach Koutsky at [zakouts@ilstu.edu](mailto:zakouts@ilstu.edu). We have scheduled the kickoff during the week of the 28<sup>th</sup>. We now have four new "certified student leaders" on the Student Government Association-- Candace Harvey, SGA Chief of Staff, Barry Tolchin, Underrepresented Senators, Suzette Zompetti, who was our advisor, and myself. We attended a leadership conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. At these types of conferences, we interact with other student governments and we find out very quickly how blessed we are here at Illinois State. Elections for student government are underway. The Student Elections Committee is holding candidate information sessions; any student interested in running for student government, the Association of Residence Halls, Student Trustee, or the Black Student Union President or Vice President, must attend one of these sessions.

**Senator Tolchin:** The location and times for the sessions are Student Services Building, 314, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Thursday and Friday.

**Senator Koutsky:** The kickoff for the Redbirds 4 Relief begins on February 28<sup>th</sup>; there will be a raffle/silent auction of the many gifts donated by local businesses.

***President's Remarks***

**President Bowman:** You may have noticed that the flag on the quad is at half staff to recognize a graduate of Illinois State who was killed in Iraq, Christopher Zimni, graduating in the year 2000. He was a 27 year-old young man who was in the Marines. We announced a \$5.8 million training initiative that was sponsored by

Congressmen Weller and Hastert last week. We visited with Congressman Weller in Washington last Wednesday and talked about funding for the wind energy initiative. We need another million dollars to make that project move forward. Congressman Johnson will be on campus on February 21<sup>st</sup>; he will be announcing another federal initiative, this time for displaced IRS and Mitsubishi workers. Congressman LaHood will be on campus on February 28<sup>th</sup>. He will announce funding for a special education project. The Governor's office has a new staff member for higher education, a young attorney named Elliot Rigenstein. We invited him to campus last week and he had a very good first visit. The Governor's Commission on State Pensions will release a report later this week; the commission is encouraging lawmakers to consider both reductions in benefits and increased individual payments for new members. The public university presidents obviously are very concerned about how this might affect our employees and we plan to lobby very hard. We have asked our vice presidents for finance to meet as a group and review the proposed changes and provide us with impact analyses and alternative recommendations.

Founders Day is on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Jane Seymour will be a guest speaker at 9:00 a.m. in the Center for Performing Arts. We encourage everyone, especially students, to participate. We typically don't have a lot of student involvement. The Founders Day Convocation is at 1:00 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom. The University received an award from the Chamber of Commerce as the large business of the year. We were recognized for our ability to make progress despite a challenging economy and for completing the first major fundraising campaign. The Athletic Director Search Committee is moving forward; we have received a significant number of applications. Open forums will be held for all finalists. Lastly, a brief admissions update; we have 2% more applications than we had last year. The ACT average for admitted students is 24.3 right now. There are now 400 students on the wait list. The minority applications are very strong; in fact, there are 14% more minority apps than we had a year ago, so we are quickly approaching 11,000 applications. Demand for Illinois State is very strong.

### ***Provost's Remarks: Absent***

### ***Vice President of Student Affairs***

**Dr. Helen Mamarchev:** I want to congratulate the University Programming Board for a very successful Winterfest last week and the opening of their facility. I also want to thank the SGA Elections Committee for getting our elections underway. I will give you a brief update of some of our facility work that is going on. Here in the Student Center, the McAllister's Deli opening is projected for the week of March 28<sup>th</sup>. In a section of Wilkins Hall, one side of the building, energy efficient windows have been installed. The work for the Haney Hall renovation is in the design phase.

### ***Vice President for Finance and Planning***

**Dr. Stephen Bragg:** The Governor's budget address is scheduled for February 16<sup>th</sup>. We don't expect him to make specific recommendations for Illinois State University, but he will certainly make recommendations about all of higher education. The Board of Trustees meeting is on February 18<sup>th</sup>; you may want to look at the agenda for that meeting. Specifically, we are asking the Board to look at a comprehensive set of policies concerning university pricing; we currently have very little Board policy on tuition setting and pricing.

### ***Committee Reports***

#### ***Academic Affairs Committee***

**Senator Reid:** The committee completed its discussion on the Distance Education Report by the University Curriculum Committee, a previous Academic Affairs Committee and Galen Crow of the Office of Extended

Education. Next week, we will present our recommendations, based upon the previous recommendations, to the Senate. The committee also discussed the recommended revisions for the Withdrawal from Course Policy, essentially, to eliminate the need for a professor's approval when a student withdraws from a course before the end of the eight week. We also discussed the Academic Progress Alert review and will bring both items to the Senate at our next meeting.

#### ***Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee***

**Senator Brockschmidt:** The committee discussed the proposed Academic Calendar for the 2009-2010 school year; that will be coming to the Senate at the next meeting. We also discussed the Solicitation and Amplification Policies.

#### ***Faculty Affairs Committee***

**Senator Wylie:** The committee discussed our faculty recruitment and retention report.

#### ***Planning and Finance Committee***

**Senator Waterstraat:** Senator Bragg completed his presentation to the committee on the budget priorities for his division. The priorities ranged from a low of \$30,000 for University Housing and Campus Dining long-range housing and dining plans to a high of a \$22 million request for the building of a satellite power plant to cope with the rising energy demands on campus. Again, it was not an optimistic presentation in the sense that we are losing capacity because of our inability to maintain just the basic maintenance at the University. Senator Bragg's primary focus in the coming year will be to at least minimize any further decline in our capital maintenance. Next year, we want to get faculty more actively involved in setting the finance and planning budgets for the campus.

#### ***Rules Committee***

**Senator Hammel:** The committee finalized plans for our Faculty Code of Ethics review, which will include, among other things, mass e-mails to faculty and students referring them to a web page containing the Code and requesting comments on the Code. We approved, in principle, a request for non-tenure track representation on the Administrative Five-Year Review Committees for college deans, school directors and department chairpersons. We will formalize that very quickly. We began discussion on the issue of the reorganization of external Senate committees without Senate consent. We will likely continue that discussion next time with representatives from Student Affairs.

#### ***IBHE-FAC Report***

**Professor Curt White, ISU IBHE-FAC Representative:** The Faculty Advisory Council to the Board of Higher Education met at Governor State University on January 20<sup>th</sup>. There are three items of particular note. The first is that the Board staff met with us extensively about the importance of lobbying in the coming year and the importance of the lobbying efforts of individuals *other* than the IBHE and faculty. In particular, they urged us to have students and their families and members of the business community join in these lobbying efforts. It would be useful for FAC representatives to know what sort of lobbying efforts are going on at their respective universities. So, it would be helpful if Student Affairs or the President's office would provide this information to me, especially as it involves alumni, students and members of the business community. The Council met with Representative Davis and he informed us that House Bill 750 is approaching the floor. This bill will address tax structures and the way in which education is funded in the state. I think the bill is being called "Better Funding for Better Education". This would be a K-12 proposal solely; it is probably in our interest to let members of the appropriate communities and our own representatives know that we support

750 and that we think that higher education should be a part of it.

The Council endorsed a Sense of the Council Resolution, which I sent to you, urging that the Governor's pension commission recommendations not be adopted. It was the failure of the State over a number of years to adequately fund the pensions that created the problem that now the people who were victimized are being asked to pay for. So, there is a fundamental inequity in the recommendations that are being made to the Governor. It would probably be appropriate for this body to consider a similar resolution at some point in time.

Today, I received the first draft report from the Productivity and Accountability body. This report has a fairly extensive set of recommendations in it. I believe it was in that document that I saw a reference to considerations about the appropriateness of the ethics legislation for university employees. They are discussing the possibility of special exemptions for academics because of the special nature of university employment. There was, however, a very strong emphasis in the report that, at the present time, not only are we still required to complete the annual test for ethics, but that the part of the legislation that had to do with daily accountability for hours still applies to university employees as well, although I don't think anyone has been doing that. I am a bit confused about where that stands.

**President Bowman:** The current benefits usage card I believe has been changed to reporting to the tenth of the hour, which meets the letter and the spirit of the law, so we are in compliance.

**Professor White:** Other state employees are doing something very different. They are carrying around a log on which they are marking by the quarter hour what they do on a daily basis. Members of the IBHE staff are having to carry such a log. A minor note concerning the ethics package would seem to imply that members of the Faculty Advisory Council have to register with the state as lobbyists if we talk to representatives about higher education. We are asking the IBHE for an opinion on that matter. We will meet again on February 25<sup>th</sup> at Western.

**Senator Crothers:** Thank you very much. We appreciate your willingness to serve and monitor these things.

***Information Items:***

***09.28.04.01 Graduate Certificate for Director of Special Education (Academic Affairs Committee)***

**Senator Crothers:** You received notification by e-mail of the addition to the agenda of the Graduate Certificate for Director of Special Education. I pulled the proposal from the Senate Consent Agenda last October raising a couple of questions. Once something is removed from the Consent Agenda, it does need to come to the full Senate for action. Hopefully, we will be able to expedite this tonight.

**Senator Reid:** The Post-Masters Certificate for the Director of Special Education is for an administrative position that is required by law for districts providing special education services to students with disabilities. Directors of special education are responsible for overseeing these programs and services and insuring that legal mandates are met. At the present time, one can receive the certificate by completing a doctoral program in Special Education; but a doctorate degree is not required. The proposed post-masters certificate would allow someone to take on the position as Director of Special Education. It was removed from the Consent Agenda because it did not include the new financial form that essentially goes to all of the administrators and justifies whatever new funds are going to be needed. The argument essentially is that most of the students for the program will be pulled from existing programs. All courses that will be used are already being taught and therefore no new staff time will be needed and therefore no additional funding is involved. It is hoped that in

the future this program will attract new students, but that should not involve new funding. Since that was the reason that it was removed from the Consent Agenda, we did not consider the merits of the program, but simply the funding. We recommend that the Senate pass this because we find the argument credible that it will cost no more than the program costs at the present time.

**Motion XXXVI-38:** By Senator Reid, seconded by Senator Evernden, to move the proposal to action. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Motion XXXVI-39:** By Senator Reid to approve the proposed proposal. The Senate unanimously approved the Director of Special Education proposal.

**01.31.05.01 Display of Flags Policy (Administrative Affairs Committee)**

**Senator Rackauskas:** The committee reviewed the Display of Flags Policy last semester. When we first reviewed the Flag Policy, it left us with more questions than answers. One of the objectives of the committee was to simplify the policy and to make it a little more concrete about the direction which the University should take. There is one amendment that needs to be made in 1.A. “will be followed:” is crossed out, but that phrase should remain in the policy. There was confusion on the committee about what “official flags” referred to. We could find no specific definition of official flags, so we removed those references from the policy. We have moved the content of number 1 on the bottom and included it in the revised number 1 at the top. This language allows the Governor to make the decision to fly flags at half mast. Number 2 on the bottom, which refers to flying flags at half mast after the death of a student, was unclear. We were not sure if that was referring to other official flags or only to the United States and state flags. Therefore, the committee eliminated that language from the proposed policy.

**Senator Koutsky:** So, under this new proposal, with number 2 being struck, the flag currently being flown at half mast on the quad in honor and respect of the student that passed away would not be allowed?

**Senator Rackauskas:** Even under the old policy, it would not be allowed because it would have to be a current student.

**Senator Crothers:** The President could probably answer that. My guess is that if a former student were to die, you could place a phone call to the Governor and get permission to lower the flag to half mast.

**President Bowman:** Yes, we would be allowed to do that as a campus. I think the campus community would want us to get permission to do it.

**Senator Evernden:** Since number 2 is not specific, it would make more sense to me to make it specific rather than strike it completely from the policy. Why did not you not clarify rather than strike it?

**Senator Rackauskas:** The committee felt that it was not the responsibility of the President of the University to make decisions on when to lower the flag. I guess the committee thought it would be best if it were up to the U.S. President and governor.

**Senator Darnell:** You said you don’t know what “other official flags” are, but does that mean that we can’t have any other flags except for our state and U.S. flags?

**Senator Crothers:** To follow up on Senator Darnell’s question, the source of the debate when this policy came to us before was the flags in the lobby of the Student Center—are they or are they not official flags?

Would you consider a friendly amendment that replaces “the U.S. and state flags” with “the U.S., state and other official flags”? With this amendment, you have covered all proper flag etiquette under most circumstances.

**Senator Brockschmidt:** The proposed policy, as amended, refers only to the display of the U.S. and state flags; at no point in this document does it say that you cannot fly other flags. The committee felt that as the flags in the Bone Student Center are not on flag poles, those were not what this document was originally referring to.

**Senator Crothers:** I take it then that you do not consider “U.S., state and other official flags” as a friendly amendment. I certainly would agree that it does not stop other flags from being put up, but it also provides no regulation about how they are put up.

**Senator Brockschmidt:** If the Senate were to recommend a definition of official flags, it could be considered as a possible friendly amendment.

**Senator Koutsky:** If a student dies, would this policy require the President of the University to call the Governor for permission to fly the flag at half staff? Or would there be a system set up in which the Governor’s office would just give us the ok in these instances?

**Senator Rackauskas:** I would assume that if this happened again that the President would ask the Governor for permission.

**Senator Evernden:** I think he was asking what the current procedure is. Right now, does the President have to call the Governor or is that a power that he has? Is this document taking that power away?

**Senator Crothers:** You were given the answer regarding specifically this case, because the flag is currently at half mast for a former student. The policy does not allow the President to summarily decide to lower the flag as the policy specifies “currently” enrolled students.

**Senator Evernden:** Is the POW-MIA flag considered an official flag?

**Senator Crothers:** I don’t know if that is the law.

**Senator Hammel:** In number 1, it should read, “flags” instead of “flag”.

**Senator Crothers:** If you bring this language as it is back to us, this is no longer a policy about the display of flags on campus, it is a policy about the display of the US and Illinois State flags on campus, so the title of the policy would change.

**Senator Reid:** There are rules for the Illinois and US flags, but people can do whatever they want with any other flag?

**Senator Rackauskas:** Under the revised policy, yes.

**Senator Crothers:** I would be very careful on that point in that the University, not individuals, is bound by this policy. You have the freedom of speech right to do to any flag whatever you wish to do.

**Senator Reid:** And the University can do whatever it wants with any other flag?

**Senator Crothers:** Absolutely.

The policy will return to the Senate at a later date.

***01.26.05.01 Tailgating Procedures (Alcohol Policy, Pages 12-13)***  
***(Administrative Affairs Committee)***

**Senator Brockschmidt:** This is the same policy for tailgating procedures previously brought to the Senate. It was sent back to us for review. The committee felt that this should be brought to the Senate as an Information Item just to show that we are making no changes and to address any questions or concerns.

**Senator Crothers:** The former Student Trustee had questions about why we limit tailgating as we do and that is why this is coming back to us.

**Dr. Mamarchev:** As a point of information, in number 6, it should read, “through Community Rights and Responsibilities” instead of “through Student Dispute Resolution Services”. That office has changed its name.

**Senator Crothers:** Since this is a pre-existing policy, that probably won’t get changed until this comes back on the full policy review cycle.

**Senator Hammel:** Where does this policy exist in our Policies and Procedures?

**Senator Crothers:** It is within the University Alcohol Policy. We are considering this as an Advisory Item and no further action is necessary since we have already adopted the Alcohol Policy.

***Communications:***

***02.01.05.01 Academic Affairs Annual Planning Presentations***

**Senator Crothers:** You have before you a communication regarding the Academic Affairs Annual Planning Presentations. It is simply an invitation to those who would like to attend sessions on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> to hear the various deans and other senior administrators make their budget presentations.

***NCA Steering Team Sense of the Senate Resolution***

**Senator Crothers:** You also were just handed a short time ago a Sense of the Senate Resolution formally thanking Paul Borg, Jan Shane and the other members of the NCA Steering Committee, including among others, our own Mike Plantholt, for their hard work in the reaccreditation process. It is brought to you on behalf of the Senate Executive Committee.

The Senate unanimously approved the Sense of the Senate Resolution.

**Senator Plantholt:** Relative to the NCA visit next week, there are two main ways that senators can help out. First, there is the meeting with the Senate and the NCA here at 7:15 a.m. on Tuesday; other meetings are posted on the Provost’s website. The other way to help out is to spread the news among faculty, students and staff. I think the main concern of the steering committee is that people will come around and ask our members about the process and that people will not know that it is going on.

**Senator Borg:** I would remind you that there will be an open forum for civil service and AP staff members on Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 p.m. in this room; the open forum for faculty is at 4:00 p.m. the same day in this room. The open forum for students is in the Circus Room on Tuesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 p.m. Each session will last an hour.

*Adjournment*