

Academic Senate Minutes
Wednesday, May 11, 2005, 7:00 p.m.
(Approved)

Call to Order by Senate Vice Chairperson

The meeting was called to order by Senate Vice Chairperson Josh Garrison.

Roll Call

The Secretary called the roll and declared a quorum.

[Attendance and Motions](#)***Election of Senate Chairperson***

The Faculty Caucus nominated Senator Lane Crothers as Senate Chairperson on 4/27/05; there were no additional nominations. The Senate unanimously elected Senator Crothers as Chairperson.

Welcome of New Senators

Chairperson Crothers welcomed the new Senate of 2005-06. He noted that there was no official swearing in or ceremony for the new Senate, but stated that there should be in order to recognize that this is a very serious enterprise in which they were engaged.

Election of Senate Secretary

The Faculty Caucus nominated Senator Borg as Senate Secretary on 4/27/05; there were no additional nominations. The Senate unanimously elected Senator Borg as Secretary.

Election of Senate Executive Committee Faculty Representatives

The Faculty Caucus nominated Senators Dan Holland, Nathalie op de Beeck and Marian Hampton as Senate Executive Committee Faculty Representatives on 4/27/05. The Faculty Caucus will meet after this evening's meeting to select additional nominees for a fourth faculty representative. There were no additional nominations from the floor and the Senate unanimously elected Senators Holland, op de Beeck and Hampton to the Executive Committee. The fourth faculty representative for the Executive Committee will be elected by the Senate at its next meeting.

Approval of Minutes of April 27, 2005

Motion XXXVI-83: By Senator Holland, seconded by Senator Borg, to approve the Senate minutes of April 27, 2005. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Crothers: It is my privilege to welcome you all to the Academic Senate. I am not sure how long it has been since there has been a circumstance of quite this profound level of turnover as there is on this Senate this year. Approximately 18 of the faculty on the Senate last year have left and, as of yet, we don't even have them fully replaced. Of course, with the exception of Barry Tolchin when he becomes Student Trustee, the student leadership is all new as well. For that reason, there is going to be a pretty steep learning curve for everyone and some of you may get thrust into leadership positions a little faster than you expected. There are approximately three members who have not turned in their Internal Committee Preference Forms. I do need those when possible. I warn the faculty that you are unlikely to get what you have requested because, as a practical matter, I am going to have to distribute people across the Senate more diversely than I normally might have to. It is my general practice to try to meet as many senators as I can over lunch; it is my preference to continue to try to do that. If you are interested, great; if you are not, I don't take it personally, but it is a chance to get to know people. I need to remind the Caucus that we are going to have to have a couple of additional things going on in the caucus after this meeting. Finally, I want to take a brief moment to acknowledge one person present today who has been an active supporter of the work of the Senate for a long time and for whom this will be the last Senate meeting; I would like to acknowledge Richard Dammers presence. He has provided broad support to the Senate as the Assistant to the President and we just want to thank you very much for your years of service. The other thing I would like to address to the administrators is that I have had a number of people approach me about the letter we received from Sharon Stanford about outside employment. They were surprised about it and its tone. I know that the policy has existed for awhile and one of the administrators may wish to comment about it.

Student Government Association President's Remarks

Senator Garrison: I would also like to welcome the new senators, both students, faculty and staff. I look forward to a year of cooperation. SGA would also like to recognize the University for all of the work that it did concerning the Phoenix fire. Many students were affected; three of SGA's members were affected as well and we have heard nothing but positive things coming from them, especially regarding the help from the Student Affairs Division.

Administrators' Remarks

· **President Al Bowman**

President Bowman: I, too, would like to welcome all of the new members to the Senate. I look forward to a good year next year. I, too, want to thank Vice President Mamarchev and her staff for the swift response to that fire; I think that you had staff on the scene literally within minutes of the start of the fire. The response from the community also is commendable, the Red Cross and the number of businesses that volunteered services. Lastly, I would like to thank the students who volunteered hours at Milner Library over the past year. We had a dinner at our house to just sort of say thank you to that group. The savings have been enormous and have allowed us to extend the hours of the library and I just wanted you to know that we appreciate that initiative.

We had an appropriation hearing on April 28th on the House side in Springfield. We had a Senate appropriation hearing earlier that week in Chicago. At the House hearing, we reviewed some of the progress the institution has made over the past year including the fundraising campaign and the opening of the College of Business building, the opening of the east half of Schroeder. We also spent a fair amount of time talking about the impact of the budget reductions on the institution and really drove home the point that in terms of inflation-adjusted funding, we are at a 20-year low in state support. Lastly, we spent some time talking about how the institution would be affected by the governor's proposed FY06 budget, which proposes no increase in our GRF funding for public higher ed. Obviously, we got questions about tuition increases and where that money would go. The response from the committee was very positive; in fact, we were told that our testimony was better than any other public university's testimony. A couple of people mentioned that if the money were out there, Illinois State University would be at the head of the pack in receiving additional appropriations. It is interesting to think about where we were a year ago at this time and as I pulled up my minutes of the last meeting of last year, one of the things I said was after the appropriations hearings last year, there is a lot of uncertainty; there is concern about growing debt. There were concerns about tax and fee increases and it's too early to predict what will happen. So, we said that in May of 2004 and ditto for May of 2005.

We had a legislative breakfast in Springfield last week and a number of University administrators were there, as well as members of this group, Barry Tolchin, Zach Koutsky; Lane was there. The target audience was members of the General Assembly and other staffers that work in Springfield. We also announced the recipient of something called the Illinois State University Alumni Association Senator John Maitland Award and we gave that this year to Jack North, the Vice President from State Farm Insurance who served as the Chairperson for the Redefining Normal Campaign. We were able to introduce our new Athletic Director, Dr. Sheahon Zenger, and gave him an opportunity to say a few words to that group. He has literally hit the ground running and already has some projects underway.

Another tidbit from last year—I announced that the fundraising campaign had reached \$80 million. It's pretty remarkable to go from \$80 million to \$96 over a period of just over six months.

We have a Board of Trustees' meeting this coming Friday. For new senators, those meetings are open to the public and you are more than welcome to attend. Probably, the main piece of business at that meeting will be an intergovernmental agreement to transfer land that the University owns to the Town of Normal and in exchange we will receive property on the south side of Beaufort. On that property, we will site our southeast zone chiller. We will also talk about tuition, fees, room and board. Obviously, for new students, we will need to raise tuition and provide a four-year guarantee. The Board will also vote on the Wright Residence Hall project. The Haney Hall project was approved last year. The design work is done and construction will start this summer. The next project will involve about \$7 million in work and then at the end of three years, roughly, we will be done with those three towers in west campus.

The Presidents of the Missouri Valley Conference Institutions voted in a conference call today to enter into an agreement with ESPN, which will allow CBS to televise the Men's Missouri Valley Basketball Tournament on national television on Sunday afternoon this coming March of 2006 and again in 2007. The only other conference championship games that will be televised nationally are the Big Ten, Pack Ten, Conference USA and the SEC. We also voted to give ESPN the primary television rights to our league through the 2009-2010 academic year.

Finally, I have not read Sharon's memo, but I am sure John has and maybe he can speak to it.

Senator Crothers: As an introductory rule, you should know that while the administrators are fairly flexible about this, the general rule of thumb of the Senate is that we are entitled to ask them questions about anything they raise and if you wish to bring something up that they don't raise, you are supposed to give them 48 hours notice and, if not, it is their right not to answer that under our rules. I would say about the legislative affairs breakfast, that what struck me both last year and this year, is the number of people who have nothing to do with Illinois State University, the number of state legislators, who made time to come over and actively introduce themselves to President Bowman. I think that is a very positive sign about how we are representing ourselves in Springfield these days.

· **Provost John Presley**

Provost Presley: I have not seen the memo of which you speak, so I cannot deal with issues like the tone or the wording or anything like that. I will say two things about it. The memo about the outside employment policy is in response to an auditor's finding. The policy requires that department chairs be notified of outside employment before the event and, frequently, when that notification comes, and sometimes it doesn't come, it is after the event. We do understand that it is not a negative, but a positive, when a faculty member of this campus is asked to consult, to write, to adjudicate, all of those things that can be construed as

outside employment. We see that as evidence of our faculty's eminence and expertise and we have no intention whatsoever of doing anything that would limit any faculty member's ability to do these things, but it is imperative that we all know about that policy and follow it.

We have almost the final counts on enrollment; the number is now 3,320 enrollment deposits—higher than we expected. Our freshman class will likely approach somewhere in the range of 3,150 to 3,200 students this fall. It is a higher figure than we had projected; in fact, we have had indicators all year from summer to the fall open houses that we have become a school of choice.

By moving into the arena of schools of choices, we have to look to our most serious competitor, the U of I. We had planned for another University of Illinois effect like we had last year, which pulled almost 300 students off our list, but it's probably a little bit too late for us to see any such effect. If we have something like 3,166 this fall, it will obviously cause us a few capacity issues, but I think that with Foundations of Inquiry gone by next fall, with three hours moved off General Education, and given the increased tuition income, it will very easily pay for the 30 or so more Gen Ed sections that we are going to need. Jonathan Rosenthal has already prepared to meet that demand and capacity.

Senator Borg: With respect to the employment letter that has raised such a fuss, those faculty who are on nine-month contracts and, therefore, are not employed by the University as of next Monday, don't need to get permission from the University or to inform department chairs that they have summer employment.

Provost Presley: Summer employment is not affected.

· *Vice President of Student Affairs Helen Mamarchev*

Dr. Mamarchev: Well I think that this incident with the fire, as terrible as it was, gave us an opportunity to really strengthen one of our core values, individualized attention. Several students have gotten back to us and said that they appreciate the care and cooperation that faculty members have shown them and so I think that is certainly a credit to our institution. We are almost moments away from commencement. We have two on Friday starting out with Mennonite and then CAS, which is the largest. Then on Saturday, we have a full line up of COE, CAST, COB and CFA. We are graduating about 3,800 students.

· *Vice President of Finance and Planning Stephen Bragg: Excused*

IBHE-FAC Report

Professor Curt White, IBHE-FAC Representative: For those of you who don't yet know what the Faculty Advisory Council to the Illinois Board of Higher Education is, it consists of representatives from the 12 public universities, about an equal number of representatives from the private colleges and universities in the state and also representatives on a rotating basis from the community colleges in the state. We meet monthly to discuss matters of interest to the higher education community and sometimes even to the Board of Higher Education. It used to be that we were more in the business of pushing paper for the IBHE, but in recent years, we have taken a more independent turn. We certainly keep in constant contact with the Board of Higher Education, but we have become more of an advocacy group for higher education in the state. Our meetings tend to be meetings with politicians, whether representatives or senators, from the area that the meetings happen to be in.

The members to the FAC are elected by the Academic Senates within each of the institutions that are participating. We were privileged to meet at William Raney Harper College, which is a community college near Schaumburg in the western suburbs of Chicago, last month on April 29th. At the meeting, we met with a number of senators, Senators Miguel Del Valle, Edward Maloney, who is the Senate Chair of the Higher Education Committee, Kay Wojcik, David Sullivan, Wendell Jones, Terry Link, and Michael Monaghan, an Executive Director of the Illinois Community College Trustees Association. Once again, the politicians, whether democratic or republican, were very forthcoming with criticism of the governor's office and its attitude towards higher education. There is very curiously little love for the governor and especially his budget staff person, Mr. Phelan, among politicians. Miguel Del Valle, in particular, was very outspoken with us in terms of his determination to move forward in the Senate this year with the bill, which is now primarily associated with Senator Winkel in the Champaign area. It is not directly and specifically an education bill; it is a tax reform bill. It will raise income tax for everyone in the state from 3 to 5%. It will lower property taxes on average by 25% and there will be built in buffers for certain lower income levels. The senators, the democratic senators in particular, seem very determined now to push this bill. Del Valle said that this isn't going to happen without an awful lot of public support and so he encouraged us to encourage others to write to both Edward Maloney and to him just to encourage them.

I made a particular point of asking them about what was going on with pensions and, apparently, Phelan has visited the appropriate Senate committee and was told in very clear terms, according to the senators there, that it was inappropriate to wrap so-called pension reform into a general budget agreement and that the senators did not feel that it was appropriate to fix an under-funded system by further under funding it. That was good to hear.

The thing that we need to be concerned about is in regard to the actual resolution of the budget. We don't even know how its going

to happen. It strikes me that it is unlikely that it is going to be wrapped up in the appropriate way, which would mean by the end of May, so it is likely once again to become a two-thirds majority requirement in order to pass the budget.

I have emphasized every time I come here that it's very important for news to filter back out. I send you guys sample letters whenever I have them and writing to Madigan seems to be a good idea. These people have to know that we are paying attention, so we need to keep letters flowing and hopefully, once again, our representatives will be watching out for us.

President Bowman: Everything Professor White has said has been in sync with what we are hearing. Senate Bill 750 certainly would help because it would generate more revenue. The concern is that unless the governor embraces it, a lot of people in the General Assembly will be reluctant to vote for it. So the chances for passage right now don't look very good.

Professor White: That's right. The chances for passage have never looked good, but what is interesting to see is how many politicians are getting fed up with the status quo and are willing, literally, to put their careers on the line. They made no bones about it; they said if we vote this thing through or even if we strongly support it and it fails, somebody is not going to come back.

The other thing of considerable interest is that Harper College is the notorious community college that is attempting to angle through the legislature a baccalaureate degree and they are looking to do it in nursing. You will note in my report that we met with their Provost and her associate. The bill is not going to make it out of committee this year, but they said 'that doesn't matter to us, we will be back next year.' They have a very, very strong legislative group that supports that college. It is Senate Bill 131 and it is designed as a pilot program. The language that they use to describe what they are trying to do is almost laughable in its transparency as a so-called business model for higher education. They talk about it purely as a market share opportunity and they said that we have a product that we want to offer consumers, consumers want the product and it seems to us unfair that so many other colleges and universities are opposing this. At any rate, the FAC made it again clear to them that there was very little support for it, even from other community colleges. It is something to be aware of and something that will be back.

The next meeting of the FAC will be here at ISU on May 20th. President Bowman will be addressing us, along with Senate Chair Lane Crothers. Hopefully, Dan Brady will be able to make it as well. If any of you are interested in seeing what the FAC actually does, you are welcome to join us.

Information Item:

2005-2006 Senate Calendar

Motion XXXVI-84: By Senator Borg, seconded by Senator Wylie, to move the 2005-06 Academic Senate Calendar to Action. The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion XXXVI-85: The Senate unanimously approved the Senate Calendar for 2005-06.

Advisory Items:

Academic Plan

Jan Shane, Associate Provost, presented the Academic Plan for 2005-2010 to the Senate as an Advisory Item. The Plan in its entirety can be found online at:

http://www.provost.ilstu.edu/academic_plan/academic_plan2005_2010.pdf

10.13.04.01 2009 – 2010 Academic Calendar (Executive Committee)

Senator Borg: I am a veteran of the time when the calendar was debated by the Senate. It has always troubled me that when the schedule works out so that there is only one week of classes after Thanksgiving instead of two weeks and then a final exam period. The reason has always been given that the closer the time grade distribution or grade turning in is to Christmas, the harder it is to turn that around so that students can get letters about grades before Christmas. Since we no longer have a paper trail for this and we do it electronically, I would merely ask the question why we couldn't extend this and delay the entire first semester by one week, allowing two weeks of classes after Thanksgiving and still have time for electronic distribution of grades before Christmas. We wouldn't have to be in classes on August 17th. I am curious about the reasoning why this happens.

Senator Crothers: That is an appropriate question to take back to Steve Adams and take it under advisement.

Senator Hampton: We did talk about this; I served on Administrative Affairs this year and the students on our committee did not understand why it was necessary to take off the entire week of Thanksgiving. We tried to explain to them, but we did think it would be important at some point to assess the feelings across campus of faculty members and departments as to how it works out for them. There were complaints in the College of Fine Arts that because of final projects that having just the one week after, or even two weeks after, doesn't really satisfy the need for finishing projects in some of our schools. So the committee thought that it would be a good idea to do some kind of a survey of faculty as to how they feel about this.

Senator Thompson: As an instructor, I think it is problematic when you come back after Thanksgiving break and only have one

week of classes. The other point is that it is problematic for teacher candidates in their practicums the earlier we start. If we start later in August, then children are in school or perhaps practicum placements have to be delayed, not so much for student teaching, but for early clinicals. It would probably be advantageous educationally if that could be changed or if at least it could be looked at to go a bit later into December and start classes a bit later in August.

Senator Crothers: I will point out to whoever is on Administrative Affairs next year that you are entitled to undertake a survey or whatever else when the calendar comes to you. It is certainly within your powers as the Administrative Affairs Committee.

Adjournment

Meetings of the Academic Senate are open to members of the University community. Persons attending the meeting participate in discussion with the consent of the Senate. Persons desiring to bring items to the attention of the Senate may do so by contacting any member of the Senate.