

Academic Senate Minutes
Wednesday, May 9, 2007
(Approved)

Call to Order by Student Body President/Senate Vice Chairperson

Student Body President and Senate Vice Chairperson David Horstein called the Senate to order.

[Attendance and Motions](#)

Seating of New Senate

New senators were given certificates welcoming them to the Senate as they were seated.

Roll Call by Student Body President/Senate Vice Chairperson

Senator Horstein called the roll and declared a quorum.

Approval of Minutes of April 25, 2007

Motion XXXVIII-59: By Senator Stewart, seconded by Senator Miller, to approve the Academic Senate Minutes of April 25, 2007. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Election of the Senate Chairperson

The Faculty Caucus previously nominated Senator Dan Holland, Physics, to serve as the 2007-08 Academic Senate Chairperson. There were no more additional nominations from the floor of the Senate. The Senate unanimously elected Senator Holland by acclamation.

Election of the Senate Secretary

The Faculty Caucus previously nominated Senator Kalter, English, to serve as the 2007-08 Academic Senate Secretary.

Motion XXXVIII-60: By Senator Walters, seconded by Senator Preston to elect Senator Kalter. There were no additional nominations and the Senate unanimously elected Senator Kalter as Academic Senate Secretary.

Election of Members of Senate Executive Committee

Motion XXXVIII-61: By Senator Anders, seconded by Senator Nippa to elect the faculty members nominated previously by the Faculty Caucus as members of the Senate Executive Committee. There were no additional nominations and the Senate unanimously elected the following faculty members to serve on the Senate Executive Committee:

FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES (4)

Farzaneh Fazel, COB Faculty Representative

Larry Alferink, CAS Faculty Representative

Ed Stewart, CFA, Faculty Representative

Paul Borg, CFA, Faculty Representative

Student members of the Executive Committee, appointed by the Student Government Association and to be ratified by the Academic Senate were:

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES (3)

Mark Cassata, Student Representative

Allison Graham, Student Representative

Ted Mason, Student Representative

The President, Provost, Senate Chairperson and Student Body President serve on the Executive Committee as ex-officio, voting members.

Presentation: Foundation Board Report

Joe Armstrong, Foundations Board Faculty Representative: The report distributed to you, contains some general information about what the ISU Foundation is. Basically, the Foundation is a non-profit cooperation that handles properties and funds given to the university. The ISU Foundation is currently managing a little over \$81 million. As endowments go, for a university of Illinois State's size, age and aspirations, it is a very modest amount of money. The big endowments are measured in billions. Nonetheless, this is ten times larger than it was just nine years ago.

Presently there are over 450 named funds within the endowment. These are permanent funds that support scholarship, research and other activities of the university from the earnings they make. In other words, these funds are the principals and what actually ends up as scholarship and research funds comes from the money they generate from the investments. These accounts amount to about \$64 million presently. The earnings from the investments this year have been going quite well and the Board will entertain a recommendation this Friday to increase the distribution of monies to these various funds. Among these endowed funds are the funds raised by the ISU Student Foundation, which raised \$30,000 to endow its first scholarship, the Olamide Adeyoyee Scholarship. It will be awarded for the first time this fall.

The Ewing Cultural Center, the Shakespearean Theatre, the Japanese Garden and the Genevieve Green Gardens, located at the Ewing Manor, are the property of and managed by the ISU Foundation. Landscaping is underway for the Genevieve Green Gardens and we anticipate that this will be dedicated in the fall. This development was made possible by a gift to ISU of over \$5 million from the Green family. The Foundation also now owns the former Eagles Grocers located on Main Street. It will be renovated as an alumni center.

The ISU Foundation operates on a budget of approximately \$1 million. The major categories involve \$82,000 for scholarships and awards, \$181,000 for administrative support, which includes \$125,000 for alumni relations and the Presidents Discretionary Fund. The budget also involves \$132,000 for university support, which includes marketing events and promotions, approximately \$200,000 to the Development Office to raise more money and, finally, almost \$400,000 goes for Foundation operations, which includes all the insurance and fees in running Ewing Manor. That is a just a synopsis, but if anyone has any questions, I would be happy to entertain those.

Senator Wilkinson: Do you have any ballpark figures for the endowment at the U of I or our peer institutions?

Professor Armstrong: I don't know the exact numbers, but we have made significant progress in moving up through the ranks. These rankings are published every year in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. During the next campaign at U of I, they will probably go for one billion dollars.

Senator Mwilambwe: Do know how the gardens are going to sustain themselves? Is there going to be a fee charged?

Professor Armstrong: No, there will be no fee to the gardens; there will be free and open access. Part of the money is being put into the superstructure of the gardens and part of it will be kept as an endowment so that the earnings from that money can be used to help maintain the gardens. We are working on an even larger botanical plan that will incorporate a horticultural center, the current Fell arboretum, and the green gardens under one developmental umbrella.

Senator Campbell: How are the funds monitored in terms of where the investments are socially responsible or ecologically responsible?

Professor Armstrong: We have an investment committee as part of the ISU Foundation Board. You have money managers handling your funds, so you don't have your funds directly invested. It is all kind of indirectly invested. It is very difficult to do something like that.

Senator Campbell: There are, at the personal level, funds that you can be fairly certain of. Do we ever look toward those or are we really just in this for a profit?

Professor Armstrong: That would be on the smaller end. With the diversification that it takes to maintain the kinds of performances that they have been looking for, it hasn't been possible to pursue that. For instance, just to be a part of the common fund, it requires a buy-in of over \$25 million. You look at categories of investments as opposed to individual investments. It is a good question, but I expect that if you dig deep enough into any of these major investments, you are going find something that you don't like.

I want to remind you that I am the faculty representative, so I am there to answer questions or get information for you, so don't hesitate to contact me.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Holland: Welcome to the new senators. I first started on the Senate seven years ago and at the time, I was not really aware of what an important body this is. I have been around lots of universities and this one has a fairly unique environment for shared governance that works very, very well. This should be a reasonably quiet year looking through what is on the agenda, but just being here, maintaining open lines of communication between all of the constituencies, can make all the difference in the world. So, thank you for being here.

Student Body President's Remarks

Senator Horstein: We are in the process of planning our trip to our national conference in Washington, D.C. where we get to meet with legislators, attend workshops and interact with other student governments to learn how to best utilize our resources. For the first time, we are going to be holding a summer meeting to plan for the coming year. Vice President Martin has been busy sending out letters all over campus asking for student nominations to fill all types of committees that are charged through the campus or external committees of the Academic Senate. So, I would like to encourage any faculty or staff member, who knows of any students that

they would like to nominate, to please contact Kevin Martin and let him know.

Administrators' Remarks

· ***President Al Bowman - Absent***

· ***Provost John Presley – Absent***

· ***Vice President of Student Affairs***

Senator Adams: I want to begin by extending our deepest concerns and get well wishes to the eight young women who were injured Friday when a landing and stairway, on which they were standing, collapsed at off campus apartment building. Seven of the eight are ISU students and six of those seven are members of the Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority. The Critical Incident Response Team (CERT) was activated that night; Michael Zajac of the Dean of Students Office responded at the scene and is to be commended for his extraordinary service.

An international student from Thailand was issued an involuntary withdrawal notice about two weeks ago, following a series of formal complaints over the past five to six months. Complaints from faculty and staff were filed with the ISU Police Department, which continually worked with those of us in Student Affairs and International Studies, among others, to monitor that particular student's actions. Finally, President Bowman approved the involuntary withdrawal notice and the ISU PD assisted US Immigrations and Customs Enforcement authorities in taking the student into custody. He is still in custody and is scheduled for deportation next week.

As the academic year comes to a close, Hewitt Hall on east campus will be taken off line and is next for renovation in the long range housing and dining plan. At the same time, Vrooman Dining Center will close permanently. Students assigned to Manchester Hall, which is also a part of east campus, next fall will go to Watterson Food Court for their meals. Renovations to Wright Hall and Linkin's Dining Center are expected to be completed this summer, ending the work on west campus facilities.

Finally, I want to thank former Senator Ryan Cullen for representing the Student Government Association at a meeting last Saturday morning of the Neighbors Association of Normal. Four of us, including Associate Dean Rick Olshak, from the university listened and attempted to address the concerns of the citizens on a variety of issues involving ISU students who live off campus. Those discussions will continue. There will be a meeting on our campus this fall of the neighbors, landlords and the Student Government Association, as well as members of Student Affairs.

Senator Mallory: What is the nature of the concerns around the town about students living off campus?

Senator Adams: I have lived in Bloomington-Normal all of my life and I can tell you that the complaints have existed my entire life. Primarily, they were noise, parking and damage to property complaints, alcohol violations and a number of other things that have been drawn to the university's attention. We work very closely in the Dean of Students Office with the ISU and Town of Normal police departments and other city authorities to do all that we can to address these issues.

Senator Holland: Since two of the dorms are going to be going off line, are there concerns that more students will be living off campus?

Senator Adams: I can assure you that we are having very in depth discussions about the situation with the residence halls going off line and we will be prepared to address those issues in the months and years ahead.

Vice President of Finance and Planning

Senator Bragg: Vice President Adams has already documented some of the improvements that are moving along in the long range housing and dining program. Our planning is proceeding at pace on the new kinesiology and student fitness center. We should be looking at architectural drawings for that facility sometime over the summer and have those design schematics ready to share with you when you come back in the fall. Planning is proceeding on the revitalization of the Bone Student Center as well. Other projects include enhancing the security of the Metcalf building and looking at the potential for a new appropriation from the State for a new fine arts complex. The Governor has recommended \$44 million to replace our current fine arts complex and we are confident that should a capitol bill be approved, we will be very high on that priority list.

I would like to extend a special thank you to our colleagues who work in Stevenson Hall. We have had the Stevenson-Turner capitol project on the books for quite awhile. The Governor finally approved the release of the last \$1.3 million for that project and we will be starting that this summer. The faculty and staff in Stevenson-Turner are packing up in the middle of finals week. We know that this is a terrible burden, but the construction schedule is such that it really has to begin right now. We thank you for your patience and your indulgence.

This is a project that will extend over four years, two years working to improve Stevenson and another two years improving Turner. If we are lucky, we will have construction tape and barricades up on this campus for the next decade.

On the operating side, we are still awaiting the appropriations in Springfield. All indications are that this session is probably going to go on for quite awhile. There is a lot of debate about the Governor's tax program and other possible tax programs. The good news is that ISU is recommended in the Governor's budget for a \$1.5 million increase in operations and there is about \$6.6 million earmarked for nursing and teacher education programs, which we believe ISU will receive a significant portion of, should they be appropriated.

The other major source of revenue for the operations of the institution is tuition and fees. The Board of Trustees is meeting this Friday. One of the resolutions that they will be considering concerns tuition and fees and room and board charges for next year. The staff has recommended to the Board an increase of \$19 per student credit hour for the base tuition. That will generate approximately \$2.6 million from new students. Staff is also recommending an additional \$9 assessment fee for academic facilities, technology, telecommunication deferred maintenance kinds of projects. This would generate about \$1.2 million in the first year because of the truth in tuition program. It will generate more dollars in the future. Those dollars will be earmarked in large part for some of the projects that we have not been able to accomplish with the loss of the capitol renewal program from the state. Deferred maintenance and facilities enhancement technology is very important and we really need to devote our resources to that. We are optimistic that the Board will receive that recommendation favorably and act on it.

Senator Ellerton: Do you have any update about the closure of School Street parking and the arrangements for the summer?

Senator Bragg: We have extended the closing of the School Street ramp until May 17 to allow all of you

who are packing up time to get your grades in. The length of the renovations to the ramp have not changed; we will just move that back by those three days, but we hope to get them done in a timely fashion.

Senator Ellerton: Today, I received an e-mail reminder about the closure on the 14th.

Senator Bragg: You should have an updated e-mail on that. The old e-mail was sent out by mistake.

Senator Mallory: Do I understand correctly that classroom space in both Stevenson and Turner will not be available for the coming fall?

Senator Bragg: No, just the upper two floors in Stevenson Hall. We will start in Stevenson and do the top two floors during this summer and, in the coming year, move to the second two floors. In the third and fourth years, we will do the same in Turner Hall.

Senator Mallory: So, eventually, it will impact the availability of classroom space in those buildings?

Senator Bragg: Yes, starting this summer.

Senator Mallory: What arrangements have been made to make sure that adequate classroom space is available in other buildings?

Senator Bragg: I can get specific information from Dr. Runner, the head of our facilities planning operation, but it is my understanding that, at least for this coming year, we have made arrangements in the former College of Business building to provide space. Perhaps the dean, who is here, can provide more specific information.

Senator Olson: Yes, that building will provide space. There is no physical way to replicate the number of classrooms that are going to be lost, but the people in Steve Bragg's area and Academic Affairs have done a really good job in finding every available space that we can get, including even bringing labs from one building to another. So, it is going to be a sacrifice on everyone's part, but at the end of the day, I think we will be happy with the results.

Senator Preston: There is another issue in the progress of the university and that is Milner Library. Dean Elzy sent a letter, probably to all departments, but it impacts biology particularly strongly. In essence, she said, 'Milner Library has cancelled 391 journals in the last five years and these cuts total \$470,000 in terms of cost. The purchasing power has dropped because of inflation and that is equivalent to \$800,000 of purchasing power that has eroded.' This impacts students, faculty and our research direction. This year, we are being asked, as a university, for cancellations equivalent to a quarter of a million dollars. Can you comment on this and do we have a plan to ameliorate some of this?

Senator Bragg: Yes, it is a very high priority. The biggest problem is state funding. We have lost in absolute dollars about 17 percent of our budget; in real dollars, much more than that once you adjust for inflation. ISU has not received a dedicated increase for operations in at least 14 years from the state. We have had to make do through tuition increases and the reallocation of other lines and the reallocation of variance dollars through personal services. It is unfortunate.

It is a high priority, but right now, we are using all of the available discretionary resources we have to achieve

our highest priority, competitive faculty and staff salaries. As important as the library materials are, as important as other materials are, our most critical asset are faculty and staff. We cannot jeopardize seeking the best and brightest for Illinois State University.

Senator Preston: Perhaps the Foundation or fundraising should have dedicated programming to support this.

Senator Bragg: This is also a subject that really should be brought up to the *Educating Illinois* task force that is looking at revitalizing the university's strategic plan. This is something that is very important for *Educating Illinois* to endorse and list as a priority for the coming year.

Senator Holland: Perhaps this is something that the Planning and Finance Committee needs to take up for next year. As a brief reminder, if we questions for an administrator that do not directly relate to their comments, usually they need to have a day's notice to prepare.

Information Item:

Approval of Senate Meeting Calendar for 2007-08

Motion XXXVIII-60: By Senator Borg, seconded by Senator Horstein, to move the item to action. The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion XXXVIII-61: By Senator Borg, seconded by Senator Stewart, to approve the Senate meeting calendar for the coming year. The calendar was unanimously approved.

Communications:

Senate Parking Permits

Senator Holland: The parking permits being distributed to you at this time are valid only during Senate meetings. I do encourage you not to lose your permit over the summer.

05.02.07.01 Information from Council of Illinois University Senates Meeting:

Resolution to Fund Pensions

Text Alert for Emergencies

Illinois PTA Report and Fact Sheet on Gross Receipts Tax Plan

Senator Holland: About a week and a half ago, we had a very interesting meeting of the Council of University Senates wherein we discussed, among other things, the underfunding of the pension fund, SURS. We also talked about potential planning for emergencies at universities, what kind of responses are appropriate and how to go about doing it. We have here some information from UIUC about some of the things that they are planning on doing, such as potentially sending text messaging or e-mails in order to get the word out to students about emergency situations as fast as possible. The third item from the meeting has to do with the funding of our public schools and universities and gives us a comparison of the general receipts tax plan versus House Bill 750.

Motion XXXVIII-62: By Senator Stewart, seconded by Senator Perr, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adjournment