

Academic Senate Minutes
Wednesday, September 1, 2010
(Approved)

Call to Order

Senate Chairperson Dan Holland called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Senator Kalter called the roll and declared a quorum.

Approval of Minutes of May 5, 2010

Motion XXXXII-5: By Senator Schlessler, seconded by Senator Cedeño, to approve the minutes of May 5, 2010. The minutes were unanimously approved.

IBHE-FAC Report (Professor Lane Crothers, IBHE-FAC Representative)

Professor Crothers: The Faculty Advisory Committee has met twice since you last had a meeting, at DeVry and in Carbondale. One of the things that got introduced at the DeVry meeting was a proposal to deal with MAP money in a different way, at least for community college students. The idea would be for the Student Assistance Commission to sell bonds to pay for MAP. Then their enhanced tax pay-ins, because they would have better skills and better jobs, would be used to pay back the interest and eventually the principle on the bonds. Andy Davis, who leads the Student Assistance Commission, came and talked about this proposal.

A second thing that that emerged at DeVry is that there is a split between those people who think that online education is a positive benefit to the community at large and those that are profoundly skeptical of them. In Carbondale, we decided to go back to the online degree topic. It appears that around 2006, the FAC passed a document saying that if your degree program was more than 80% online, then the degree ought to be called something other than a B.A. or B.S. The real focus here is on the fly-by-night, for-profit institutions that have gotten in trouble with the federal government as well. A lot of people on FAC do distance ed and the conversation exploded. Then arose the question of why 80%.

The chair of the council decided to ask FAC to endorse the notion of the MAP money being bonded out. We then had close to 7 minutes of a conversation about it. I opposed it. Ultimately after that 7 to 10 minutes of argument, FAC did endorse it. I actually don't expect this to go anywhere. I can't imagine university presidents being real happy about it; I can't imagine the state legislature thinking it's a brilliant idea.

We are seeking the endorsements by the Senates on shared participation in budget decision making and policy implementation in times of stress. It largely matches ISU's current practice. I got most of the language from documents this Senate had drafted and approved and had the university approve. Southern Illinois University at Carbondale has already endorsed. It should be in the FAC report I sent in June.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Holland: Welcome everyone. Thank you for being on the Senate. Thank you, President Bowman, for hosting the Senate dinner. Festival ISU is tomorrow. Everybody should get out and see what's going on. We are looking for solar car team members. One of the presentations coming to us this fall is the Master Plan. Faculty, starting next week, we are going to be looking at some changes to the ASPT Policy.

Student Body President's Remarks

Senator Marquis: I want to welcome everybody back. Thank you to Dr. Bowman for dinner. The IBHE Student Advisory Council student was placed. IBHE-SAC is similar to the FAC in advising the IBHE. So that individual was placed and his name is name is Grant Anderson. He is the Secretary of Governmental Relations within the Student Government Association. We are still looking for students for the Emerging Leaders Program, so if you have any first year students, transfer students, sophomores who are interested in becoming a part of the Student Government Association and in turn the Academic Senate, this is a terrific opportunity for those individuals to start learning how to be a leader here on campus. If they are interested, you can tell them to email StudentBodyVicePresident@ilsu.edu. The same goes for External Committees. We are always looking for students to fill those, so if you have any interested students in your classes, would you prompt them to complete the application which is found on our website at SGA.ilstu.edu.

Senator Adams handed me a letter right before this. We have been trying to hammer out what we will do with the sustainability fee process that happened last year, where there was a referendum passed by SGA that would work with a sustainability fee this upcoming year. What we have done is a terrific solution which gives faculty, staff and students the opportunity to serve on a sustainability committee that individuals can come to and request money for a one-time sustainable project here on campus.

Administrators' Remarks

President Al Bowman

President Bowman: I want to thank the admissions staff and financial aid staff for all of the good work that they did with the 5,000 new students that we enrolled this fall. This time a year ago, we were talking about a very large drop in state revenues all across the country. This year, fortunately, the picture is quite different. State revenues around the country are posting modest gains. In Illinois, in July, Illinois saw \$107 million increase in revenue. That was driven mostly by federal reimbursements.

Moody's Investor Services reported its outlook for Illinois public universities. They were complimentary on how the institutions have managed their finances during this downturn. They have a fairly negative outlook of Illinois because of the ongoing fiscal challenges. They had a chart of each public university ranking its dependence on state funding. We were less dependent on state funding than all of the other universities with the exception of the University of Illinois. FY10 ended on June 30th and we ended on a very positive note. We did not need to exercise our short-term borrowing authority. The state has begun to make some additional payments on last year's appropriation. Our grant awards were up \$3 million. We hit the \$23 million mark in grants and contracts. Private giving increased from \$10 million the previous year to \$13 million in the year that ended June 30th.

We finally have an FY11 budget. Our operating appropriation is \$80 million. That's about \$5 million less than we were allocated last year and the loss was expected. The federal stimulus portion of our budget disappeared with that program. We will obviously continue with a very cautious spending plan.

The *U.S. News and World Report* rankings were released about two weeks ago. We are ranked in the top 100 of all public universities and we are in the national university category. Our numbers that this ranking was based on reflected an 84.9% retention rate. We also improved in the percentage of faculty who were full time.

Provost Sheri Everts

Provost Everts: I will give a short update associated with enrollment numbers. The specific numbers will be available on census day. As of Monday, August 30th, 20,804 students were on campus: 18,296

undergraduates, 2,508 graduate students. New freshmen, 3,197, with an ACT average once again over 24. New transfer students, 18,027 with a GPA over 3.1. Also freshmen from underrepresented groups are up 13%.

Our national search for the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences will begin this semester. We will use the services of Greenwood Asher, the search firm that successfully recruited ISU's most recent deans. Dr. Paul Borg, a member of the Panel of Ten, has agreed to serve as chair of the search committee and Assistant Vice President for Academic Fiscal Management, Dr. Mardell Wilson, has agreed to serve as secretary of the committee. Additional members will be chosen as per policy 3.2.13.

Also when last we met, we discussed the finalists in the search for a new assistant provost. Since that time, we determined that we didn't find the candidate that was the perfect fit and so I will be working with my senior staff to review staffing plans in the Provost's Office to continue that search in the coming months.

Vice President of Student Affairs Steve Adams

Vice President Adams: There are a lot of people I want to thank for a very successful Passages program. Preview ran all summer. Stacy, you and many of your folks and the University College did a great job. Perhaps many of you assisted with that program for all new freshmen and new transfers. It gets them off on the right foot.

If you have yet to dine in the Watterson Dining Commons, you are in for a real treat. The way that the food is prepared and displayed makes Watterson Dining Commons, and also the Market Place at Linkins, a real treat for our students. Our campus recreation staff are all very excited as the finishing touches are put on the new Student Fitness Building and McCormick Hall. Some of the larger pieces of equipment are being brought into the building now. The keys, if I am not mistaken, are going to be turned over to us sometime later this month so we will have an opportunity to complete the move in and have that building ready to go on January 10, 2011. Finally, Student Affairs and the entire campus are pleased to welcome a new Director of the Career Center, Stephen Cantine. He began his duties last month.

Senator Holland: As far as faculty-staff use of the fitness center, has any policy been established for that yet?

Vice President Adams: We will be rolling that out. I want to remind everyone that the referendum that was passed in 2001 and 2002 charged the students on a graduated rate. The students footed the bill for over \$30 million of the \$49.6 million price tag, so obviously we want to give the students priority. We also want our faculty and staff to have that opportunity. There will be different plans that faculty, staff and others can take advantage of. We are even thinking about the possibility of a limited number of alumni who would be able to use the building. There will be some plans unveiled this fall.

Senator Kalter: Has there been any success in apprehending the suspects in the three recent Crime Alerts?

Vice President Adams: As of this afternoon, no. I wanted to mention that you have seen those Crime Alerts very early on in the semester, but we felt that two of the incidents, in particular, were very serious incidents. We felt that because it represented a serious or continuing threat, in accordance with the Cleary Act, we are required to do that in a timely fashion. As far as any success of the Normal Police Department apprehending any of the suspects, as of this afternoon, that was not the case.

Senator Knobloch: Do you have any knowledge of any parking for the new recreation building?

Vice President Adams: I am going to let Vice President Layzell answer that question, but I know that there is parking in the area and certainly it is being considered as part of the total plan for the building.

Vice President Layzell: Right and the current thinking is that there will be parking available in the South University parking garage.

Vice President of Finance and Planning Dan Layzell

Vice President Layzell: The biggest thing upcoming is a discussion of the draft Master Plan. There is a draft of the Campus Master Plan on the website. There is also an online survey that is going to be out there until October 1. There are two upcoming public forums to gather feedback. The first one will be on September 16 at 10:00 a.m. here in this room. Then there will be another one on September 20th at 2:00 p.m. at the new Marriott. We will be making a presentation to the Senate in early October. The whole purpose of this is coming back with a revised document for endorsement by all of the governance groups and then going forward in February to the Board of Trustees for endorsement. I am pleased to announce that Andrea Ballinger was hired as the new Associate Vice President for Administrative Technologies in June. Uptown Crossing, which is the facility at Fell and North, we will be moving into the second floor. Three units in particular, the Comptrollers Office and there will be space for the College of Education and the College of Nursing. Lastly, Vice President Adams and I will be talking to you in more detail at the end of September about the planning for the Cardinal Court redevelopment.

Senator Schlessler: Do you know what parts of the College of Education are moving?

Chuck McGuire, Associate Vice President for Academic Administration: It will be a variety of institutes and centers that are currently scattered in DeGarmo and in some of the outlining parts of the campus. There are no academic departments that are moving there at this time.

Committee Reports: Reporting of Election of Internal Committee Officers

Academic Affairs Committee: Senator Stewart, Chairperson, and Ted Mason, Secretary for the fall semester only.

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee: Susan Kalter, Chairperson. The committee will have a rotating secretary.

Faculty Affairs Committee: Linda Wedwick, Chair, Mark Hoelscher, Secretary.

Planning and Finance Committee: Jim Van der Laan, Chair, Lou Reifschneider, Secretary

Rules Committee: Rita Bailey, Chair, Martha Horst, Secretary

Communications

Senator Marquis: The SGA Constitution was ratified officially. Thank you, President Bowman. So we are now part of the Senate for the next two years.

Adjournment

Motion XXXXII-6: By Senator Hoelscher, seconded by Senator Dawson, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.