

FACULTY CAUCUS MINUTES

October 8, 2003

(Approved)

Call to Order

Senator Crothers called the Faculty Caucus to order.

Approval of Faculty Caucus Minutes of September 24, 2003

Motion: By Senator Borg, seconded by Senator Riegle, to approve the Faculty Caucus Minutes of September 24, 2003. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Post-Tenure Review

Senator Crothers: At the last Faculty Caucus, I informed you that I would check with the University Review Committee regarding the policy on post-tenure review. The chair of that committee, Teresa Palmer, indicates that they continue to work on it. It is at least possible in the next few months that I am going to ask for your authorization to pull this issue out from them if it continues to linger. Alternatively, I may invite the chair of URC to discuss with the Senate the committee's progress. Right now, they are indicating that they are continuing to work on it and I think that we owe them full opportunity to do so.

Senator Kurtz: Do you know what the hold up is?

Senator Crothers: We sent it to them in the middle of the semester and then of course you had the summer. I have the sense that there is some discussion about what criteria ought to be used in post-tenure review.

Parking Advisory Board Faculty Election

Senator Crothers: Mary Elaine Califf, Assistant Professor in the School of Information Technology, is the faculty nominee for the Parking Advisory Board. She is a full-time tenure track faculty member and has agreed to serve.

There were no additional nominations. Professor Califf was unanimously elected to the Parking Advisory Board. Her term of service is 2003-2006.

Academic Freedom Ethics and Grievance Committee Election

One of the members of the former Academic Freedom Committee was elected to the new Academic Freedom Ethics and Grievance Committee. However, it was discovered that that individual did not have tenure and was, therefore, ineligible to serve on the AFEGC. Nina Hamilton, Associate Professor in the School of Social Work, was nominated to fill the vacancy created. There were no additional nominations and Professor Hamilton was unanimously elected to the committee. Her term of service is 2003-2006.

IBHE Questions of Faculty Productivity

Senator Crothers: Senator Jerich has provided us with a letter summarizing issues brought forth by the IBHE regarding faculty productivity. I have asked Senator Bragg to attend this Faculty Caucus to also be available to discuss this issue.

Senator Jerich: The Board of Higher Education members met with the Faculty Advisory Council; Chairman Kaplan stated that the initiative for the Board of Higher Education is to get further cost savings for the State of Illinois through further budget reductions. He focused on increasing faculty productivity by, for example,

increasing faculty workloads and class sizes. He has requested input from the Faculty Advisory Council on this subject before the IBHE's December 9th meeting. Several of the FAC members will meet within the next week to ten days to formulate our response to his request.

Senator Bragg: Senator Jerich, I commend you and your colleagues for your plans to meet. One way to look at this is that the IBHE does want input from the Faculty Advisory Council. They want us to participate. I would encourage you to contact two staff members of the IBHE, Dan Lisle, Deputy Director for Fiscal Affairs, and Dou Day, Deputy Director for Policy and Planning, before you meet to get their perspectives on what the chairman is looking for. I would look upon this as an excellent opportunity to educate the IBHE about faculty roles and responsibilities. One of the reasons that Chairman Kaplan wants the IBHE to take on this issue is that he would rather be in control of this than have the governor's office, specifically the Office of Management and Budget, doing it. I can only applaud that.

Senator Borg: In your first paragraph of your letter, you underlined "faculty productivity at Illinois higher education institutions". Should you add "public" higher education? Are they demanding this same accountability for any institution that receives funds from the state?

Senator Jerich: They are not too concerned about what the private universities and community colleges are doing.

Senator Borg: Then I might suggest in your discussions that you include private universities as comparators. They ought to give them some indication of what our loads really are.

Professor Horvath: The College of Arts and Sciences went through an exercise last year in which we drafted two documents that discussed faculty workloads and how you define a faculty workload. We would be happy to share those documents with you.

Senator Jerich: That would be very helpful.

Senator Kurtz: Those documents are available on the CAS web site.

Senator O'Donnell: Senator Jerich, is it correct to say that the FAC actually sees some hope of presenting an educational document to the IBHE?

Senator Jerich: We are going to try to educate them as best we can and represent the faculty from our strongest perspective. I will have more information for you after the FAC retreat.

Executive Session

Motion: By Senator Borg, seconded by Senator Fowles, to move into executive session for the Academic Impact Fund and ASPT information update. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adjournment

The caucus returned to open session and adjourned.