

Executive Committee Minutes
October 16, 2000
(Approved)

Chairperson Curt White called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Khalid Razaki, Curt White, Cori Brown, Lane Crothers, John Walker, Patricia Meckstroth, Al Goldfarb, Matt Goodwin, Paul Peterson, President Boschini

Excused Absences: Fred Noyes, Charlie Biondollilo

Approval of Executive Committee Minutes of October 2, 2000

Motion XXXII-35: by Senator Razaki, second by Senator Crothers, to approve the minutes of October 2, 2000. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Communications (oral):

- 10.05.00.01 From Michael Speros: Announcement of Cultural Dinner Schedule.
- 10.11.00.02 From Gigi Fansler: Call for nominations for Strand Diversity Achievement Award.

Communications (distributed):

- 10.04.00.01 From Ron Story: Memo regarding distribution of hard copies of web materials to student senators. The Senate secretary will make hard copies available upon request.
- 10.12.00.01 From Helen Mamarchev: Equitable Treatment of Students Policy Activities List. (To Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committees)

Proposed Agenda for Academic Senate Meeting 10/25/00 at 7:00 P.M.

Action Items:

Ratification of Civil Service Election of Campus Communications Committee Representative (Rules Committee)

External Committee Student Elections (Rules Committee)

Information Items:

10.22.99.01A Proposal Regarding Constitution Exam (Academic Affairs Committee)

03.17.00.02 Graduate School Bylaws Revisions (Rules Committee)

05.10.00.03 Entertainment Committee Constitution Changes (Rules Committee)

Communication of Senate Issues to Faculty Members (Executive Committee)

Communications:

Adjournment

Motion XXXII-36: By Senator Razaki, second by Senator Crothers, to approve the agenda. The agenda was unanimously approved.

Discussion:**Communication of Senate Issues to Faculty Members**

The Executive Committee members agreed that they would like to better disseminate Senate issues to their faculty colleagues. In order to do this, college representatives could annually caucus to designate a Senate liaison to communicate Senate issues to the faculty. This change would be reflected in additional language in the Senate's Blue Book (supplement to its bylaws). The topic will be brought before the Senate at its next meeting.

Senate Representatives to Departments to Discuss Capital Campaign

Senator White: The President, the Provost and I have composed a document that is basically an invitation to the faculty to become involved in the Educating Illinois Distinctive and Excellence quest and the Capital Campaign. You will see copies of that as soon as we have them. What I would like to do is arrange for Senate representatives, especially members of the Executive Committee, to go to department meetings and talk to faculty members about the context of this document and the Capital Campaign. The next step is for the Senate to set a goal for fundraising among the faculty.

Senator Crothers: I have two sets of counter positions. One, I find it remarkable that we were asked to vote on a governance document last week that was dead no matter how we voted on it, but we are not being asked to consider the Distinctiveness and Excellence Report in any kind of elected way as a representative body. Secondly, I find it inappropriate to ask employees to pay for reforms, especially for reforms I am not convinced we support.

Senator White: The success of the D&E report is absolutely tied to the success Capital Campaign.

Senator Razaki: I am not sure you should tie both of these issues so closely together. I have sympathy for Senator Crothers' perspective, especially in bringing the Distinctiveness and Excellence Report to the Academic Senate because it has huge academic implications. I don't think it would be a very difficult task to have it passed in the Senate. I also have sympathy in terms of demanding that faculty make contributions. If I did not want to do it and somebody was pressuring me, I would not have liked it. This is a very sensitive issue and it should be addressed in that fashion. When we talk about Senate representatives going to departments to discuss the report and the campaign, I suggest that whomever does it be thoroughly trained in presenting both of those issues.

Senator White: I think if we are for it, there is an obligation for us to provide leadership. Can we assume that because we have already had a couple of sessions that we do not need an information session on the report?

Senator Crothers: Right now, it is being revised so it is not appropriate to move on it at this point.

Senator Goldfarb: The President has not received a final version. I assume that we are going to have a final iteration in November, at which point in time we could bring it to the Senate for a vote.

Senator Walker: Do you see both the campaign and the D&E initiative as a one-shot deal where a senator might go out and talk about both of them together?

Senator White: I think that it is very important for us to be able to tell the faculty that there are ways that they can give to the campaign through which they are essentially giving to themselves. The primary one in my mind is the Learning Community Initiative, which will create money that faculty will be able to apply for competitively on an annual basis for out of class programming. Perhaps we want to have a specialized menu of giving opportunities for the faculty.

Senator Boschini: The faculty at most schools give between 60 and 80% to their annual campaign. About 26% of our faculty give to ours. Donors are not going to give to us if we don't even believe in ourselves.

Senator Crothers: In that statement, there is an implication that the kind of giving that is going on anyway is somehow insufficient. There are 150 different ways to give; this is one particular way and it seems to be the primary way that is being emphasized when in fact you can make the argument otherwise.

Senator Boschini: The foundations only consider the dollar amounts given.

Senator White: In conclusion, we will bring the Educating Illinois document to the Senate as soon as we can and then continue this discussion in the Executive Committee.

Governance Charge to the Rules Committee

Senator White: I would like to ask the Rules Committee to work on compromise positions of items in the shared governance proposal that we can incorporate into our current structure and also give them a deadline to do so. I am also wondering if we should also identify a few areas that we are interested in addressing, in particular, adding AP and civil service and other representatives to the Senate, making room for those other members by making all central administrators ex-officio, as well as formalizing the faculty caucus as an internal body. I propose March 15, 2001 as the deadline; it would give us two or three meetings to discuss the issue in the Senate.

Senator Brown: I like the idea of a charge and a due date. It might be a good idea for us to come back with some concepts and then once we get feedback on those concepts, go back to the details.

Senator Razaki: Is it all right with the administrators to give up their votes?

Senator Goldfarb: If we have representation in those categories, I wouldn't have a problem with it. Clearly Senator White has certain ideas in terms of the governance structure. Could you circulate that to the Executive Committee and then send that as a recommendation to Rules?

Senator White: I am reluctant to be too dictatorial with Rules. I think it legitimate for us to say what we are particularly interested in, but I would not like it to seem that we are dictating it. We would first do changes in principle. We can then vote on those changes in principle and then have Rules provide us with the actual language. We would then change the Constitution and the bylaws. Rules does not have to feel obliged to bring forward an omnibus thing. If they want to bring things forward as they arrive at their conclusions and have us act on them, I think that would be fine.

Senator Walker: The President is expected to make some decision on the current document next month. Should we wait until we hear what he has to say about this whole process before we move forward?

Senator Boschini: I think it is up to you. I think it makes sense the way Senator White has explained it. I would rather hear what you have to say about it. In its current form, the shared governance proposal is not going to be approved.

Senator White: I will send you a memo this week and await your endorsement before sending it on to the Rules Committee.

GLT Fund Drive

Executive Committee members volunteered to answer phones at GLT for their fund drive on October 18 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Motion XXXII-37: To adjourn was approved unanimously by standing vote.