Executive Committee Minutes
Monday, March 31, 2003
4:00 P.M.
(Approved)

Chairperson Lane Crothers called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Ryan Allen, Paul Borg, John Presley, Nicole Clemmons, Lane Crothers, Eileen Fowles, Marian Hampton, Mark Ligunas, Jim Reid, Hassan Mohammadi, Ryan Meister

Absent: President Vic Boschini

Approval of Executive Committee Minutes of 03/17/03
Motion XXXIV-103: By Senator Borg, second by Senator Allen, to approve the March 17, 2003 Executive Committee minutes.

Oral Communications:

03.27.03.02	From Chris Horvath: College of Arts and Sciences Council Bylaws (To Rules Committee)
03.27.03.04	From Joe Trefzger: UCC Revised Guidelines (To Academic Affairs and Rules Committees)
03.27.03.05	From Jim Reid: Blue Book Revisions
03.28.03.01	From Jim Reid: Constitution Revisions
03.28.03.02	From Jim Reid: Academic Senate Bylaws Revisions
03.27.03.08	From University Curriculum Committee: Exercise Science Major Proposal (To Planning and Finance Committee)

Distributed Communications:

03.27.03.01	From Tammy Carlson: Employee Recognition Ceremony
03.27.03.03	From Helen Mamarchev: Employee Benefits for Domestic Partners (To Faculty Affairs Committee)
03.27.03.06	From Richard Dammers: Request for Representatives to Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Sanctions Committee

Proposed Agenda for Academic Senate Meeting of April 9, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes of March 26, 2003

Chairperson's Remarks

Student Government Association President's Remarks

Administrators' Remarks

Committee Reports

IBHE-FAC Report (Senator Jerich)

Action Items:

03.19.03.01	Institutional Goals and Priorities Report (Planning and Finance Committee)
08.13.02.01	College of Fine Arts Bylaws (Rules Committee)

Information Items:
Panel of 10 Vitae (Election of Panel of 10 April 23, 2003)

03.27.03.05 Blue Book Revisions (Rules Committee)

03.28.03.01 Constitution Revisions (Rules Committee)

03.28.03.02 Academic Senate Bylaws Revisions (Rules Committee)

02.04.03.01 Social Work Proposals (Academic Affairs Committee)

Communications

Budget Session

Adjournment

Motion XXXIV-104: By Senator Fowles, second by Senator Allen, to approve the agenda.
Senator Crothers: Did you get an answer from the College of Fine Arts about why they didn't talk to their own college about their bylaws?

Senator Reid: John Walker will be away until Tuesday. When he gets back, we will find out.

Senator Crothers: I am really reluctant to place the CFA Bylaws on the agenda as an action item until such time as the college faculty has approved it.

Senator Borg: I do think it went out to faculty for approval.

Senator Hampton: It was not indicated on the draft.

Senator Borg: I don't think it was indicated on the draft, but I do think it actually happened.

Motion XXXIV-105: By Senator Fowles, second by Senator Clemmons, to remove the CFA bylaws from the Senate agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

Senator Crothers: This can still come up in the context of this Senate. It can still get done this year.

The agenda, as revised, was unanimously approved.

Discussion
150th University Anniversary Steering Committee
Senator Crothers: We elected Senator Howard to the University's Sesquicentennial Anniversary Committee. We will need to elect someone else as his unit has been mobilized.

03.27.03.04 Employee Benefits for Domestic Partners
Senator Crothers: You have from Helen Mamarchev a request to endorse the Employee Benefits for Domestic Partners Resolutions. That will go to the Faculty Affairs Committee. I am now informed that there is a concern about the way this is framed.

Senator Borg: This is a campus-wide effort. It is being coordinated with other universities because it is a statewide issue. The people that are involved have formed essentially an ad-hoc group and are trying to get endorsements from the various governance bodies on campus. It has been framed in very simple language stating that the same benefits ought to accrue for employees with same sex domestic partners; then, as a separate sentence, the same thing with opposite sex domestic partners. In my experience, it is the latter that has raised a few eyebrows.

Senator Crothers: This was on the grounds that opposite sex persons can get married whereas same sex persons cannot.

Senator Borg: No matter how we deal with this, there are going to be certain matters of perceived moralities at stake.

03.27.03.06 Request for Representatives to Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Sanctions Committee

Senator Crothers: Do we want to run this as a volunteer-based call to the university at large? Do we insist that it needs to be done out of the Academic Senate? As I understand it right now the only faculty group that is possibly going to be covered is going to come out of Speech Pathology and even then it is the electronic billing question that is the framing difference.

Senator Borg: Perhaps we can identify people to serve on the committee who have certain experience with what this is.

Senator Fowles: I am hesitating about volunteering. How often is this group meeting, etc.?

Senator Crothers: This is the sanctions committee, so thus someone has to violate the rules. You would only be participating if you sanctioned someone from your group. Why don't I talk to Richard and we can put this on the regular agenda of the caucus?

03.27.03.08 Exercise Science Major Proposal

Senator Crothers: This proposal is here because I asked that it be pulled off the Senate Consent Agenda for our discussion. There is a serious set of conversations beginning and I want to ask a question of principle. We have tended to let a lot of these proposals go without really seriously considering whether there were any costs involved and what the net formulization of programs was. That has worked reasonably well in an era of non-declining resources. On a systematic basis when we see something major like this, do we want it to go through the full Senate process or just leave it on the Consent Agenda where it will most likely pass without objection?

Senator Reid: How do you define a major proposal?

Senator Crothers: Something like a new major or minor proposal. Sequencing of courses I don't see as a major concern because the program is preexisting.

Senator Fowles: What if they are canceling a major or minor rather than adding one?

Senator Crothers: I think that the adding problem is much more serious than the deleting problem because the adding of majors is where the costs will come from.

Provost Presley: Typically, most curriculum committees don't look at costs. Most proposing departments don't deal with costs. I think that you do need a methodology to consider whether or not it is going to add substantial costs. A budget priority committee could look at something like this.

Senator Borg: In the past, these programs were forwarded both to Academic Affairs, to judge the worth of the program, and to the Budget Committee, to look at costs. Nothing had really been objected to and proposing units had never been challenged to defend or to prove their budget assumptions. I think we might go back to forwarding proposals to committees, but use the Planning and Finance Committee as one that has a broader, stronger knowledge about the overall university sense.

Senator Crothers: Structurally where it has to go is Academic Affairs under the current rules. I have no problem if this committee decides that Academic Affairs work with Planning and Finance to ensure that it has academic merit and also that they have asked the budget questions.

Senator Borg: We might assume that the University Curriculum Committee and/or the Graduate Curriculum Committee has already done the academic checking work and then have the Senate deal with it from the budgetary aspects. In other words, avoid the duplicate committee and have it go straight to Planning and Finance.

Senator Crothers: I don't think structurally that we have that process in place. I think we can do that by sending it to Academic Affairs and requiring that they consult with Planning and Finance and report back, but knowing that Academic Affairs will endorse it.

Senator Borg: If we wanted to streamline the internal committee process, the obvious body to take out of line would be the

Academic Affairs Committee because the academic credentials should have already been looked at.

Senator Reid: I agree with that. I don't think it is necessary for Academic Affairs to see it. I would just send it to Planning and Finance to take care of the budget issue. But we were also considering moving the year's budget from the Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee to Planning and Finance. We are talking about a lot of work for this committee if they do the yearly budget, plus the long-term planning and then also look at the financial issues of proposals.

Senator Crothers: We could send it to the Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee.

Senator Reid: Planning and Finance is the only one that has all of the information to do it.

Senator Crothers: I agree. What we did this year was have our subcommittee of the Planning and Finance Committee deal with the priorities question. There are a lot of people on the committee so it is possible to imagine having a couple of subcommittees to deal with different issues. Do you want it to go to Planning and Finance with the explicit charge that they look at the cost questions?

Senator Borg: For this particular proposal on an ad hoc basis?

Senator Crothers: Yes, then it would have to become systematized.

Ms. James: Is this going to be for all proposals that come up for the Consent Agenda or just for this one?

Senator Crothers: It will be for anything like a new major or a new program. It won't be for sequencing questions.

Senator Fowles: Can we also do this for dropped majors and minors because I think it gives a balance?

Senator Crothers: Yes, we can.

Senator Reid: When is this going to come before the Senate?

Senator Crothers: It will be awhile.

Motion XXXIV-106: To adjourn. The motion was approved by standing vote.