

Executive Committee Minutes
Monday, April 14, 2003
4:00 P.M.
(Approved)

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

Present: John Presley, Lane Crothers, Eileen Fowles, Marian Hampton, Jim Reid, Hassan Mohammadi, Ryan Meister, President Vic Boschini

Absent: Ryan Allen, Nicole Clemmons, Mark Ligunas, Paul Borg

Guest: Barry Tolchin

Approval of Executive Committee Minutes of 03/31/03

Motion XXXIV-114: By Senator Reid, second by Senator Fowles, to approve the March 31, 2003 Executive Committee minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved with the revision of ascribing Provost Presley's remarks to Provost Presley rather than to "Provost Bowman".

Oral Communications:

- 04.09.03.02 From Jim Reid, Rules Committee: Blue Book Revisions
- 04.09.03.04 From Rosalyn Wylie: Milner Library Endorsement of Domestic Partners Benefits Resolutions (To Faculty Affairs Committee)
- 04.09.03.05 From Chika Nnamani: AP Endorsement of Domestic Partner Benefits Resolutions (To Faculty Affairs Committee)
- 04.10.03.02 From Jim Reid, Rules Committee: Academic Senate Bylaws Revisions
- 04.14.03.01 From Marian Hampton, School of Theatre: Domestic Partner Benefits Resolutions – Request to Expedite
- 04.14.03.02 From Susan Kossman: Mennonite College of Nursing Endorsement of Domestic Partner Benefits Resolutions
- 04.14.03.03 From Susan Winchip, Faculty Affairs Committee: Distinguished Professor, Ombudsman and Domestic Partner Issues

Distributed Communications:

- 04.09.03.03 From Ken Jerich: *Illinois Commitment* Seventh Goal
- 04.09.03.06 From Eric Thomas: Academic Progress Alert System Review (To Academic Affairs Committee)
- 04.09.03.07 From Larry Long: Royalties for Textbook Purchases (To Faculty Affairs Committee)
- 04.09.03.08 From David Barone: Senate Evening Meetings (To Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee)
- 04.10.03.01 From Jim Reid: Academic Freedom Ethics and Grievance Committee Policies and Procedures Revisions

04.14.03.03 Distinguished Professor, Ombudsman and Domestic Partner Issues

Senator Crothers: I have distributed to you an e-mail from Susan Winchip of the Faculty Affairs Committee about three things. The question came up about whether or not to change the Distinguished Professor Guidelines. Faculty Affairs says no. There was a question about the ombudsman position. Faculty Affairs says 'great idea—when?' Faculty Affairs also endorsed the domestic partners benefits. The Academic Senate was set up and used badly in the process concerning the domestic partner issue. People dropping things on our lap at the last second and then characterizing us as foot dragging is a mistake. It is our obligation to remind everyone that shared governance means everyone gets a say, particularly since it was discussed on this committee and referred out of this committee before the complaining started. I will recommend that this be added to the agenda as a communication item for then adoption as a sense of the Senate resolution. All that they are asking at this time is our endorsement of it to then go through the policy making process.

Senator Hampton: This came to me on Friday in our faculty meeting. John Poole mentioned that it had been brought up in committee and that they were told that it would be tabled.

Senator Crothers: We talked about it in this committee the prior Monday and referred it to a committee. Five days before that event occurred, it had already been referred out, so it could not have been true. Second, I think we all have an

obligation to just check first to see if it is true. So, it was not tabled. It was referred out to Faculty Affairs and that is why they are coming back to us saying they have endorsed it.

Senator Hampton: Was it mentioned in Faculty Affairs that it might be tabled?

Senator Crothers: No, it was not. I was sent an e-mail by Chris Horvath. I replied that it was late in the year and we are going to do our best. Rather than check with me, people assumed it was true and attacked. That was unfair and unreasonable. In the future when anyone hears these rumors, at least first ask.

Senator Mohammadi: I am really disturbed with the way in which Chris has been communicating with members of the Senate, especially the chair of the Senate. The language of the letter is very insulting.

Senator Crothers: Thank you very much for that. When it came to the Presidential Search Committee process, I acknowledged my own mistake in the middle of the process. I called the person to whom I originally sent that e-mail and apologized to him. I am complicit at some level. It is nonetheless true that there was a great deal of willful misrepresentation of that process as well.

Senator Reid: Since both sides were emotional in this, I think the best thing is to try to work for cooperation in the future as much as possible.

Proposed Agenda for Academic Senate Meeting of April 23, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes of April 9, 2003

Chairperson's Remarks

Student Government Association President's Remarks

Administrators' Remarks

Committee Reports

Action Items:

03.19.03.01A Institutional Goals and Priorities Report (Planning and Finance Committee)

03.28.03.01A Constitution Revisions (Rules Committee)

04.10.03.02 Academic Senate Bylaws Revisions (Rules Committee)

Information Items:

11.19.02.03 College of Education Bylaws (Rules Committee)

04.09.03.02 Blue Book Revisions (Rules Committee)

04.10.03.01 Academic Freedom Ethics and Grievance Committee Policies and Procedures Revisions (Rules Committee)

Advisory Item:

10.21.02.02 Distinguished Professor Policy (Faculty Affairs Committee)

Communications:

04.09.03.03 *Illinois Commitment* Seventh Goal

03.27.03.03A Domestic Partner Benefits Resolutions

Budget Session

Adjournment

Motion XXXIV-115: By Senator Fowles, second by Senator Meister, to approve the agenda.

Senator Crothers: We need to add the domestic partners issue as a Sense of the Senate Resolution.

Senator Reid: What exactly are we doing with that?

Senator Crothers: There is no policy. We are simply being asked to endorse a proposal that they be developed.

Senator Mohammadi: Do we have any idea about the policies at other institutions?

President Boschini: The policies range from what we have to giving everything. At Indiana University, they give everything your wife or husband would get. The bottom line is that this costs very little money because most people won't take advantage of it. Indiana set aside, I am not sure of the numbers, about \$1,200,000 for this. The first year they spend \$130,000.

Senator Reid: What do we offer?

President Boschini: We offer any local benefits such as using the library or the rec center for free. But the state won't allow us to offer any state benefits to domestic partners, only to legal spouses and children.

Senator Reid: So what could be changed?

President Boschini: The Senate could say yes and Senator Crothers could write a letter to the Board of Trustees saying that we encourage you to pressure the state to change this. We can't do it until the state allows us to do so. The excuse that people use is that it costs a lot of money, but it won't. Just offering this significantly improves morale. Just knowing its there is a message to your community.

Senator Hampton: I also think it is very important for recruitment.

Senator Crothers: We also need to address another thing from Faculty Affairs. We were asked by the Provost's office to revisit how we choose Distinguished Professors. Do you just want to accept the comment coming from Faculty Affairs or do you want it to go through the full Senate process to agree not to do anything.

Ms. James: This was a policy on the review cycle. It goes to committee and then it comes to the Senate. It is then officially on the web site if the Senate approves it.

Senator Fowles: So we have to bring it as information and then an action item.

Senator Crothers: I think because there is no change, we can bring it as advisory. So we agree then to add an advisory item about the Distinguished Professor Policy?

The Executive Committee members concurred.

Senator Crothers: I would suggest on the ombudsman issue that we accept the report from Faculty Affairs and since they make a specific recommendation regarding future fall action, that we keep it on Exec's agenda until the fall and schedule it then.

The agenda, as revised, was unanimously approved.

Discussion

04.09.03.04 Illinois Commitment Seventh Goal

Senator Crothers: You have here from Ken Jerich a request that the Academic Senate endorse the IBHE Faculty Affairs Council's request to add a seventh commitment to the *Illinois Commitment*. They are trying to rebuild in a liberal arts foundation into the *Illinois Commitment*. I have asked Ken to draft some language and bring it to the Senate as a Sense of

the Senate Resolution. Also, we are supposed to come up with something that we do that is exemplary. I have asked him to come forward with that as well.

Senator Reid: When I read through his e-mail, I did not find anything there about liberal arts.

Senator Crothers: It is not explicitly in there. They are trying to put it there in a surreptitious manner. When they are talking about quality of life, when I was on the council, that was always referred to as citizenship, aesthetic sensibility, etc.

Senator Reid: They may circumlocute themselves right out of the meaning. It's hard to see.

04.09.03.09 Academic Progress Alert System Review

Senator Crothers: We have to renew the Academic Progress Alert System if we chose to. I know that Dr. Thomas and others think it is a wonderful thing. We will send that to Academic Affairs.

04.09.03.10 Royalties for Textbook Purchases

Senator Crothers: Dr. Larry Long of Communications asks if we should think about drafting some ethics requirements or other rules about people who assign their own books to their courses.

Provost Presley: I think Dr. Long has an overly optimistic view of what is possible there.

Senator Crothers: There are a few people who clearly make significant money off their textbooks, but I don't think there are many of them. Do we think this is worth following up?

Provost Presley: There are the occasional academic authors who make money on their textbooks. The policies that I know of that deal with this most seriously I hope we really don't need. If it is your book, you are selling it through the bookstore, and you are requiring it, I think that's a good thing.

Senator Reid: Is there any value of having Faculty Affairs at least talk it out and come to the decision or should we make the decision here?

President Boschini: I think it is a good idea to send it to Faculty Affairs because he has raised what he thinks is an ethical issue.

The issue will be forwarded to the Faculty Affairs Committee.

04.09.03.11 Senate Evening Meetings

Senator Crothers: We have a communication from Dr. David Barone about Senate meeting schedules. It is something that has occurred to me in the past. If you find out about how other Senates in Illinois run, you will discover that we are the only ones that do it at night. Students have traditionally fought against daytime meetings. Because we have an Academic Senate rather than a Faculty Senate, that has had a substantial amount of influence on the process. It is also true that the schedule that currently exists was created in an era of traditional families. I am certainly open to the notion that this needs a full hearing.

Senator Meister: The students that we have now will not be opposed to listening to alternatives. We have had three senators that had to quit. Two of the students had to take a Wednesday night class and they had to take it first semester because they had to student teach the second semester. Essentially, they couldn't fulfill the obligation.

Senator Reid: Don't you think it would be worse during the day.

Senator Meister: To solve that, when I was an athlete, we had registration a month before all of the other students. If students were given advance registration, we could say do not schedule a class or work at the time of the Senate meetings. To me, you are not asking more of a student than a faculty member if they got that advanced registration. Usually if you are taking a class at night, there are fewer options.

Senator Reid: That really depends on if you have a big department. For French, we offer only one section of many of our courses.

Senator Mohammadi: Most of the courses that are offered in the evenings are graduate courses.

Senator Meister: When we were looking for involvement, 90% of the graduate students that we asked could not do it because they did not have Wednesday nights free.

Senator Fowles: But also during the daytime, many faculty may not have time to do it, especially with all of the shifting around during Schroeder.

Senator Crothers: I am hearing that it is worth talking about. Let's send it to Administrative Affairs for next year.

Provost Presley: Is it worth bringing up at the same time for discussion the issue of aligning committee meetings just before the meetings of the Senate?

Senator Crothers: We have always taken the position that the committee will decide its own schedule once it's developed.

Senator Fowles: The evening time right before the Senate meeting was more amenable.

04.10.03.01 Academic Freedom Ethics and Grievance Committee Policies and Procedures Revisions

Senator Reid: This is an information item on the agenda. We are proposing that the timeline be deleted. The past Academic Freedom Committee actually had a forty-day deadline. The Faculty Ethics and Grievance Committee had no deadline.

Representative to Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Sanctions Committee

Senator Crothers: We discussed representation on HIPAA a few weeks ago and you empowered me to ask Dr. Richard Dammers for more information. I had that conversation and Richard spoke with Senator Fowles. Senator Fowles has agreed to serve in this role. Her election will be on the caucus agenda. We appreciate her willingness to serve.

NCA Accreditation Steering Team Senate Liaison

Senator Crothers: We had previously elected Ken Jerich to this role. Ken indicates that he cannot fulfill it and thus we have to elect someone else. I would recommend that this be on the caucus agenda as well.

Scheduling of Senate Orientation

Senator Crothers: This gets to a wrinkle in the current linkages between orientation and the caucus wherein we select faculty leadership for the Senate. This year it was problematic because of the fact that we have so much going on. Often, we have the orientation at 5:30 p.m. At about 6:15, we go off to the other room for the orientation. Then we have the election to decide who we want the chair, secretary and the Executive Committee members to be.

Senator Reid: I don't remember that ever happening.

Senator Crothers: It's been that way since I've been here.

Senator Reid: No, because only the chairs of the committees went to the orientation meeting in all of the time I have been here until last year.

Senator Crothers: I do recall that we went to a caucus after the Senate meeting. We tried to do that this time, but that meeting spun just a little out of control, so we did not get it in there. Do you want to keep the orientation in that same relative place in time, which would be two meetings prior to the actual investment of the new Senate?

Senator Reid: I think we should put it off until the meeting before they are seated. I don't see why we should do it two before.

Senator Fowles: What is the objection of having the orientation at the same meeting that they are seated?

Senator Crothers: The problem with that is we don't generally want to have a caucus about leadership prior to ten minutes before you have to elect them. If there are multiple candidates for positions, there is an opportunity to come back and do the elections. This year, I think we decided that that is not going to work because there are just so many committee meeting things to do. We are going to have to do the elections this year right before they are actually seated.

Senator Reid: I would suggest then the meeting before they are seated we have a caucus where we talk about that and have the orientation separate. We would just get together afterwards. That would give time and we would try to have no other items on the agenda.

Senator Crothers: Assuming we are not going to have to be picking Presidential Search Committee members every year in mid April, that schedule should work. Having the caucus afterwards where we do that would probably work better. We will push the orientation session one meeting later in the year, do the orientation and then have a caucus afterwards where a discussion of candidates would be held. We can at least have a discussion and if we want to have an election two weeks later, we can do that right before the actual meeting.

Length of Senate Meetings

Senator Fowles: The timing of our last Senate meetings has been really long. I know things are backed up. Is there any support for having a timed agenda? I know you don't want to hamper discussion on important issues, but some people just keep going on and on.

Senator Crothers: We have done that a couple of times in the past and it has tended to work in certain areas. Part of it is a management question that is perfectly fair to critique me about. We used to have a two times rule. I have been very indulgent about ignoring that because some of the issues we have been dealing with have been contentious enough that I needed to have people argue themselves out.

Senator Fowles: And the second time that they speak cannot be until others have been heard.

Senator Crothers: I have generally done that informally in terms of calling on people. I am reluctant to make big agenda changes off of two really tough meetings. They were really tough meetings, but they were also really big issues. One possibility is that I can be a bit more strict in my chair role. When we placed the timing in the past, we were wasting huge amounts of time early in the meeting on trivial things. I don't think that's the issue. I think we have been spending a lot of time on lots of big things. It has been more of when things have gotten to us.

Senator Fowles: Your role would be to facilitate the discussion. I think perhaps its difficult to facilitate the discussion and try to keep time. Perhaps that could be given to your vice chair to keep track of who has spoken. It's hard for you to focus on what someone is saying and to see whose hand is up on the side.

Senator Crothers: Paul, Ryan and Carolyn have done an excellent job in the past of indicating who desires to speak. That has not been a big problem.

Provost Presley: In order for people to understand that it is not just you but it is the sense of the body that wants to do things in an efficient manner, you can consider a bylaw that says that business is over at X time. You must finish or it takes a super majority of the group to suspend that bylaw and continue the discussion.

Senator Mohammadi: I think that usually we don't have this difficulty. The last meeting was perhaps the only meeting that we ran out of time. I personally think that it was very legitimate. The subject deserved discussion.

Senator Reid: This is going to happen sometimes and we want to have time to talk out an issue.

Senator Mohammadi: Let's not limit ourselves.

Provost Presley: For those moments, people can say yes, we are going to suspend the bylaws for now. Have that pressure there so that we don't waste time and so people who are brought in to give reports understand that they have got ten minutes.

Senator Reid: It doesn't work that way. Some people will take as much time as they want no matter what the limit. I am wondering how effective that is.

Provost Presley: I have seen it work well at three or four different places.

Senator Mohammadi: Some of the time was spent on the bylaws, for example, that you bring to the Senate. What if you sent the results of your work to other committees and let them look at it. If they want to make any adjustments, then the

conversation is carried across committees. Then finalize it and bring it to the caucus or to the Senate.

Senator Reid: I have no problem with that. It is a question of time for the committee. Remember, what Rules had done this year was totally out of the ordinary. We had to revise all of the Blue Book, which has not been done since 1973. We had to revise the bylaws overall, which has not been done since I have been here. We had the new Academic Freedom Ethics and Grievance Policy. I guess my sense is that it is not going to be much of a problem.

Senator Crothers: Why don't we just try monitoring in the short run. I think the bylaw question is worth a good hearing. We will put it on Rules' agenda next fall to have that at least discussed through. That way we can deal with the question of trying to make sure that there is both time and appropriate focus.

Senator Reid: I have no problem with John's suggestion. It would depend on where we set the time.

Provost Presley: It is really good, useful, constant pressure for people to think about tabling an issue or calling the question. You have that pressure behind you and it is not seen as trying to cut someone off.

Senator Crothers: The other advantage of perhaps changing the meeting time as well will be that there will be an additional kind of pressure in that 5:00 p.m. is the end of the workday.

Senator Fowles: It seems that we have had more regular caucus meetings, which are very good, but those are the times, too, that that can be looked at as well. It is the combination of the two.

Senator Crothers: We have suggested in the past that we might need to go to alternate caucus meeting times.

New Senate Member

Senator Meister: I wanted to introduce Barry Tolchin. He is the new speaker of the Assembly for the students and he will be sitting on this committee starting in two weeks.

Motion XXXIV-115: To adjourn. The motion was approved by standing vote.