

Academic Senate Executive Committee Minutes
Monday, January 29, 2007, 4:00 P.M.
(Approved)

Call to Order

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

Present: Lane Crothers, Larry Alferink, Paul Borg, Farzaneh Fazel, Provost John Presley, Phillip Rodriguez, Nathalie op de Beeck, Peter Smith, President Al Bowman.

Absent: David Horstein, Jacob Ward, Ross Richards

Approval of Executive Committee Minutes of January 17, 2007

Motion XXXVIII-28: By Senator Alferink, seconded by Senator Rodriguez, to approve the Senate Executive Committee Minutes of January 17, 2007. The minutes were unanimously approved with one minor editorial revision.

Oral Communications:

Summer School Issues

Senator Crothers: I have received a few e-mails regarding the summer school issue. I am trying to form those into reasonable questions that we can both ask the President and receive answers to, without asking for irrelevant information. I have done a lot of follow up on what is going on, so I hope that I can frame them in an appropriate way for the President's response.

Senator Borg: I received rather interesting questions, such as 'Why did you and the Academic Affairs Committee do this?' It was the Academic Affairs area, not the committee.

President Bowman: Your college was one that did not benefit from the entrepreneurial model.

The President's response will be promulgated through the Senate and members can share it with their colleagues.

Distributed Communications:

01.22.07.01 From Mike Plantholt: ASPT Document (To Faculty Caucus Agenda of 2/21/07)

Senator Crothers: This revision to the ASPT document is one that I think actually needs serious consideration because the change of language from "four years" to "four years as an associate professor" would have hindered me when I was promoted. I would have had to wait another year. The Faculty Caucus would need to address this question.

01.23.07.01 From Provost Presley: FY08 Academic Affairs Annual Planning Presentations (Senate Communication 2/21/07)

Senator Crothers: The Academic Affairs Planning Presentations information will be available to the Senate as a communication. The presentations are scheduled for March 20th and 21st from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in Stevenson 401.

01.23.07.02 Announcement: Dr. Mary Frances Berry, Civic Engagement and Social Justice Cultural Dinner

The dinner and presentation will be held on February 20th at 5:00 p.m. in the Old Main Room.

01.26.07.01 From Administrative Affairs Committee: Distinguished Professor Policy – Revised (Senate Advisory Item 2/21/07)

Senator Crothers: We have talked about the revision to the Distinguished Professor Policy before. It has gone to the Faculty Affairs Committee. Part of me says that, after coming from the committee, we can just say that on their recommendation this is an editorial revision, with the students signing off, without going for a full Senate vote.

Senator Fazel: When did this come to the Faculty Affairs Committee?

Ms. James: Actually, it went to the Administrative Affairs Committee as a policy matter.

Provost Presley: Are the rules regarding Distinguished Professor the purview of the Faculty Affairs Committee?

Senator Crothers: Historically, Administrative Affairs has advised the Senate on policy. Some practical, applied rules may be the purview of the Provost, such as the actual implementation of policy. When we are talking about access and eligibility issues, then it is a shared governance matter.

Provost Presley: But it was the sense of the Faculty Affairs Committee that the rest of that belonged to them.

Senator Crothers: I don't think that that has ever been clarified definitively. It would be up to this body to decide.

Ms. James: I did look at the policy and the initiating bodies were the Faculty Affairs Committee/Provost.

Senator Crothers: Are you asking that the Faculty Affairs Committee look at this?

Provost Presley: Yes, if this came from Administrative Affairs, it should go Faculty Affairs.

Senator Crothers: No, it would go to the Senate now and the people on Faculty Affairs could raise objections if they wanted to. It has been to a subcommittee already.

Provost Presley: But not the correct one, in my opinion.

Senator Crothers: There is no specific language to that effect. We sent it to Administrative Affairs from this body.

Provost Presley: I think it is an error to have policies considered by only one committee. I think you ought to have a home for a policy.

Senator Crothers: Our practice in this particular case was that since this was a technical change as opposed to an access or eligibility change, it was appropriately within the Administrative Affairs Committee's area. I can make nine arguments about where it should go.

Provost Presley: So can I, but wouldn't it be better if these policies, which come up periodically for review, have a home in a committee?

Senator Crothers: I agree, but that can not be solved by this policy. That requires a different kind of change. That requires a revision to the Blue Book.

Provost Presley: Alright, but the policy, as a custom, has gone to Faculty Affairs. I don't particularly care, but it seems that these things should be predictable.

Senator Crothers: I have no objection to forwarding this to Faculty Affairs.

Provost Presley: Yes, just let them see it.

Senator Borg: We could send it to them as ask if this revision should be editorial, which we discussed doing ourselves. That would give a reason for sending it there.

Senator Crothers: I am happy to send it to Faculty Affairs and let them discuss anything that they want to discuss about this revision and make a recommendation back to us.

01.26.07.02 From Senate Office: Senate Bylaws – Revision to NTTF Section

Senator Crothers: This communication has to do with whether or not we move the election of the non-tenure track faculty Senate representative from the Senate Office because of the complications involved. I did not just want to decide this without a conversation because I can imagine some managerial issues involved. The question is about having the elections managed through the non-tenure track union.

Senator Alferink: What has initiated this?

Senator Crothers: Basically, the fact that getting access through HR of the list of NTTs has turned out to be very difficult. The list changes quite often. Cynthia gets harassed by some who say they did not receive this or were not notified of that when she has sent information to everyone on the list from HR.

Senator Alferink: I assume that not every non-tenure track faculty member is represented by the union. I am not saying that that is true of the NTT Faculty Association.

Provost Presley: The NTT faculty of Mennonite and Milner are not members of the union.

Senator Crothers: And the retired faculty are not, to my knowledge.

Senator Alferink: Do they have a problem with having the election?

Provost Presley: We ought to have a problem with the union running an election that includes people who are not members.

Senator Crothers: I can't remember the eligibility questions to vote in the NTT system.

Ms. James: You have to be employed here for the entire year; all part-time and full-time non-tenure-track faculty are eligible to vote.

Senator Crothers: Part of this is a managerial problem in the sense that our list of non-tenure track faculty that we receive from HR is actually quite bad.

Ms. James: I thought that they might prefer to hold the election.

Provost Presley: I am not sure that the union's list is any better.

Senator Crothers: Are not retired faculty who still teach for us also non-members?

Provost Presley: Yes.

President Bowman: If the core problem is that our HR list is inaccurate, we can fix that. At the very least, Payroll would have an accurate list. The coding distinguishes NTT from other faculty.

Senator Crothers: I have just recently started to try to get Ira involved in this question when it comes to the election for the Provost Search Committee. I e-mailed the Senate NTTF rep and Ira and they are beginning conversations to help bridge that gap. That may be a better way. We can work with Ira Schoenwald to make sure that the data is as accurate as can be.

Provost Presley: I know the problem because I have done the same thing in trying to form a dean's search committee. The problem is real, but I think that it is a little messy handing it to a bargaining unit to represent people that they don't represent.

Ms. James: How does the Civil Service Council handle this?

Senator Crothers: The Civil Service Council is a governance body outside of the union. It represents both union and non-union members.

Provost Presley: The lists are difficult, but I think that this would really muddy the waters. To go back to an earlier position, I don't know if the NTTU union would consider this a benefit or not, but it is a governance power for which they have not negotiated.

Senator Crothers: When the elections for the NTTU come up, I would recommend an e-mail to Ira and to Dr. Bowman asking how we can best get this done.

President Bowman: I would say through the Payroll Office; that list is accurate.

Senator Crothers: I can't tell Payroll to do it, but you can, so we would need your direct endorsement first. We will do that in the short-term and Cynthia will report back about how that is working.

Proposed Agenda for Academic Senate of Meeting of February 7, 2007:

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes of January 24, 2007

Chairperson's Remarks

Student Body President's Remarks

Administrators' Remarks

- ***President Al Bowman***
- ***Provost John Presley***
- ***Vice President of Student Affairs Steve Adams***
- ***Vice President of Finance and Planning Steve Bragg***

Committee Reports

- ***Academic Affairs Committee Chairperson, Senator Borg***
- ***Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee Chairperson, Senator Kalter***
- ***Faculty Affairs Committee Chairperson, Senator Preston***
- ***Planning and Finance Committee Chairperson, Senator Parette***
- ***Rules Committee Chairperson, Senator Holland***

Information Item:

01.26.07.01 Distinguished Professor Policy – Revised (Administrative Affairs Committee)

Communications:

01.23.07.01 FY08 Academic Affairs Annual Planning Presentations

01.23.07.02 Announcement: Dr. Mary Frances Berry, Civic Engagement and Social Justice Cultural Dinner

Adjournment

Motion XXXVIII-28: By Senator Borg, seconded by Senator Fazel, to approve the Academic Senate Agenda of

February 7, 2007.

Senator Alferink: Could we add as an action item the Faculty Responsibilities to Students document?

Senator Crothers: Yes. We also need to add the revised Sense of the Senate Resolution concerning the ethics training.

Ms. James: After the resolution is approved by the Senate, how do you want to disseminate it?

Senator Fazel: To the Governor's Office, to the President and to Curt White.

Revisions to Senate Agenda:

Action Item:

12.08.06.01 *Faculty Responsibilities to Students (Rules Committee)*

Communication Item:

01.29.07.01 *Sense of the Senate Resolution: Ethics Training Implementation-Revised (Senators op de Beeck and Fazel)*

The agenda was revised. However, as there were no items on the agenda involving time constraints, the Executive Committee elected to cancel the Senate meeting of February 7, 2007.

Adjournment