

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

Call to Order

Senate Chairperson Dan Holland called the meeting to order.

Present: Larry Alferink, Allison Graham, Mark Cassata, David Horstein, Ted Mason, Farzaneh Fazel, Dan Holland, Susan Kalter, Provost John Presley, Ed Stewart

Absent: President Al Bowman, Paul Borg

Approval of Executive Committee Minutes of October 1, 2007

Motion XXXIX-16: By Senator Fazel, seconded by Senator Cassata, to approve the Executive Committee Minutes of October 1, 2007. Corrections to the minutes: page 4: Senator Horstein: "...~~faculty member department chairperson~~..."; page 6: Senator Fazel: "...~~SGA ISU~~ web site..." As revised, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Distributed Communications:

10.16.07.01 From Jan Shane Murphy, Deb Smitley, Co-Chairs Educating Illinois Task Force: Recommendation for Revision to University Mission Statement

Senator Holland: The Educating Illinois Task Force has determined that a number of the constituency groups are reviewing public service as a part of the mission of the university and would like to add that into the Mission Statement. They would like to add it to the third line so that that sentence would read, "We provide the highest academic standards in our teaching, our scholarship, our public service and the connections between them." I am not sure how we are going to go about doing this.

Ms. James: It would go to the Academic Affairs Committee and they would bring it to the Senate for approval.

Senator Kalter: I think that seems reasonable.

Senator Holland: As the Executive Committee, we could do it.

Senator Alferink: It does not have to go to a committee, but it seems reasonable to do that.

Senator Holland: I know that they are on a short timeframe; they want to have a version of Educating Illinois out in about a month and the final version has to be done in February. So this could have time to go through a committee or we can just recommend it ourselves.

Provost Presley: They literally only want to add those two words in there, so it would be more of a function of the Executive Committee to just add them.

Senator Holland: What does the Executive Committee think about that?

Senator Alferink: I always read the last sentence as, essentially, saying that; but I don't have a problem with forefronting it to a greater extent.

Senator Fazel: But then we would have the statement 'We promote high academic standards in public service.' For teaching and research, it makes sense, but does 'highest academic standards' for public service make sense?

Senator Alferink: For example, if you serve on a community board, do you want to be a log sitting there?

Senator Fazel: That does not necessarily refer to an academic standard.

Senator Alferink: Well, you should be serving on things that relate to your competencies in your discipline.

Provost Presley: Civic engagement and things like that might be the kind of service for which academic expertise is relevant.

Senator Alferink: If you are serving on a review panel for NIH, then that is public service.

Senator Stewart: Right, but is all service going to rely on that?

Provost Presley: All service is not relevant.

Senator Alferink: If it does not require your expertise, it doesn't count.

Ms. James: When there is significant discussion, the issue is usually referred to an internal committee.

Senator Holland: Do we find enough discussion about this that we should send it off to committee?

Senator Stewart: I think that since they want it back so that they can get on with it, we can send it forth.

Senator Holland: What they told me was if they don't get it back, they will just use the Mission Statement as it currently reads. They would prefer to have it revised because of the shift in emphasis on public service.

Senator Fazel: Is this in any way going to affect faculty evaluations or value of service?

Senator Stewart: I think it just describes what we are already doing.

Senator Kalter: Would the whole Senate vote on it if we forwarded it from here?

Senator Holland: Yes, it would be on the agenda as an Information Item.

Senator Stewart: I think we should do this. If we send it to committee, it might take awhile for it to come out again.

Senator Holland: So, we will bring it as an Information Item on Wednesday.

Senator Fazel: Public service covers everything; are we talking about professional service here? We keep talking about it being related to your discipline for it to be public service.

Senator Holland: There are certain things that are public service that are academic and I suppose you could call that professional service.

Provost Presley: A distinction needs to be drawn between professional service and public service. In this, when we are talking about our mission, I think professional service is service to the community that would add to the state, as it were.

10.25.07.01 From Susan Kalter: Stevenson-Turner Relocation Project – March 10, 2006 Information

10.25.07.02 From Susan Kalter: Stevenson-Turner Life Safety Improvement Project – Web Site Info

10.25.07.03 From Susan Kalter: E-Mail of 10/18/07 to Dick Runner and Steve Bragg RE: Stevenson-Turner Questions

Senator Kalter: These three distributed communications are related. Steve Bragg will return to the Senate at the next

Senate meeting. Would it be best to wait for him to address the more specific questions in the e-mail that I sent to Dick Runner and him or ask this committee to assign the issue to the Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee or both? My main concern is that the individual faculty in Stevenson and Williams be consulted early on and an ongoing basis in this project, because it seems to me that we are headed for a big time crunch and space squeeze, given the numbers that you can see in the plan.

They had to put the whole Philosophy Department into Turner because there was not enough space in Williams for this year's move. Now, I think there are approximately 85 new offices being moved over, although the numbers are a little confusing. One says 85 and the other one says that there are only 46 offices. One scenario is that the faculty already in Williams would be asked to pack up in May, which solves the problem of not packing up while you are also trying to prepare for fall courses, but which would leave faculty without a lot of resources, books, their own computers. One of the suggestions was to have a computer pool, but I am not sure that for certain kinds of research activities that that would be sufficient for every faculty member.

Last year's move was relatively simple compared to this one because you are not trying to move people in and out of the same place. It seems like this is going to potentially set a precedent for the planning for the Fine Arts Complex move once that begins to happen. So, I am wondering if this is something that the Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee ought to be looking at or if it would be better to wait for Dr. Bragg to come back to ask him these questions in the Senate first.

Senator Holland: I have heard that only those people who really need offices are going to have them. The first priority is going to be people who are teaching classes. Beyond that, I don't know what is happening.

Provost Presley: I don't know the fine details because Chuck McGuire represents the Academic Affairs Office on this and because there are no fine details. You are right; there are not enough offices, so some people will be asked during the summer to simply move what they can into the surge space. I think that you should address those questions to Steve Bragg in the Senate. There has not been enough done to talk to those faculty affected.

As far as precedent goes, I don't know what we are going to do when we address the Fine Arts Complex. There is a sense on campus that Williams is the only surge space available; however, 1100 N. Main could have been an option. They keep moving people into it other than faculty. We have been waiting three years to decide what to do with that property and we are paying an enormous lease amount in the meantime. Now, that we need surge space, they have decided to move Alumni Relations into that area.

Senator Alferink: What struck me when I looked at the plan was that there is an underlying assumption that faculty do not work on campus during the summer and so we are going to give offices to some faculty and not others. That's not a very good precedent.

Provost Presley: Teaching and graduate assistants absolutely will not have offices.

Senator Holland: How about the NTTs?

Provost Presley: They probably will, but people are going to have to share spaces.

Senator Kalter: There seems to be some miscommunication about who is supposed to communicate to the rank and file faculty and how much continuity that is supposed to entail in terms of getting back to them. Dick Runner's office feels that by communicating to the deans, he can expect the deans to communicate to the chairs, who will then communicate to us. What happens is that we never hear anything or it takes months. The other problem is that we are already sharing offices there. There are no offices left to share. You can see that in the plan. So, the other issue is that the sharing is already happening.

Senator Alferink: That all faculty can predict what they will need access to over a 2½-month period is just a bizarre assumption.

Senator Holland: So, the net effect is that during the administrative comments with Senator Bragg, there will be an extended period of discussion.

Senator Kalter: After that, we can decide if it still needs to be assigned to a committee.

Senator Holland: I would send Steve the questions again to guarantee that he has had 24 hours notice.

10.25.07.04 From Larry Alferink/Rules Committee: Solicitation Policy-Revised

The Solicitation Policy, which has been revised by the Rules Committee, will come before the Senate as an Information Item on November 7, 2007.

Proposed Agenda for Academic Senate on November 7, 2007:

Academic Senate Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, November 7, 2007
7:00 P.M.
OLD MAIN ROOM, BONE STUDENT CENTER

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes of October 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 Waterstraat

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee Chairperson: Senator Lonbom

Faculty Affairs Committee Chairperson: Senator Preston

Planning and Finance Committee Chairperson: Senator Fazel

Rules Committee Chairperson: Senator Alferink

Information Items:

10.25.07.04 Solicitation Policy-Revised (Rules Committee)

10.16.07.01 Recommendation for Revision to University Mission Statement (Senate Executive Committee)

Communications

Adjournment

Motion XXXIX-17: By Senator Mason, seconded by Senator Kalter, to approve the Senate Agenda of November 7, 2007. With the addition of the revision to the University Mission Statement as an Information Item, the agenda was

unanimously approved.

Discussion: Dress Code and Grading

Student Body President Horstein informed the committee that he would be meeting with Dr. Longfellow in two weeks concerning the dress code and grading issue. Senator Holland stated that, therefore, the Senate would not address the issue until after that time.

Adjournment

Motion XXXIX-18: By Senator Stewart, seconded by Senator Fazel, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.