

Academic Senate Executive Committee Minutes
Monday, April 27, 2009, 4:00 P.M.
(Approved)

Call to Order

Senate Chairperson Dan Holland called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Farzaneh Fazel, Dan Holland, Susan Kalter, Kathleen Lonbom, Matt Spialek, Ed Stewart, Provost Sheri Everts, President Al Bowman

Approval of Executive Committee Minutes of March 30, 2009 and April 13, 2009

Motion XXXX- By Senator Stewart, seconded by Senator Kalter, to approve the Executive Committee Minutes of March 30, 2009 and April 13, 2009. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Distributed Communications:

From Academic Senate Office: Academic Senate Executive Committee and Academic Senate Meeting Schedule for 2009-10 (Information/Action Item on 5/6/09)

The 2009-10 Academic Senate and Executive Committee meeting schedule will be presented for approval by the new Senate at the final Senate meeting on May 6, 2009.

04.23.09.01 *From Farzaneh Fazel/Planning and Finance Committee: Winter and Summer Courses Recommendations (Information Item on 5/6/09)*

Senator Fazel: This is a document that you have seen in the Executive Committee before. The Planning and Finance Committee looked at the possibility of offering courses during the winter and also additional courses during the summer. We submitted it to the Academic Affairs Committee and they approved it. (The Academic Affairs Committee was asked to determine if there was any academic reason that the proposal should not go forward. They found none.) Then we talked to Provost Everts, Vice President Bragg and Vice President Ashby about how we would be funding these courses. The original idea was that these would be self-funded, meaning that tuition would pay for these courses. We thought that that would be relatively simple; if tuition would pay for it, then the class would be offered.

The vice presidents suggested that some of these courses could be funded through the Provost's Office and then people would apply for those funds. It would be a competitive process. We really liked that until I received an e-mail from our members asking about the competitive process, who would get the funds, does the course have to be a newly created course, is it based on how many students enroll in it, etc.

I thought that probably those questions would come up in the Senate when we present this as an Information Item next week. So the question I have is, do we want to present it next week or do we want to iron out some of these questions first?

Senator Stewart: I think that being able to lay out a template would be advantageous.

Senator Kalter: This wouldn't be instituted until next summer anyway. Is that correct?

Senator Fazel: We were thinking that maybe during the fall, people could start submitting proposals for the winter. I thought that if we just said, 'the details will be worked out later', that might not be appropriate, especially since that will be the last meeting.

Senator Borg: I think that we should hold off until at least some of these questions can be answered. The process for summer school that was developed four years ago was a competitive process. That process no longer exists. There was so much confusion and anger about that from both sides. Since that experience is in the recent past, it is best to make sure that people know that this not that summer school program.

Senator Fazel: Maybe we can talk about it over the summer.

Provost Everts: Exactly. That was one of the things that the five of us discussed, that it would be a joint proposal, simple, but outlining a few priorities and some funding opportunities.

Senator Holland: It is important for people to know that there will be a fairly limited number of classes and probably distributed over a wide range of types of classes just to see what works and what doesn't.

Provost Everts: That is what I think Kay talked about. The data collection would be an important part of the entire process to see what we learn.

Senator Kalter: It would also be important to collect data on the budget so the Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee could look at how well it is working. Where do the tuition dollars go?

Provost Everts: This does not deviate from summer being on permanent funding.

Senator Borg: I would also like to suggest that as these principles are being developed that we make sure that the emphasis is on courses for students, not employment opportunities for faculty.

Senator Holland: It is also not designed as a revenue enhancer for departments.

Senator Kalter: I think it would be a good idea to separate winter from summer.

Senator Holland: I think that is what we are looking at right now. We are not sure how to differentiate this yet from the regular summer school.

Senator Fazel: The emphasis would be on courses that are not usually offered.

Senator Kalter: If we need additional courses for summer, summer school has already been set up to look at where we can grow. In that sense, summer doesn't need to be discussed. Having a pilot of a winter session seems to be less involved.

Senator Stewart: I think that the pilot should be for at least three years. In the first year, no one is going to know what is going on. In the second year, you are getting word of mouth. In the third year, if things are not starting to pick up by then, you are done.

Senator Fazel: Some faculty are saying that they are unable to offer as many courses during the summer as they did in the past. The reason we included summer is because there is a lot of unmet demand in the summer.

Senator Kalter: I have all of those numbers. I think that they came from the Provost's Office. So if you like, I can show that to you and we can say yes, that is true or no, it is not.

Senator Holland: During the entrepreneurial process, which Paul referred to, we did offer a lot more classes, but each class had fewer people.

Senator Fazel: Then how were the courses funded?

Senator Holland: We took it from other lines. For some departments, it worked really well. For others, it did not.

Senator Borg: Recast this proposal and emphasize the special nature of these courses, international travel, courses that can be offered in small amount of time that might be taken, for example, during the time between semesters in the winter or might be offered during a specified time outside the regular two-semester calendar. They could even be offered during a regular semester. Leave out 'winter and summer' and just make it a pilot of special courses. It would distinguish the program from the two primary terms and the summer term.

Senator Fazel: That makes it more complicated. The more options you offer, the more you have to define. So do you agree that this should not come before the Senate at the next meeting?

Provost Everts: We really want to flesh out many of the questions and concerns and issues. If we are just generating more questions, I don't think that that would be advantageous.

04.23.09.02 *From Joe Solberg/Rules Committee: CAS Bylaws Editorial Revisions Discussed at 4/22/09 Senate Meeting (Action Item on 5/6/09)*

Senator Holland: At the Senate meeting on April 22, there was a question about how the students were elected.

Senator Kalter: I did not read the entire set of bylaws, but I was confused about one line in there. When we, in Senate, got to the College Elections Committee, it wasn't clear to me immediately who was on the College Elections Committee. But it sounds like it is a subcommittee of the college council and could have both students and faculty serving on it. Because students have brought up in the past that they want to elect their own members to a lot of things, I just wanted clarification about whether they were being elected by faculty only, students only or a combination.

Academic Plan 2009-14 (Advisory Item 5/6/09)

The Academic Plan will be presented as an Advisory Item to the Academic Senate by Associate Provost Jan Murphy on May 6, 2009.

Proposed Agenda for Academic Senate Meeting of May 6, 2009:

Academic Senate Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, May 6, 2009
7:00 P.M.
OLD MAIN ROOM, BONE STUDENT CENTER

Call to Order by Student Body President/Senate Vice Chairperson

Seating of New Senate

Roll Call by Student Body President/Senate Vice Chairperson

Approval of Minutes of April 22, 2009

Election of the Senate Chairperson

Election of the Senate Secretary

Election of Members of Senate Executive Committee

Chairperson's Remarks

Student Body President's Remarks

Administrators' Remarks

- *President Al Bowman*
- *Provost Sheri Everts*
- *Vice President of Student Affairs Steve Adams*
- *Vice President of Finance and Planning ~~Steve Bragg~~ Dianne Ashby*

Action Items:

03.06.09.02 *College of Arts and Sciences Bylaws-Revised (Rules Committee)*

04.23.09.02 *CAS Bylaws Editorial Revisions Discussed at 4/22/09 Senate Meeting (Rules Committee)*

04.09.09.03 *Proficiency Examination Policy-Revised (Academic Affairs Committee)*

Information/Action Item:

Senate Meeting Schedule for 2009-2010

Information Item:

POSTPONED: 04.23.09.01 ~~*Winter and Summer Courses Recommendations (Planning and Finance Committee)*~~

Advisory Item:

Academic Plan 2009-2014 (Associate Provost Jan Murphy)

Communications

Adjournment

Motion XXXX-: By Senator Borg, seconded by Senator Kalter, to approve the Academic Senate Agenda for May 6, 2009.

Senator Borg: We need to eliminate the Winter and Summer Courses Recommendations as an Information Item. For the two action items, at the very least, copies need to be sent out to the new senators. They will not have copies from the last Senate meeting.

The agenda, as amended, was unanimously approved.

Adjournment