

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Friday, October 12, 2012

RFW Quiet Room

PRESENT: Ethel Elkins, Brandon Field, Adrian Gentle, Garret Merriam, Mary Hallock Morris, Marilyn Ostendorf, Paul Parkison (Chair), Daria Sevastianova, Jennifer Williams, Steven Williams; *Ex Officio members*, Ronald Rochon (USI Provost) and Shelly Blunt (Interim Assistant Provost).

GUESTS: Mark Bernhard (Associate Provost for Outreach and Engagement), Stephen Spencer (Chair, University Promotion Taskforce; Co-chair, University Core Implementation Taskforce) Kathy Rodgers (Co-chair, University Core Implementation Task Force), Wes Durham (Interim Director of Graduate Studies), and Ann White (Dean, College of Nursing and Health Professions).

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from the September 21, 2012 meeting were approved.

UPDATE FROM PROVOST: Provost Ronald Rochon updated the Senate on the following issues:

- **Summer School:** The Provost had a discussion with Mark Rozewski, Vice President for Finance and Administration, regarding summer school pricing. In order to increase enrollment in summer school classes, the University has proposed that for each on-campus class a student take, he or she will receive a 50 percent discount for a distance education course [1-1 ratio].
- **Lilly Endowment:** The Lilly Endowment has asked all universities in Indiana to develop proposals to help agencies and organizations enhance their capacity for creating new jobs. Currently, the state is losing approximately one-third of credentialed individuals to other states because of the lack of job opportunities. The overall funding pool will be \$1 to \$5 million; planning grant monies of up to \$10,000 (based on FTE) are available.

REPORT FROM FACULTY SENATE CHAIR: Dr. Paul Parkison, Faculty Senate Chair, submitted the following report to the Senate:

- In collaboration with the Office of Planning, Research, and Assessment, a faculty vote to approve the Referendum for Amending the *Constitution of the Faculty* was initiated on September 27. Parkison thanked Brandon Field and the rest of the Senate for their work to assure that all eligible people had the opportunity to vote.
- Parkison met with Dr. Rex Strange, chair of the Curriculum Committee, to discuss the process for submitting program changes to comply with the 120 credit hour graduation requirement. A memorandum process and guidelines were decided upon and distributed to the Deans to move the process along.

UPDATES:

- **University Promotion Taskforce Update:** Dr. Stephen Spencer, Taskforce Chair, reported that the members of the University Promotion Taskforce/Full Professor Promotion Taskforce have met several times to look at issues related to process and criteria for promotion from associate to full professor. The taskforce is coordinating a series of open forums to be held the week of October 22, 2012; comments will be compiled and shared with the Senate. Spencer noted that the taskforce will also collect departmental and college criteria at some point. The taskforce will work closely with

Parkison as the senate addresses the related issue of the promotion of department chairs who are currently associate professor.

- University Core Implementation Taskforce Update: Taskforce Co-Chairs Dr. Stephen Spencer and Dr. Kathy Rodgers reported that the University Core Implementation Taskforce has met several times to review the documents from the University Core Taskforce and the Faculty Senate. They have merged the documents from the University Core Taskforce and the Senate into one document in an effort to provide a succinct, clear document for use by the department chairs and program directors. They have also met with USI's Marketing Club; the club will be coming up with ideas for naming and marking the new core. The Taskforce is holding a workshop for chairs and program directors on Wednesday, October 17. Additional workshops on developing assessment rubrics will be held in November. The goal is for each department to submit one existing course for review before the holiday break. The Taskforce's goal is to continue populating the core during the spring 2013 semester. It was also noted that USI will need to align its new core outcomes with the state's core competency outcomes.
- USI Summer Schedule Update: Dr. Mark Bernard, Associate Provost for Outreach and Engagement, updated the Senate on the findings and recommendations of the Summer School Task Force. These recommendations included: (a) returning to three summer sessions for Summer 2013, using a 5-5-4 week format (b) the possibility of offering nine and 10 week classes; (c) two start dates in Summer II to allow for back-to-back seven week courses; (d) consistent start times; and (e) limiting students to seven hours each summer session. Schedules will be available to students on December 1, 2012. A Summer Sessions Council will meet prior to November 1 to discuss scheduling conflicts across the colleges; this council will be chaired by Dr. Shelly Blunt.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Graduate Council Policy Proposals: Dr. Wes Durham, Interim Director of Graduate Studies, requested an endorsement from the Faculty Senate on a proposal for graduate studies reform. The proposal called for: (a) a fair and equitable university-wide teaching load policy for those teaching graduate courses at USI, (b) a restructuring and refocusing of how administrative tasks are conducted within graduate studies campus-wide, and (c) a revamping of the graduate faculty and graduate course application processes. The proposal has been vetted and unanimously endorsed by the University Graduate Council. The proposed reform also addressed the charge related to graduate teaching load inequities that was reviewed by the Faculty Affairs Committee during the 2011-2012 academic year. This proposed reform was designed and authored in the spirit of creating an equitable, pro-faculty infrastructure that will allow for continued growth and improvement in graduate education on the USI campus. Senators asked questions pertaining to the cost of providing three hours of release time and made recommended minor language changes. Adrian Gentle made a motion to approve the proposal as edited; Brandon Field seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- University Committees for 2012-2013: The Senate recommended new members to the following University Committees: Tracy Kinnear, EEO Appeals and Hearing Board; Jason Hill, Environmental Stewardship Committee; Gabriela Wilson, Student Publications Committee (one seat left vacant); Renee Frimming, Tobacco Free USI Committee. It was noted that Marco Lara Gracia was serving the second year of his term on the Athletics Committee.
- Promotion and Tenure Policy for Clinical Faculty: Dr. Ann White, Dean of Nursing and Health

Professions, discussed changes to the University Handbook language for the promotion of clinical faculty members. Ethel Elkins made a motion to approve the revised language; Marilyn Ostendorf seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Promotion of Department Chairs Recommendation: The Senate reviewed a charge pertaining to the promotion of Department Chairs from associate to full professor. Last year, this charge was given to the Faculty Affairs Committee; the committee recommended that the issue be reviewed at the college level. However, a new charge pertaining to this issue was received this fall. After some discussion, the Senate agreed that it would discuss the issue at its next meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: The Faculty Senate adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: October 19, 2012, at 3 p.m. in ED 3148.

Submitted:

Mary Hallock Morris

Secretary, Faculty Senate