

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Friday, November 30, 2012

RC 106: Quiet Room

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

GUESTS: Sandeep Goyal, Chair, Faculty and Academic Affairs Committee; Shannon Hall, *The Shield*; Jessie Hellman, *The Shield*; Marcia Kiessling, Associate Provost for Student Affairs; Kathy Rodgers, co-chair, Core Implementation Taskforce; Stephen Spencer, co-chair, Core Implementation Taskforce.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from the November 16, 2012 meeting were approved with three abstentions.

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

- **Budget Hearings:** The provost discussed the budget hearings process for this year, noting that faculty should work with their deans and department chairs to look at new ways that we can collaborate across campus. A new budget rubric will be distributed to the deans.
- **Lilly Endowment:** The provost noted that the deadline for the Lilly Endowment Award (re: employment opportunities for Indiana graduates) is around the corner. This is a competitive grant.
- **Special Assistant to the Provost:** Next semester, the provost will be inviting applications for a Special Assistant to the Provost. The position will be open to tenured faculty members at the rank of associate or full professor. The position is designed to give faculty members the chance to learn more about administration and faculty governance.
- **Academic Dishonesty Issues:** The provost stated that several academic dishonesty matters have come forward to his office. In the past, USI has had an inconsistent approach in issuing penalties which have ranged from forgiveness to failing a course. He has asked the interim assistant provost to investigate the campus's academic dishonesty policy.

EAGLE EXPERIENCE UPDATE: Marcia Kiessling, Associate Provost for Student Affairs, made a presentation about the Eagle Experience program. This program is designed to help transition students into the academic and social life of college. Three sessions were piloted during the Fall 2012 welcome week; 600 students attended the sessions which covered the topics of alcohol and drug education; mental health, wellness, and healthy relationships; and diversity and cultural awareness. Overall, the assessment of the programs was positive. Kiessling noted that there are many possibilities for collaboration.

CORE IMPLEMENTATION TASKFORCE UPDATE: Kathy Rodgers and Steven Spencer, co-chairs of the Core Implementation Taskforce, updated the faculty senate on the committee's progress. Their presentation covered the following information:

- The taskforce has merged the NUCC (New University Core Curriculum) documents that came from the Core Review Task Force and the Faculty Senate.
- The NUCC objectives represent the work of our University representatives to the State Core 30 team

in collaboration with the campus's core implementation taskforce. These objectives will need to be reviewed and approved by the faculty senate because it does represent some minor modifications that reflect the state's language.

- Kathy Rodgers reviewed the document entitled *New University Core Curriculum Implementation: Goals, Objectives, Outcomes*. This document will be available on the taskforce's website. [See: <http://www.usi.edu/facsenate/ucc.implementation.asp>]
- Rodgers also reviewed a document that mapped the state's Core 30 requirements against USI's NUCC. She noted that the state has not stipulated credit hours per category (re: written communication, science, speaking and listening, humanistic-artistic, social-behavioral, and quantitative reasoning). Instead the state's core is based on outcomes.
- The deadline for submitting a department's first course proposal for the NUCC has been moved to the end of January.

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

- Faculty Morale Survey: In an effort to address a charge presented to the Faculty Senate, a "Faculty Morale" survey was developed and administered by the University Assessment Committee, in collaboration with the Office of Planning, Research, and Assessment, in the fall of 2012.

A template for the survey was utilized that included a short evaluation of the Deans of the Colleges as well as the Provost's office and President's office. These elements of the survey were intended to merely provide additional information useful in evaluating morale on campus and were not intended to replace other evaluations which are being planned.

The survey was developed and administered without review by the Faculty Senate. After the survey was distributed concerns were raised regarding the nature of several of the questions being asked. Following a review of the format and content of the survey, in consultation with the President's office, it has been determined that the items contained in some categories of the survey tended toward evaluation in nature and were inappropriate to the purpose of the survey.

The following categories will be referred to the appropriate groups for analysis:

- Category 13: Department Chair/Department Directors. Items 13.1 through 13.6
- Category 14: Dean/Director. Items 14.1 through 14.6
- Category 15: The Provost. Items 15.1 through 15.5
- Category 16: The President. Items 16.1 through 16.7

The remaining categories of the survey will be evaluated by the University Assessment Committee and a report will be made to the Faculty Senate as well as Academic Affairs and the President's Council.

I met with representatives of the *Shield* student newspaper on Thursday, November 29 to discuss the faculty morale survey. They also asked about the December "bonus" announced by the President's Office.

- President's Council: Dr. Bennett has extended an invitation to Faculty Senate to have a representative from Senate attend the President's Council meetings held on Tuesday mornings at 9:00am. This is an opportunity to have faculty voice and presence on this advisory council and to maintain

communication as issues come before the university. I would invite discussion of this ex officio posting.

- Population of Senate and its Committees: The election and population of the Senate following the amendment to the *Constitution of the Faculty*, to be addressed later in this meeting, as raised some issues for the Senate to address:
 - Make-up and structure of the standing committees: what is the office recommendation made by the Senate in the spring 2012 session?
 - Do committees with two appointments per college need to have alternating terms? Or, is it appropriate to maintain the even/odd year election system?

I welcome discussion and recommendations. It will be helpful for each college to provide a roster of their representatives and committee members and the terms for which they will serve. This will help us update our website and provide necessary transparency moving forward.

- Faculty and Staff Workshops: Preparation for the spring 2013 Faculty and Staff Workshops continued. The following agenda has been tentatively developed and will be finalized in the next week to allow faculty to register for breakout workshops on January 9, 2013.
 - 7:30-8 a.m.: Coffee and rolls in the concourse outside of Carter Hall
 - 8-8:30 a.m.: Remarks from President Linda Bennett
 - 8:30-9 a.m.: Welcome, introductions, and announcements from Dr. Ron Rochon, Provost.
 - 9:45 to 10:00 a.m.: Break
 - 10:00-10:50am:
 - First Line of Defense: Tools for Recognizing and Aiding Distressed Students
 - Promoting USI
 - Course Design: Creating Significant Learning Experiences
 - The New Distance Learning Course Development Process
 - Delivering a successful course with Blackboard Learn and Blackboard Collaborate
 - Student Affairs and Academic Affairs
 - News 4 U
 - Government Information for the Digital Native and the Digital Immigrant
 - Core Implementation Taskforce
 - Enhancing Experiential Learning For Our Students
 - 11:00-11:50am:
 - Diversity and Inclusion Roundtable: Building on the Strategic Plan
 - Information Technology Update
 - Classroom Management: Encouraging Student Civility
 - Everything about Lecture Recordings. What options do USI Faculty have?
 - Delivering a successful course with Blackboard Learn and Blackboard Collaborate
 - Student Affairs and Academic Affairs
 - News 4 U
 - Government Information for the Digital Native and the Digital Immigrant
 - Core Implementation Taskforce
 - Introduction to Service Learning
- Noon-1 p.m.: Luncheon in The Loft and the Eagles Nest.

STANDING COMMITTEE INTERIM REPORTS: Brandon Field made a motion to accept the reports from the Faculty and Academic Affairs Committee and the Faculty Awards for Service, Teaching

and Research Committee. Jennifer Williams seconded the nomination. The motion was unanimously approved by the senate. The reports are summarized below:

- Faculty and Academic Affairs Committee: Committee Chair Sandeep Goyal presented the committee's recommendations for dealing with three charges:
 - *Summer Advising Compensation Charge*: The committee supports the increase of summer and weekend advising compensation to be equal to the daily salary of the faculty member. This daily rate should be pro-rated based on the number of hours the faculty advised off-contract.
 - *Summer Faculty Teaching Load Charge*: The committee supports eliminating maximum summer teaching load policies for full-time members of the faculty.
 - *Faculty Voting Policy Charge*: It is the position of the committee that the definition of voting members, as it applies to departmental matters, resides with the department.
- Faculty Awards for Service, Teaching, and Research Committee: The committee reviewed the nominations for the Berger Community Service Award and approved a nomination.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Approval of the Newly Elected Senate Representatives: Paul Parkison noted that the four new faculty senate members need to be accepted at the next faculty senate meeting.
- Approval of the Newly Elected Senate Standing Committee Representatives: Paul Parkison noted that the newly elected committee representatives need to be accepted by the senate and noted that these individuals needed to be formally notified by the secretary of the faculty senate. He added that we will need to formalize the rosters for each committee.
- Approval of the Proposed Spring Senate Meeting Schedule: The senate will hold a retreat from 1- 4 p.m. on January 11, 2013. The senate's spring schedule is as follows: January 25, February 8, February 22, March 22, April 12, and April 26. These meetings will be held from 3 – 5 p.m. in UC 206. Officers for 2013-2014 will be elected during the April 26 meeting. The **campus wide open meeting** will be held from 3 – 5 p.m. in UC 2218 on March 1.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Promotion of Department Chairs Policy: A time-limited dialogue about this charge will be held during the next senate meeting.
- Consensual Relations Policy: Discussion about the consensual relations policy was tabled until the next senate meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: January 11, 2013, at 1 p.m. Location to be announced.

Submitted:

Mary Hallock Morris
Secretary, Faculty Senate