

**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**Friday, October 17, 2014**  
**UC2217**

**Meeting called to order: 3:00**

**Present:** Joanne Artz, Cindy DeLoney-Marino, Rex Strange, Tony Maria, Jason Fertig, Rob Millard-Mendez, Marilyn Ostendorf, Gabriela Mustata Wilson, Linda Bennett, Ron Rochon, Shelly Blunt, Matthew Hanka, Brett Long (for Jennifer Williams), Perry Burnett (for Peggy Shields), MaryKay Arvin (for Ethel Elkins)

**1. Approval of minutes from October 3, 2014:** Rex made the motion; Cindy seconded. Approved with two abstentions.

**2. Report from Linda Bennett:**

- Selected Andrew Wright for V.P. of Enrollment Management for his excellent track record and good fit. He will visit in November, and then begin January 5, with goal of implementing Noel Levitz suggestions for enrollment by Fall 2015.
- Early indicators are strong for Fall 2015 enrollment.
- Presented last week to the Commission for Higher Education. USI has reported significant increases in performance metrics, across the board, and yet we will still suffer a decrease in the 2016-2017 operating appropriation – the performance formula is not rewarding us as it should. To counter, Linda will request: 1) the \$2 million for STEM that is granted to research institutions, 2) \$8 million to renovate the third floor of health professions, 3) \$7 million for the health profession campus in downtown Evansville, and 4) 3.2 million for repair and renovation.
- Brett suggested that we could justify requests for more funds if we tie them to desired outcomes (i.e. jobs). Linda replied that one of the goals of Enrollment Management is to get students thinking earlier about careers, but stressed that it is also important to maintain a broad scope.
- Perry mentioned the possibility of bringing an endowed Chair of Banking into the department. Linda said that it is a great idea, but to make sure that efforts are coordinated with David Bower.
- Rex asked about advising new students on the pre-med track, stressing the importance of getting them started immediately. Linda suggested coordinating with the advising center. Shelly suggested a directed effort in UNIV 101.
- Cindy brought up recent problems relating to hiring new faculty. Linda stated that she realizes the importance of recruiting good faculty, and is currently working toward smoothing out bottlenecks in the process.
- Perry asked if we are considering mandatory advising for all students in the future. Shelly said that Noel Levitz thinks we should, but that it is currently only being discussed. Ron pointed out that 30% of our students are first generation, and really don't understand how college works. Jason pointed out that the mentoring aspect of advising applies to upperclassmen.

**3. Report from Jason Fertig:**

- Jason suggested that we start thinking about how we can improve our procedure for chair succession. Rex has been elected as vice-chair, but what will happen if he is not re-

elected to Senate next year? Some schools hold a separate election for the chair position, which has its own, distinct, term schedule. Brett suggested that language could be changed, allowing the vice-chair to serve an additional term without being re-elected.

**4. Report from Ron Rochon:**

- Ron indicated that orientation is being targeted for major reworking. We need to make it more of an experiential event, involving student conversations, demonstrations, etc.... Gabriela suggested that we promote opportunities for students to meet with departments, faculty, and students.

**5. Parental Leave Policy:**

- Jason confirmed that Senate had received a charge regarding adoption (paid leave), and that it was held up in HR. He suggested that we should probably reissue the charge.

**6. Promotion and Tenure ad hoc committee:**

- A draft charge was distributed for review. After reading it, Rex asked if “external reviewers” referred to other USI colleges or other institutions? Jason indicated other institutions.
- Rex made a motion to accept the language of the draft charge. Matt and Marilyn seconded.
- Rob suggested that the charge should be amended to clarify the “external review” issue.
- Jason retracted the motion, and the charge was amended.
- Rex made a motion to accept the amended charge. Matt seconded. Unanimous approval.

**7. New Charge: “to focus on the appropriate level of faculty governance, the relationship between administration and faculty....”**

- This charge was shared with senate and received some discussion via email earlier in the week. Marilyn expressed concern regarding conducting senate business through email. Jason stressed that it is important to begin thinking about issues prior to senate meetings. His request for input was misinterpreted if some thought that a formal vote was going to take place by email. Matt suggested that email discussions should not be a problem as long as long as emails are crafted carefully.
- Brett commented that the line between faculty and administration should be clear. We should delegate or dismiss the charge.
- Cindy made a motion to table discussion since two of the representatives of the issuing college were not in attendance. Marilyn seconded. Perry was opposed, Jason abstained, the rest approved.

**8. Closing Comments:**

- Another thing to think about – administrative leave for faculty members. When a faculty member accepts a part-time administrative position, his or her department should be awarded a full-time contract position to cover the teaching load.
- Brett suggested that this could go to Economic Benefits or Faculty Affairs.
- Rex made a motion to send a charge to Economic Benefits. Joanne seconded, unanimous approval. Ron suggested involving the chair of Faculty Affairs.
- Rex made a motion to close. Seconded, and unanimous approval.

**Meeting was adjourned: 5:00.**

Respectfully submitted by: T. Maria