

Faculty Senate Agenda
Wednesday, April 25, 2012
11:00 am - 1:00 pm University Suite, UC

Meeting secretary: Maria Shirey

Minutes from Faculty Senate meeting April 20, 2012.

Update from Dr. Ron Rochon, Provost.

Update from Dr. Kent Scheller on Commission for Higher Education.

Report from Dr. Steven Williams, Acting Faculty Senate Chair

New Business

1. Reports from standing committees
2. Deliberation of Core Curriculum Review Task Force report

Next meeting: August Retreat

Faculty Senate Meeting April 25, 2012

Present:

Cindy DeLoney-Marino, Ethel Elkins, Brandon Field, Brian Posler, Wayne Rinks, Ron Rochon, Kent Scheller, Daria Sevastianova, Maria Shirey (acting secretary), Jennifer Williams, Steve Williams (interim chair), Stephen Zehr

Guests included Dane Partridge, Lee Ann Shafer, Judi Kuric, Bill Wilding, Joe Wingo, Mark Krahling, Wes Durham, Michael Dixon, Paul Parkison

Call to Order:

Interim Chair Steve Williams called the meeting to order at 11:05 am.

Approval of the Minutes:

Kent Scheller made a motion to approve the abridged Faculty Senate minutes from the April 20, 2012 meeting. Wayne Rinks seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Update from Provost Rochon:

No report

Update from Kent Scheller on Commission of Higher Education:

No report.

Report from Faculty Senate Chair:

- Interim Chair Steve Williams distributed a copy of a petition from faculty members in Liberal Arts received by Wayne Rinks prior to the previous Senate meeting. Steve Williams wanted to have the minutes reflect that Faculty Senate as a body rejects the characterization of Faculty Senate as presented in the petition.
- **Motion**
Kent Scheller made a motion and Wayne Rinks seconded to acknowledge receipt of the document and invite the petitioners to the open meetings of the Senate.

The motion passed with 9 Senators in favor and 1 opposed.

Steve Williams agreed to provide the full faculty a brief update from this meeting pending the posting of final approved minutes to the Faculty Senate website.

New Business:

- **Reports from Standing Committees**
Steve Williams reported all but one of the standing committees had submitted a report.
- 1. **Economic Benefits Committee**
We have already acknowledged the EBC report at our previous meeting.

Stephen Zehr asked that Senate make a recommendation to address faculty salaries as a priority for next year.

Motion

Stephen Zehr made a motion and Cindy DeLoney-Marino seconded that given the below median average salaries of Full, Associate, and Assistant Professors at USI, a request be made to Dr. Rochon's office to address this inequity.

The motion passed with unanimous approval.

2. Student Affairs Committee

Motion

Brandon Field made a motion and Kent Scheller seconded that Senate accept the Student Affairs Committee report with the understanding that only the names of the award winners be reported.

The motion passed with 9 Senators in favor and 1 abstention.

3. Faculty Affairs Committee

Wes Durham said that graduate teaching loads will be discussed in the summer.

Motion

Wayne Rinks made a motion and Jennifer Williams seconded to receive the Faculty Affairs report.

The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Motion

Jennifer Williams made a motion and Wayne Rinks seconded to accept the portion of the Faculty Affairs report concerning the tenure timeline review.

The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Brian Posler asked that we note in the minutes that we should take midterm reporting of grades up further in August. He is pleased that section on midterm reporting will receive further dialogue and wants Senate to require faculty reporting of midterm grades. Brian requested Senate benchmark reporting of midterm grades with other organizations to confirm that making this a requirement would be a sound practice for us to adopt.

Motion

Brandon Field made a motion and Ethel Elkins seconded that Senate further review the rest of the Faculty Affairs Committee report in August.

The motion passed with unanimous approval.

4. Curriculum Committee

Motion

Wayne Rinks made a motion and Brandon Field seconded that we receive Curriculum Committee report.

The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Motion

Brandon Field made a motion and Cindy DeLoney-Marino seconded that we accept the report in its totality.

The motion passed with unanimous approval.

5. Grievance Committee

Jennifer Williams noted that in August we need to address the matter that the Grievance Committee has not submitted a report.

- Report from Mark Krahling

Mark Krahling reported he is the USI representative serving on the Indiana Higher Education Committee (Statewide General Education Leadership Task Force) addressing the Indiana statute regarding the core curriculum. The statewide group, which met last Friday, desires to finalize a plan and wants a USI faculty group to work on providing feedback during the summer.

Mark asked that Faculty Senate appoint a faculty committee to respond to curriculum specific queries from the state group during the summer. The USI committee will conduct its business via email.

Motion

Wayne Rinks made a motion and Kent Scheller seconded to designate the USI Core Council as the group to work with Mark this summer.

The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Faculty Senate requested that Mark Krahling be part of the Senate's August retreat to update us on the group's progress.

- Deliberation of Core Curriculum Review Task Force Report

Steve Williams indicated the goals for this discussion will include:

- * Address the "top of the cone" or embedded experiences.
- * Recommend a timeline for implementation.
- * Recommend staffing and compensation for those teaching the FYE courses.

1. Top of the Cone

Motion

Kent Scheller made a motion and Wayne Rinks seconded to adopt the embedded experiences as presented with a caveat that:

- a. Physical activity and wellness not be a pre-requisite for the embedded experience.
- b. English 201 be required prior to any writing intensive experience.
- c. Any deviations in diversity and global requirements be taken up on a case-by-case basis.

*Due process with Core Council already exists.

Motion to Amend

Stephen Zehr made a motion to amend Kent's motion and Steve Williams seconded to have p. 34, Diversity Embedded Experience, of the Core Curriculum Task Force report include the following wording:

“Courses that satisfy the diversity embedded experience must critically address race, ethnicity, gender, social class, sexual orientation, culture, religion, political ideology, viewpoints and beliefs, and other differences among and between groups and organizations.”

The second sentence remains the same, which should read: Diversity stimulates learning, encourages imagination, and spurs innovation.

Discussion ensued and Brian Posler indicated the nature of the task force's deliberation was not to be prescriptive regarding diversity embedded experiences. The language for the Core Curriculum Task Force came from a previous task force, which developed the definition of diversity. Stephen Zehr indicated that the current language is considered vague by a working group of faculty experts on diversity and this new language was proposed.

A vote on the amended motion was 2 votes in favor and 8 opposed thus the motion was defeated.

Motion to Amend

Stephen Zehr made a motion to amend Kent's motion and Steve Williams seconded to propose a change to the goals and objectives on p. 35, item #1 in learning outcomes to include the following wording:

“Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures, life experiences and worldviews that are different from ... disciplines devoted to teaching about diversity (as compared to multidisciplinary lens as currently written).”

Brian Posler indicated the task force's preference would be to present a multidisciplinary approach to teaching diversity. Stephen Zehr indicated that the choice of the word multidisciplinary seems to indicate that courses from disciplines that specialize in understanding diversity would be excluded. Brian Posler indicated that he felt many of these disciplines are already multidisciplinary in their formation.

A vote on the amended motion was 1 in favor, 4 opposed, and 5 abstaining thus the motion was defeated.

Motion to Amend

Stephen Zehr made a motion to amend Kent's motion and Kent Scheller seconded to propose in the case of approval of this core, the Core Council Director, the Office of International Programs and Services, and three relevant faculty members develop clear and stringent guidelines about what international experiences satisfy the Global Embedded Experience Goals and Objectives.

A vote on the motion passed with 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 4 abstaining.

Motion to Amend

Brandon Field made a motion and Stephen Zehr seconded to include Math within Kent's original motion of embedded experiences within the first caveat such that foundational Math as an item is not a requirement to the embedded experience.

A vote on the amended motion was 1 in favor, 4 opposed, and 5 abstaining thus the motion was defeated.

Original Motion by Kent Scheller as amended by Stephen Zehr (inclusive of the p. 35 changes)

A vote was taken with 9 in favor and 1 opposed thus the motion passed.

Steve Williams announced that we now have adopted the Core in bits and pieces with amendments as noted in our minutes.

Motion

Brandon Field made a motion and Wayne Rinks seconded that the Faculty Senate recommends acceptance of the Core Curriculum Task Force report with the amendments as previously approved.

Discussion ensued about the merits of the proposed core over the current core.

A vote ensued with 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 2 abstaining thus the motion passed.

Motion

Jennifer Williams made a motion and Brandon Field seconded to disband the Core Curriculum Task Force with the Senate's deepest thanks.

The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Dr. Rochon on behalf of his office is thanking the Core Curriculum Task Force for its work, in particular Michael Dixon and Dane Partridge, for their leadership of the task force. The process has been transparent and the task force has worked diligently for the past year.

2. Timeline for Implementation

Motion

Stephen Zehr made a motion and Wayne Rinks seconded that the core be implemented “no sooner” than Fall 2014

Motion to Amend

Kent Scheller made a motion and Brandon Field seconded that Fall 2014 be the firm date for implementation of the new Core Curriculum.

A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Teaching of the FYE Courses

Steve Williams asked the questions: Who will be teaching the FYE Courses? Where do these courses and faculty belong?

Dr. Rochon indicated Academic Affairs will be addressing these questions.

- **Closing Remarks**

Steve Williams will make a list of items for follow-up to include:

1. Holding an election of a Chair for 2012-2013.
2. Staying in touch with Dr. Rochon’s office until a replacement Chair is elected.
3. Drafting a document for the faculty updating them on the progress of the Core Curriculum Task Force.

Wayne Rinks commended Steve Williams for his work in the Interim Chair role.

Cindy DeLoney-Marino thanked the group for making her feel welcome as Adrian Gentle’s alternate this semester.

Kent Scheller thanked Brian Posler for his contributions to the Faculty Senate and the group wished Brian well as he transitions to a new position outside of USI.

Next Meeting:

- August Retreat date, time, and location TBA.

Adjournment:

Wayne Rinks moved to adjourn the meeting and Stephen Zehr seconded. With unanimous agreement, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.