

University of Southern Indiana
Faculty Senate Minutes
Session: 3
Room: UC 206
Date: September 29, 2006

Members Present: C. Baker (Chair), B. Boostrom, P. Cashel-Cordo, M. Dixon, P. Doss, M. Hamington, R. Hoebeke, B. Hooper, J. Kempf, B. Long, M. Shaw, B. Wilding

Members Absent: L. Bennett, ex-officio

1. Call to order at 7:30 A.M.

2. Announcements from the Chair:

- A) David L. Rice Library Policy on Children in the Library
 - 1. This is an update on a previous policy that has been approved by the Library (University) administration and is currently in effect.
 - 2. The question was raised and much discussion ensued re: the process of how a policy concerning academics was put into place without going through Faculty Senate.
 - 3. Concerns were raised about this policy's consistency with the University's mission to serve the local community.
- B) David L. Rice Library *Draft* Building Use Policy
 - 1. This draft policy was reviewed and much discussion ensued. Questions were raised re: why is Faculty Senate being asked to consider this policy, but not the first policy (above)? What is the process and does the process need to be clarified by which policies are passed?
- C) Faculty Senate agreed by consensus to the following:
 - i. To seek clarification on the role and relationship of faculty input in developing such policies.
 - ii. To send both the above policies to the University Faculty Affairs Committee and the Student Affairs Committee for review.

3. Announcements from the Provost's Office:

- A) Accreditation review meetings with the Higher Learning Commission visitors are now completed as of Wednesday September 27th.
 - 1. The site visit team recommended that USI received a 10-year accreditation with no contingencies.
 - 2. The distance learning education programs were recommended for approval.
- B) FASTRC Committee
 - 1. The FASTRC Committee has been requested to establish two new awards to recognize excellence in teaching.

2. One award will be designated for a new full-time faculty member with six years or less full-time teaching experience at USI.
3. The second award will be given to a part-time faculty member with at least three consecutive semesters of teaching experience at USI, or three years of teaching one semester each year.

4. Minutes

The minutes of the September 15, 2006 Faculty Senate meeting were reviewed and approved with corrections/changes (P. Doss/M. Dixon). Unanimous.

5. Old Business: Review of 2005-2006 Final Committee Reports

- A) Review of 2005-2006 Final Committee Reports
 1. M. Dixon raised a question about transfer of courses from outside USI, as a particular situation arose recently where a Chair's decision to not accept a course was overridden by the Registrar.
 2. This was Charge #2 to the Faculty Affairs Committee which was addressed in their 2005-2006 final report.
 3. C. Baker stated she will review and seek clarification on this specific issue, and M. Dixon will email her re: this particular situation.
- B) Review On-going Committee Charges 2005-2006
 1. Faculty Awards Report: suggested language establishing the committee and its charges should be in the Faculty Handbook by the first week of October.
 2. Faculty Senate Calendar: Will be completed when all charges have been completed.

6. New Business: New Charges for 2006-2007 Academic Year

- A) From the College of Business
 1. **Charge:** That the Faculty Senate publicly reports (via their website) the disposition of the previous year's Senate recommendations. **Decision:** Dr. Bennett has agreed to provide support services through her office, S. Seib has begun to work on the Faculty Senate website and provide on-going support for the Faculty Senate.
 2. **Charge:** That the Faculty Senate provides an advance copy of the agenda to all faculty via email prior to the next meeting. Also email the minutes to all faculty. **Decision:** C. Baker agreed to discuss with the Provost and report back in the next meeting.
 3. **Charge:** That the Faculty Senate considers developing a revised, concise USI mission statement. **Decision:** C. Baker reported that this was discussed by the Mission and Integrity Committee while developing the HLC Accreditation Report. C. Baker will contact Sherianne Standley to determine what has been proposed to move this to the next step.
 4. **Charge:** That the Faculty Senate considers a 4-day faculty schedule with faculty being present on Friday's for meetings and research. Motion (P. Cashel-Cordo/B. Hooper). Vote: 1 in favor to move forward with this charge, 11 not in favor. **Decision:** Do not move forward on this charge.

5. **Charge:** That the Faculty Senate investigates the possibility of scheduling spring break to coincide with EVSC. Motion (P. Cashel-Cordo/M. Shaw). Vote: 2 in favor, 10 not in favor, 1 abstention. **Decision:** Do not move forward on this charge.
6. **Charge:** Senate provide a report describing the University's budget,. This report would close the loop informing the faculty of the disposition of the budget, especially as to how resources were allocated to faculty compensation and additional faculty lines. Motion (P. Doss/B. Hooper). Unanimous. **Decision:** Move forward on this charge.

B) From the College of Liberal Arts

1. **Charge:** Faculty Senate charges the Economic Benefits Committee with investigating why the summer pay schedule was changed and request that it be restored to the former schedule (prior to Banner) so that faculty are paid in a timely manner. Motion (M. Dixon/P. Doss). Unanimous. **Decision:** Move forward on this charge. C. Baker amended the charge re: request that the Economic Benefits Committee report to the Faculty Senate no later than January 1, 2007 on this. M. Dixon accepted the amendment.

7. **The meeting adjourned 9:00 a.m. Next meeting October 13th at 7:30 AM to finish the charges; then meet on October 20th as previously scheduled.**

Respectfully submitted by Roberta Hoebeke, Senate Secretary