Faculty Senate Agenda

Friday December 10th 2010
3pm in HP 2027

Minutes from Faculty Senate meeting on November 19th, 2010

Report from Ron Rochon, Provost

Report from Adrian Gentle, Faculty Senate Chair

Unfinished Business

1. Recommendation from SAC: Non-attendance withdrawal policy.

New Business

1. Reports from Faculty Senate Sub Committees
   a) Curriculum.
   b) Faculty Affairs.
      i. Promotion to Full Professor.
      ii. Promotion to Associate: potential handbook issue on p.38, section 2.a.iii.
   c) Economic Benefits.
   d) Assessment.
   e) Grievance and Hearings.
   f) FASTR.

2. Spring meeting schedule.

Adjourn.

Faculty Senate Minutes
December 10th 2010

APPROVED

Meeting called to order at 3:00pm.

Attendance: Daria Sevastianova, Bob Hooper, Manfen Chen, Chad Tew, Brandon Field, Bob Boostrom, Maria Shirey, Peggy Shields, Kent Scheller, Vella Goebel, Lesa Cagle, Dr. Ron Rochon (Provost), Adrian Gentle (Chair).

Minutes from November 19, 2010 will be revised for Meeting on January 21, 2011

Report from Dr. Ron Rochon, Provost:

- Commencement is this Saturday, December 11, 2010.
- USI is in the process of examining the core curriculum:
    - Core Curriculum Council is meeting today
    - At the meeting of Chief Academic Officers in Indianapolis there was a discussion of a common core for all public institutions in Indiana.
    - The CAO's felt that this idea was “problematic”.
    - To respond to external pressures it is important for us to develop a clear vision for the core, and be proactive. This will reduce the possibility of external mandates.
    - Some individuals on campus are concerned about the current core.
    - B. Boostrom: Are you gathering feedback from students?
    - R. Rochon: Not yet, but I will be.
    - R. Rochon: People in Indianapolis are dictating what is happening. There are many different experiences people bring to cause reflection. This is a national discussion, not just an Indiana discussion. There are lots of reasons to examine this.
    - K. Scheller: Is USI responding to an external group’s pressure? Is this being examined to make graduation easier? Does the administration have preconceived notions?
    - R. Rochon: There is some feeling that the core is heavy in credit hours. We should start with the question “What should be in the core”?
    - K. Scheller: We should maintain rigor. The number of credit hours is not the key issue.
    - R. Rochon: I'm in favor of rigor.

Report from Adrian Gentle, Faculty Senate Chair:

- On the recommendation of Lesa Cagle and Maria Shirey, I nominated Tony Schmitt to the USI Tobacco-Free Policy Committee.

- In the Spring I intend to propose an amendment to the Handbook that would require retroactive approval for any nominations made by the chair between regular meetings of the Senate.
- Provost Rochon and I discussed recommendations from Senate from this fall; he will review the material over the break, and we will meet to follow up on them early in the spring.
- Please send me any suggestions for material that I should cover in the Spring University Meeting.
- If you have a suggestion for a student worker to help the chair and secretary in the spring, please let me know.

Old Business:

Topic	**Discussion**	**Decision**
Recommendation from SAC: Non-attendance withdrawal	Recommendation from the Student Affairs Committee was not to change the period covered by non-attendance reporting. However, they recommended that the reporting day be moved to Wednesday of the 5th week, instead of Friday of the 5th week. In addition to letters mailed to their home address, SAC recommended that students be notified by email. C. Tew: is there value to changing by two days? K. Scheller: Concern to email. Many students have so many emails. Email is not reliable when dealing with students. B. Field: Email will be more cost effective. K. Scheller: Email is the next best solution but not a good solution. L. Cagle: What is the purpose of the discussion? C. Tew: Complaints from advisors. By the time you get into the 5th week, it is too late to save the student. Students need to be informed and come in earlier. C. Tew: Recommend to postpone the	

	motion. K. Scheller: I do not know if there is a solution for this. L. Cagle: This is non attendance, its either yes or no. B. Field: In past experience, it has been 10 day period. Week 5 is too late, but week two does not mean much. C. Tew moved to postpone. Scheller seconded.	Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

<u>Faculty Senate Sub Committee Reports</u>

A. Gentle: If we are satisfied with the process of requesting interim written reports from the senate standing committees, we should formalize the process in the spring with an appropriate change to the by-laws.

Topic	**Discussion**	**Decision**
Curriculum Committee report.	Informational. C. Tew moved to accept B. Boostrom seconded motion.	Motion passed unanimously.
Faculty Affairs Committee Report	• Gentle: The potential Handbook issue on page 38, Section 2.a.iii noted in the FAC report appears to be a non-issue. The third clause only applies to those "whose terminal degree has not yet been earned", and so does not contradict the 4-year minimum for faculty with a terminal degree. • K. Scheller: The Ad-hoc Committee on Faculty Work is getting ready to look at the peer-group used for comparisons. There are a lot of lists of peer institutions out there. Which list to use for what?	

	• K. Scheller: A comprehensive list should be developed of peer intuitions that everyone agrees upon and uses. At the moment, everybody seems to be using a different list.	
Faculty Affairs Committee recommendation 1: Promotion to Full Professor	Report from old charges: Review and make recommendations regarding the promotions committee recommendation: changing the quantitative criteria for moving from associate professor to professor. Recommendation is to keep the current 4-year minimum at the rank of associate professor before faculty members are eligible for promotion to full professor. B. Field moved to accept the recommendation. V. Goebel seconded. Discussion: C. Tew: The general feeling appears to be that we should leave it the way it is.	Motion passed unanimously.
Economic Benefits Committee	Committee believes no further action is needed on the issue of ADA parking. K Scheller moved to accept the report. C. Tew second.	Motion passed unanimously.

Assessment Committee	Discussion Occurred. B. Field: Moved that we thank committee for the survey and outline, and ask they ensure as much of a completion rate as possible K:Scheller: Seconded L. Cagle suggested communicating with the Council of Chairs to encourage chairs to respond to the assessment.	Motion passed unanimously.
Faculty Grievance and Hearing Committee	Committee has no activity to report.	
FASTR Committee	Informational Report.	

Spring Meeting Schedule:

A. Gentle: Proposed that we schedule meetings on January 21st and 28th. If both dates are not required for budget (or other) discussions, one of these meetings will be canceled.

The Senate will meet on Fridays at 3:00 PM on the following days for the spring 2011 Semester:

- January 21st
- January 28th
- February 18th
- March 18th
- April 1st
- April 15th
- April 18th - Spring All Faculty Meeting
- May 4th (time to be determined).

Adjourn: 4:45