

**Faculty Senate  
Meeting Agenda**  
Friday, December 10, 2004  
3:00 P.M.  
HP 2027

***Announcements***

***Report from Dr. Linda Bennett, Provost***

***Minutes***

12 November 2004

***Old Business***

***Charges to Standing Committees – Economic Benefits***

***Student Evaluation of Teaching***

***New Business***

***Spring Faculty Meeting***

***Student Retention & Student Preparedness***

***Senate Meeting Times – Spring 2005 (Bring your calendars!)***

***Adjournment***

University of Southern Indiana  
Faculty Senate Minutes  
Session # 5  
Room: HP2027  
Date: December 10, 2004

Members Present: J. Bandoli, L. Bennett, ex-officio, P. Cashel-Cordo, , P. Doss, M. Graham, R. Hoebeke, L. Howard, M. Krahling, L. Nunn, I. Phillips, J. Thomas (in lieu of J. Davis-Brezette), K. Valadares, B. Wilding.

M. McCullough, Sr. Administrative Associate for Academic Affairs

Members Absent: H. Ray Hoops, ex-officio, J. Davis-Brezette

Guests: Victoria Piggot

**1. Call to order at 3:05pm.**

**2. Announcements from the Chair:**

- a) The following faculty were honored at a retirement reception on December 8<sup>th</sup>: Walter Everett, Professor of English; Marjorie Jones, Instructor in Anthropology; John McNaughton, Professor of Art; Marie Hankins, Professor of Chemistry.
- b) The Search Process for the Vice President for Business Affairs is nearing completion. Please go to the Search web site for updates.
- c) A reminder to all faculty that an extra paycheck will be issued at the end of December in order to facilitate the Banner payroll process in 2005.
- d) Adjunct faculty issues: The issues emanated from the School of Liberal Arts. The Dean of Liberal Arts will meet with Chairs of Departments in the School to discuss concerns that Adjunct faculty have. The Senate may want to discuss incorporating any recommendations pertaining to Adjunct faculty issues as a budget hearing discussion topic.
- e) The Spring Faculty Meeting is scheduled for Monday January 3<sup>rd</sup>. There will be a separate session concerning Student Evaluation of Faculty Teaching.

**3. Report from the Provost and V.P. of Academic Affairs, Dr. Linda Bennett.**

- a) There are concerns regarding the ongoing implementation of Banner software. The Provost iterated that software implementation will not dictate Academic policy. A few senators will be asked to work with the Banner committee. A discussion ensued.  
Comments: There are faculty who use Macintosh computers and some Banner related functions (i.e. entering grades online) that do not configure with Macintosh operating software. In addition, there were concerns that in some programs, the software currently dictates academic policy.
- b) A recent large donation to the University will be used towards the construction of the McCutcheon Teaching Arts Gallery. More information will be forthcoming.

**4. Minutes**

a) Minutes from November 12, 2004 (Session #4) were approved pending corrections. (Bandoli/Doss).

**5. Old Business**

a) Long Term Care Benefits: I. Phillips explained the rationale behind how LTC benefits may be used as an additional employee benefit. She recommended going to the web site: <http://www.ltcfed.com> for more information. M. Krahling will discuss this issue with Economics benefits committee as a self-directed charge.

b) Student Evaluation of Faculty Teaching (SET): At the Spring Faculty meeting, faculty will be asked to complete an evaluation of teaching effectiveness exercise. The SET committee is creating a draft version of summative/formative suggested additions for the faculty handbook. A discussion ensued. Questions: (1) Are we moving to a University policy that focuses on peer-review of teaching? No - the current focus is on the SET tool and its implementation. (2) Faculty will read the statement differently. How will it be tailored to meet differences in expectation and disciplines? The instructions will be revised. The feedback from exercises will be collectively housed on the Senate web site.

c) The Mission Statement of USI: At the Fall Faculty meeting, focus groups of employees reviewed the current mission statement of USI in light of HLC accreditation. Senators were asked if they noticed if there were any missing comments from the focus groups in the summary notes. A discussion ensued. P.Doss will inquire about any missing comments with the HLC Mission/Identity committee.

d) Student Academic Preparedness/Retention: A discussion ensued in regards to the previous presentations that Dr. Harrington gave. It is summarized by the following comments/questions:

- Faculty are losing morale because of a continuous stream of under prepared students, particularly with substandard analytical skills.
- What is the mood in Administration in regard to potential changes in Admission policies? Response from the Provost: The focus is currently on retention as opposed to changes in enrollment procedures.
- This is a generalized issue across all schools and is not specific to certain disciplines.
- What is the role of the Faculty Senate in addressing this issue?
- Ivy Tech is starting to take on more of a role in the provision of remedial education. How will USI fit into this relationship?
- Is anyone talking to EVSC and other school districts about the quality of students that are graduating from these institutions and coming to USI? However, USI does play a large part in educating and training the K-12 teachers in these institutions.
- Is the faculty senate being usurped in lieu of the retention task force? The task force will report up through the senate.

e) The January or February Senate meeting will concern the Budget hearings. Dr. Hoops will do a presentation on the current legislative climate.

**6) New Business**

a) The Senate will meet during the Spring 2005 semester on the following dates:

Friday January 21 <sup>st</sup>	3pm	HP2027
Friday February 18 <sup>th</sup>	3pm	HP2027
Friday March 18 <sup>th</sup>	3pm	HP2027
Friday April 1 <sup>st</sup>	3pm	HP2027
Friday April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	3pm	HP2027
Friday April 29 <sup>th</sup>	3pm	(Spring Meeting – Location: TBA)

7. The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm. (Bandoli/Doss)

Respectfully submitted by Kevin Valadares, Senate Secretary