

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
February 21, 2012

Present: Bentivenga, Beyer, Brown, Chappy, Garrison, Heider, Johnson, Kercher, Lattery, Liske, Loewenstein, Meyerson, Mrotek, Neal, Pontynen, Redington, Robson, Roth, Saginak, Siemers, Simmons, Wacholtz, Westphal

Excused:

Absent: Bryan, Kaltcheva

Administrative Representative: Provost Earns

Academic Staff Representative: Jean Inda

Oshkosh Student Association Representative: Jonathan Junk

Guests: Lori Carrell, Tracy Slagter, Liz Whalley, Michael Schellenger, Bob Wise

Minutes in Brief:

At the February 21st faculty senate meeting neither SAS Representative Inda nor OSA Representative Junk had reports. President Simmons reported on both the PAS and U-Plan meetings. The minutes of February 7th meeting were approved. Lori Carrell asked whether there were questions about the general education survey and open forum results. A discussion of the proposed draft University Studies Program Implementation plan followed. Under New Business the Marketing and Supply Chain Management department's bylaws were approved. Senator Siemers initiated a fruitful discussion on a proposed change in the amount of pay faculty receive for Faculty Development grants. Prior to adjournment, Senator Wacholtz reported on the upcoming March 14th and 15th Senate election primaries.

President Simmons called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

I. State of the University

A. Reports

1. SAS (Inda) – (1) Attended the General Education Forum instead of having a senate meeting.
2. OSA (Junk) – No report
3. Provost Staff (Simmons) – Updates included: (1) A report from Academic Computing regarding flow charts, vacant positions, and potential move for email from current system to Google mail; (2) GOV 3.B.21 was discussed related to UW Oshkosh Policy on Post-Retirement Employment, this item will come before Faculty Senate soon; (3) Working with UW-Green Bay for engineering technician majors is in discussion stages; (4) Reporting to system and what will be requested directly from our campus to state and regents, special points of interest with that related to teaching loads and student credit hours.
4. U-Plan (Simmons) – A budget update included our share of the next lapse being 2.2 million, with this not impacting our campus until next semester. Most of next year's impacts will be decided at the college levels. The Chancellor talked about discussions at the task force on system restructuring. President Simmons offered to share handouts to anyone that wanted to contact him.

II. Minutes of February 7, 2012

MOTION: Moved approval by Wacholtz/Neal. Approved unanimously by voice vote.

III. Old Business

- A. General Education Reform Update – Lori Carrell – Update: Both the survey and open forum's are finished, and the feedback was great and is being taken into consideration as the leadership team meets this weekend for another retreat to revise the proposal and have it ready to move forward for approval from APGES, APC, & Faculty Senate. Finally she noted that Titan TV will be featuring Gen Ed in an upcoming show.
- B. Faculty Survey Results – The student sessions were generally positive, and their results demonstrate a lack of awareness which stands out as a reason to provide more information to them. Overall both the faculty and instructional academic staff results were helpful and the team is very grateful for all the useful feedback they gathered.
- C. DRAFT – University Studies Program Implementation Proposal – Lori asked for feedback to the document and items included: President Simmons shared a new makeup of the University Studies Council to make sure that faculty have a central role in the process as well as other essential staff; also there was a suggestion for it to be called a committee and not a council. Lori then addressed questions related to the timeframe and the need for this one time expedited process for approval this summer, before moving forward with a typically approval process for the rest of the program. Another issue had to do with the addition of another signature question and how new questions might be added in the future. Other discussion items included a concern for this document being more bureaucratic than intellectual, and Lori noted that we are educators and this document was created with students future in mind and with incredible work and intelligence. Provost Earns also addressed a concern from Senator Pontynen related to the lack of liberal arts in the proposal, and he was assured that from the beginning that had been part of the whole process.

Lori noted that both the proposal and implementation plan will come forward hopefully at the same time for approval, at the senate's request with a potential approval at the March 13th senate meeting if previous approval bodies move it forward. It was noted that our last HLC visit was a step back from the one previous to that, and so we have a great need to make some changes in our general education on campus. A special point to note was that this is just where we start, there is an understanding that it will need to be continuously altered and adjusted as it moves forward. The Provost noted that an unwillingness to adapt to these needed changes could be problematic.

IV. New Business

- A. Bylaws – Marketing & Supply Chain Management –

MOTION: Moved to approve by Garrison/Loewenstein. Approved unanimously by voice vote.

FS1112- 25 The Faculty Senate approved the Marketing & Supply Chain Management Bylaws.

V. Discussion Items –

- A. Faculty Development Board Petition –
Petition read: "The Faculty Development Board should distribute teaching and research awards at 7.5% and 15% of the median salary for a full time faculty member, rounded to the nearest \$100 increment, instead of 7.5% and 15% of the individual proposer's salary" Senator Siemers then noted that he has gathered a sufficient number of signatures for this petition, but decided to bring it forward for discussion at senate and has yet to meet with

the Faculty Development Board for their thoughts. He noted that this would impact both the senior faculty, as they would receive less, and the junior faculty would be receiving more. The equity of this process, he noted, seems to be possibly better. Also noted by Senator Siemers was that he thought this could maybe help with recruitment and outside reviewers of the program whom have noted an equity concern. Senator Siemers did highlight that we have one of the best Faculty Development Boards in the system and for that we are lucky, but being open to possible improvement can always be a good thing.

Discussion then included: (1) recruitment can also be affected the other way, for those that would be hired at a senior faculty status or by college; (2) with the lack of compensation currently on campus, many senior faculty appreciate the current system; (3) a concern that this award is not to be looked at as something that affects one's salary, but more as a bonus; (4) That the Faculty Development Board has so many different areas that why would we address just this one; (5) maybe it could be addressed at college levels; (6) would making changes cause the current process that seems to be working fine to take a turn for the worse.

The current chair of the FDB, Michael Schellenger, and chair elect, Bob Wise, were at the senate meeting as guests, and they were called on and answered questions from various senators. They asked the senate to please give them any guidance on what you would like them to look into or consider. Senator Bentivenga asked Senator Siemers to find out what the median salary is, and he noted he had requested that data, but he hasn't heard back yet. Provost Earns then commented that he would like requests of that nature to come through his office.

VI. Committee Reports –

- A. Senator Wacholtz gave an elections update including seats that still have no nominees, and a reminder of the primary and final election dates.

VII. Items from Members –

VIII. Information Items –

MOTION: Moved to adjourn by Senator Bentivenga at 5:01p.m.

Jim Simmons
President

April Dutschek
Recorder