
J. Koch attended for S. Clayton.

Parlimentarian Ferald Bryan was also present.


I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 4, 2002 FS MEETING - approved

IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The status of items referred to the University Council by the Faculty Senate last year was presented as a walk-in; the state budget looks bad. President Peters will have more to say tomorrow at his State of the University address.

V. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

VII. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

A. FAC to IBHE – Patricia Henry – 9/13/12 report and 10/01/12 report http://www3.niu.edu/u_council/FAC/FAC091302
The IBHE has requested university presidents to get input on the issue of non-tenure-track faculty from various constituencies on campus; Pres. Willis said that Steve Cunningham has been asked to handle the University response to this issue.

There is a Web survey about performance indicators for the Illinois Commitment which can be found at http://www.ibhe.org/performanceindicators/survey/. The FAC would like some modifications to the Commitment but the IBHE has not done this. D. Musial suggested that the Assessment Panel look at it.

The budget for the next year or so does not look good, and the new administration is unlikely to be as friendly to higher education as the current one is.

P. Henry asked if Senators would mind if she e-mailed them information between meetings; there was no objection.

Maintaining quality and affordability in the current budget environment will be difficult. Committee reports are available; one is on salary and fringe benefits, and there is a report on student success. NIU is approximately average in salary and fringe benefits compared to peer institutions.

The FAC expressed misgivings about assessment; the IBHE is enthusiastic about it.

D. Rusin asked if the average instructor’s salary at NIU is really $39,000 [Pres. Willis clarified this later with Steve Cunningham – these are instructors with regular contracts, of which we have very few. Typically they are people hired as new assistant professors who haven’t quite finished their degrees yet; they are instructors until they do].

B. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Paul Loubere and William Tolhurst – report

C. BOT Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee – Sue Willis and Jim Lockard – no report

D. BOT Legislation, Audit and External Affairs Committee – Sara Clayton and Beverly Espe – no report

E. BOT – Sue Willis – report

The NIU Foundation has exceeded their fundraising goal by more than $0.5 million; there was a potential issue about the DeKalb County Metropolitan Planning Organization but that has been settled. The first couple of items on the capital budget request are the renovation of Stevens and the renovation of Wirtz.

F. Council of Illinois University Senate – Sue Willis – report

The CIUS met at ISU; the main issue was public money going to private institutions (and not the
reverse, as the printed report says). The group would also like to raise some money for lobbying.

VIII. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic Affairs – Jody Newman-Ryan, Chair – no report

B. Economic Status of the Profession – Jim Lockard, Chair

President Willis: Economic Status, Jim Lockard.

The MCAP and DCAP plans are not available to staff members who are not on pay status (including faculty on 9-month salaries); electing to receive one’s 9-month salary over 12 months will solve this problem.

C. Resource, Space and Budget – C. T. Lin, Chair

The committee is considering four possible agenda items: the adaptation of innovations in Barsema Hall for the rest of the campus; the problem in class scheduling caused by the expansion in size of the campus; technological changes and their impact on pedagogy; and the direction the university should take in developing the West Campus.

D. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities – Mark Cordes, Chair

The committee is in the process of looking into IRB issues in conjunction with the Academic Policy Committee of the University Council; the two committees met jointly with representatives from the IRB. The university’s compliance document is up for a 3-year renewal at the end of November.

E. Rules and Governance – Gretchen Bisplinghoff, Chair

F. Elections and Legislative Oversight – John Novak, Chair

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

Evaluation of the President: the process was approved last spring, and will begin shortly. The results will be reported to the Senate, as well as to the President.

A faculty member is needed to replace Dan Griffiths on the Sweatshop Advisory Committee.

XI. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

H. Rubin said that a meeting he attended sponsored by the central administration still featured full-sized cookies.
K. Miller pointed out that some faculty are still requesting students’ Social Security numbers on Scantron tests; this should no longer be done.

D. Wagner, S. Mini, and H. Rubin asked about why faculty and staff still had to give their SSNs to the library, parking, and Registration and Records; Pres. Willis will find out what can be done about this. T. Griffin pointed out that the library will create a dummy number on request.

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Alternate List

XIII. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.