I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:04.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

President Willis: Is there any discussion of the agenda? If not, all those in favor say aye. Opposed?

The agenda was approved.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 23, 2003 FS MEETING

(Pages 3-6)

President Willis: Could I have a motion to approve the minutes of the April 23rd meeting? Thank you Bill. Second? Any discussion or corrections or amendments to the minutes? If not, all those in favor of approving the minutes say aye. Opposed? All right, good.

The minutes were approved.

IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Willis: I’d like to welcome you all back to DeKalb particularly if you were elsewhere. I have a few kinds of introductory things I want to say and then we can get on with the agenda.
We have several new committee chairs this year because of people going off the Senate so I thought I would introduce them and also encourage people to look on this list of committees so you can see where your name appears. This will tell you what committee you’re on. Now, if you’re on the University Council, then you’re not on here. You’ll be on a University Council committee. Okay? So this is Faculty Senate committees. All right, so the Executive Committee is, of course, chaired by me. Then you have Academic Affairs that Bill Baker is going to be chairing. There’s Bill. Economic Status – Jim Lockard will continue. Resource, Space and Budget – C. T. Lin will still be the Senate chair of that. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities – Ngoyi Bukonda is the chair. Did I say that right? Rules and Governance is Gretchen Bisplinghoff, same as last year. Elections is Steven Nord. You’ll be seeing him up here because that’s one of the things we have to do in the first meeting of the year is some election stuff.

As usual, we have not planned any kind of planning retreat or anything like that to set an agenda for the year. However, I’m always open to suggestions if there are particular items that people would want considered. We’re not having a retreat not because I want to do it all myself it’s just because we haven’t for awhile and then people really just weren’t interested so it didn’t seem to be a particularly effective way of doing things. If you have suggestions or anything, you know, please let me know and I think I’m pretty good about getting stuff on the agenda.

Also, if some of you are completely new to the Faculty Senate and are sitting back there wondering what is this, I don’t have any kind of formal “Faculty Senate 101” class or anything, but if you would like a little explanation, again, just come up afterwards or give me a call or whatever and I’ll see if I can explain what’s going on.

Before I came over, I called up Kathy Buettner who is our legislative liaison. She spends most of her time either in Springfield or Washington ensuring that things are not any worse than they are and so I asked her how are things, what can I say? She says at the federal level they’ve been working very hard on getting on getting – we get a lot of research money from the federal government in a variety of ways and they have been working on that. It looks good; it looks very encouraging. It will be four to six weeks before those bills will all percolate through but that looks pretty good. On the other hand, there’s the Federal Higher Education Act which has to be reauthorized every six years and that’s coming up next year. That can effect things like student loans and what not and there’s also some sort of the noise in the bushes or whatever that – I didn’t mean that to be a pun – that they want – that the administration wants to include more accountability in the higher ed bills similar to this “No Child Left Behind” stuff that they have in the elementary and junior high and high school stuff. So this is in the very early stages of rumor essentially, but it’s something that will bear watching as the year goes on.

As far as the state goes, there’s a veto session in, I believe, early December. Nothing essentially is know about the ??? budget. In fact, the IBHE is delaying their process for a couple of months because the state situation is so unclear. I know there’s been talk of a rescission. It seems perfectly reasonable to suspect, but at the moment there is no information and we’re probably not going to know and probably the state’s not going to know until further into the year when we see what the ??? looks like. Are we having a rescission – maybe. Are we getting another budget cut next year – who knows. Right now, that’s really still all up in the air. I’ll try to keep you updated as much as I can. There are two laws that the Governor had signed that affect us – well, not us but the University. One is the line-item budget, which is not a big deal since it’s more or
less what we were doing anyway. The other is this “Truth in Tuition” bill where whatever somebody pays when they enter as a freshman is supposed to be what they’ll pay throughout their four years. There’s a lot of implementation that has to go along with that like what if they take more than four years? Supposing they come in as transfer students as half of our students do? There’s this, that and the other thing so there’s a lot of details in that that needs to be worked out but that has been passed into law and will take effect next fall. Again, it’s not particularly a faculty problem but it will be around. Okay, so that’s pretty much it at the federal and state level. I talked to Frederick Schwantes who is the Provost’s moneyman to see what he could tell me about what we were doing to save money and he told me a few things. There are about fifty-nine instructional positions that used to be paid by general revenue dollars, which are no longer being paid by general revenue dollars. Most of them because those positions are frozen because they don’t have anyone in them. A few of them have been switched to other kinds of money. There’s a whole variety of stuff. Some in the library, some ITS people, some research assistants and secretaries – it runs the whole gamut. The only relatively big thing I know that have happened is that the SSRI as an entity has been closed. It was an umbrella organization for essentially three other organizations one of which was the Social Policy Research Office. It has not functioned since its director, Dr. Kleppner, retired and another one, The Center for Government Studies, has moved out of that anyway to Outreach. So that left the SSRI as an umbrella for the Public Opinion Lab and they decided that the Public Opinion Lab didn’t need an umbrella – it could manage itself perfectly well so that’s where the SSRI went. The functionality is all still there; it’s just labeled differently and we have one fewer manager which is probably a good thing. The other thing is that there is no longer a separate and independent office for training of teaching assistants. That function has now been taken over by the Faculty Development Office. Okay, in the summer – he doesn’t have numbers yet for what good the four day week did – but they’re working on it and you probably know that they’re closing for an extra couple of days over Christmas which effects faculty, of course, not at all unless you’re inclined to come in and work. Actually, you can still come in and work then. It’s not going to be freezing; they have to keep the water running and stuff but that’s another cost-saving measure. All right, so that is what I know about how things are. Enrollment is much the same as it was last year. It’s up maybe a couple of hundred but it’s certainly not less but it’s about the same.

V. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION

President Willis: Let’s move on to Items for Faculty Senate Consideration.

A. Selection of Vice President and Secretary of Faculty Senate. Jim Lockard and Gretchen Bisplinghoff have agreed to serve.

President Willis: Item A is the selection of a Vice President and Secretary of the Faculty Senate. These people are elected by you. I have asked Jim Lockard and Gretchen Bisplinghoff if they would be willing to serve in those capacities. The only thing they really have to do is if some reason I can’t be here, then they run the meetings. Okay? Other than that, there really aren’t any significant duties associated with those positions. Does anyone want to nominate anyone else or else the nominations are closed? Second? All those in favor – this is just nominations being closed. All those in favor? Opposed? All right, so all those in favor of Jim and Gretchen being Vice President and Secretary select? Opposed? Okay.
Jim Lockard and Gretchen Bisplinghoff were elected Vice President and Secretary.

B. Approval of Xueshu Song to serve on the University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees – 2003-2006 (Page 7)

President Willis: Jim Lockard has finally finished his three-year term on the University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees and Xueshu Song has agreed to step up. She’s back there – so, could I have a motion to approve Xueshu to serve on the UAC? Second? All those in favor? Opposed?

Xueshu Song was elected to serve on the University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees.

C. Election of Joan Quinn to the Holmes Student Center Board for one-year term.

President Willis: For some reason the Holmes Student Center Board has its people only on one year terms so we have to elect poor Joan every year. Could I have a motion to elect Joan Quinn to the Holmes Student Center Board? Second? All those in favor? Opposed?

Joan Quinn was elected to the Holmes Student Center Board.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

President Willis: On the Consent Agenda, for those of you who are a little new to this, the Consent Agenda has things on it that basically we don’t discuss because the Executive Committee and I thought we didn’t need to. If there’s something on there that we do need to discuss we always take it off but they tend to be things like we’re going to refer this issue to some committee. So, you know, what’s to discuss? We’ll discuss it when it comes back from the committee. There are actually two things on here. One is the approval of the committee composition, which is on here. I do it but then it requires approval by this body to be official. Then you will notice that we actually have a relatively thick packet this time and that is because on pages 9-21, there is a proposed revised grievance procedure. I know we don’t discuss the Consent Agenda but I just want to talk about it for a minute. This is a monologue. I want to say two things about those pages. The first thing I would say is please read it and the second thing is please keep it because when this comes back, if we still have it, that would be better instead of us having to make those copies all over again. In any case, this has come from a University Council committee, a task form that was formed specifically for this purpose. They worked on it for about three years and came up with this. The University Council has sent it to the SPS Council and the Operating Staff Council and also to us and then they will take all our feedback and then presumably, put it into action. Yes?

J. Stephen: On the Consent Agenda, we’re not approving it we’re just approving sending it to Rules and Governance?

President Willis: Yeah.
J. Stephen: Okay, thank you.

President Willis: Yeah, we’re approving its referral. So, could I have a motion to approve the Consent Agenda? Second? All those in favor say aye. Opposed?

A. Approval of Faculty Senate Committee chairs and Faculty Senate committee composition for 2003-2004 (Page 8)

B. Revised Grievance Procedures – see memo from S. Willis – refer to Rules and Governance (Pages 9-21)

The Consent Agenda was approved.

VII. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

President Willis: Okay, we’ll move on to Reports from Advisory Committees

A. FAC to IBHE – Patricia Henry – report (Pages 22-25)

P. Henry: This is the report from the Faculty Advisory Committee to the Illinois Board of Higher Education and you’ll be getting one of these on a regular basis. I just wanted to take a couple of seconds and explain what this is. The IBHE, as you know, has a lot to do with a lot of stuff including recommending budgets although they don’t always get what they ask for, regulating things, passing things down to us and having various proposals that effect us in various ways. The FAC is a body of faculty members – all the public universities have permanent membership on it. The private institutions and the community colleges have a very complicated rotation system but it does represent faculty from all of the kinds of institutions of higher education in Illinois and we go various places and meet and discuss what’s going on with the IBHE and we bring it back to you and try to keep you apprised of what’s going on with them. I also try and get some feedback from you as to what would be a good idea to pass on to the IBHE.

So, I’ll try to keep these brief. This time I’ve got actually a set of two to go over plus a little extra. Actually, what I’ve adopted as sort of a format here is a very brief sort of table of contents that gives you some idea of the items and then I’ll sort of touch on things that I think we should at least draw your attention to and anything else if you have any questions about or problems with or want to have explained more fully, please just ask me about it.

This past summer since last we met, there was a meeting in Rend Lake that basically discussed matters of the budget and made various recommendations for what that’s worth. Also there was a question and I did send e-mail – from time-to-time also I will do this – send e-mails out if there’s something that’s coming up. There was a bit of a concern, and this is also discussed in number 3 on whether SURS was going to be consolidated with the State Board of Investments. The general feeling was that that was not a good idea and it was averted but that was also part of what was discussed at Rend Lake. The other concerns you can read for yourself there. One though is the last one there, the continued stress of assessment is related to the next to the last one where there’s concern over administrative bloat. The continued stress of assessment has
helped create the need for more administrative reports and the IBHE should try to streamline this process. This is a sort of “cry” that we have issued on a fairly regular basis and I’m happy to report that they at least heard us because if you look on page 24 under number 6, the last bullet point which is the report on affordability, the IBHE actually will try to streamline “reduce related administrative costs while also ensuring accountability” and we’ll see what happens with that.

Back to the meeting in June at Roosevelt University, that was with the Illinois Articulation Initiative, the IAI and there was a good deal of discussion. I think this was where it was very interesting to have voices from both community colleges and the university side of things because both parties felt somewhat aggrieved, with some justification, and the general feeling was that there needed to be better communication up and down chains of command and administration such that people who are transferring from a community college would not come to a university and be told “no, no, no, that won’t work at all” and hopefully be better advised before getting into this kind of problem. So, that was an interesting and informative and very complicated presentation. Those of you who have interests and concerns with articulation would also do well to look at the website there which is quite detailed.

Number 3 I think we’ve sort of covered in the context of talking about the SURS situation. Jim Hacking tries to sort of keep us informed as well. He’s the Executive Director of SURS. The feeling is that things are really not going to keep on working under the present tax system, that the mounting costs will need to be addressed in some way but no one was quite sure how that’s going to work.

Number 4, 7th Goal – I talked about this in the past and you can sort of read more fully about it. Briefly, the Illinois Commitment has six goals. The FAC wants to add a 7th goal that would indicate that education adds quality of life to people in Illinois and that hopefully, assessment of this would be something along the lines of best practices rather than yet another assessment process to be filled out but at this point it’s still under consideration by the IBHE and we’ll see what develops.

Number 5, we are working on developing an op-ed piece for the media. This is actually something that’s been in the media quite a bit. Last Friday the Chicago Tribune had quite an extensive article datelined “DeKalb” actually discussing the impact on higher education of all these cuts, larger classes and so forth. It would be good to get feedback and antidotes and evidence of any – whatever sort of is appropriate to help give particularities to this. I mean, people have been hearing about the problems that cutbacks in the budget cause with higher education. In particular, I think it’s important to give the perspective from the students point of view – what do the students find different? What are the students losing out on because of these cuts? If the money’s not there, the money’s not there, but at least I think it’s important to make it clear what is happening as a result of the money not being there.

Speaking of money, number 6 is the IBHE report on affordability. I’ve given you the link to the PDF document where you can read the entire thing and I’ve given you some bullet points of the main suggestions that have come out of this report including trying to streamline some of these reports so that we don’t have more reporting to do. The FAC responds favorably for the most part to this but has some reservations about some of the tuition related recommendations, in particular this “Truth in Tuition” is good in many ways but there could be unwanted effects of
this in terms of lowering the overall value of a degree from an Illinois institution of higher education. MAP funding is indeed a priority for the IBHE and it is for the FAC as well but it’s also important that there should be a stable base that they support and they would like the IBHE to consider that as well.

The IBHE report on Diversity is also summarized there and this is just sort of starting to be discussed so I don’t have any particular sense of how this is going. I think as mentioned here, the FAC welcomes efforts concentrated on hiring qualified minority candidates. Again, there may be a problem with enough money to do this and we’ll sort of see where that goes.

Finally, I just note that the IBHE website in general is actually very informative, easy to navigate. You can find out about a lot of stuff. There’s also a source link to the FAC itself listed there and also to the Student Advisory Committee, the SAC, so that you can see what’s going on. I highly recommended actually, the link to the news. They have a daily news digest there which has a lot of interesting stories. In fact, I think that’s where I first – there was a New York Time’s article that was there that I mentioned earlier. It does help you keep track of some of these items across the state. Okay?

President Willis: Okay, thank you Pat. Before I see if there are any questions for Pat, let me remind people and/or inform you if you don’t know that the way we have records of these meeting is that they are taped and then we have someone who transcribes them. The only way she knows who is speaking is either if she recognizes your voice or if you say who you are. So, please say who you are.

P. Henry: I’m Pat Henry.

President Willis: She recognizes your voice. Does anybody have any questions for Pat? Yes?

J. Stephens: Stephens from Math. Is there any real difference between the Illinois Commitment and the combined mission statements of the universities because this addition here is practically word-for-word from our mission statement?

P. Henry: I don’t know if that’s true across-the-board as far as all the universities are concerned but I think precisely because it was something that most universities see as their mission, that they wanted to have it put into the Illinois Commitment. It was not the six items of the – the six goals of the Illinois Commitment never mentioned this – the quality of life. They mentioned finding jobs and there’s six of them that I can’t roll of the top of my head and they’re valid things but the addition was precisely to make it agree with our mission statement.

J. Stephens: Okay, thank you.

President Willis: Any other questions for Pat? If not, we will move on to reports from the Board of Trustees meetings. The two committees listed under B and C there, under number VII, Academic Affairs and Finance and Facilities actually did meet but everything that they discussed was also discussed at the general Board meeting which was two weeks later and so I’ll give all that in my report on the Board itself under E.
B. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Paul Loubere and William Tolhurst – no report

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

D. BOT Legislation, Audit and External Affairs Committee – Sara Clayton and Beverly Espe – report (Page 26)

President Willis: The Legislation, Audit and External Affairs Committee also met and Bev Espy has a report on page 26. Bev?

B. Espy: The LAEA met back in June so a lot of the information here today maybe you’ve already heard and it was basically a short meeting up in Hoffman Estates to basically just give us updates on legislation. Some of the key bills that have been passed that affected higher education are listed there as well as some that did not pass. Just to bring your attention to, Sue mentioned about the tuition increase bill, that’s House Bill 1118 which does provide for a student to have one tuition through those four years or, as Sue mentioned, as other details get worked out there.

Another one to draw your attention to has to do with in-state tuition. Although I didn’t put it, there’s a lengthy description of the bill and I could get that to you if you’re interested, but it refers to a student that is not an Illinois resident but how they will be considered an Illinois resident for tuition purposes based on certain criteria and when that criteria may change. Part of that being if an out-of-state student was going to high school in Illinois but was not actually an Illinois resident, they would be looked at as an Illinois resident until other criteria was met. It’s quite detailed. So, I think I’ll end there because I’m not going to be able to describe all the differences there.

The amendment to the Open Meetings Act which was a Senate bill, you probably heard about this too, that a public body must make a verbatim audio/video recording of closed meetings and there’s been criteria set up as to how that disclosure would be allowed and then the destruction of those recordings so there’s specifics related to that.

Okay, another item that we’ve talked about in the past was related to the SURS general formula and how your final rate of earnings calculations would be impacted if eligible sick leave payouts were included in that and that bill was not acted upon. Just so that you all know that, it’s not dead. Public ed is going to continue pursuing this but there was no action on that bill at all so more to come on that. I think that’s about it.

President Willis: Okay, any questions for Bev?

E. BOT – Sue Willis – report (Page 27)

President Willis: If not, let me tell you about the full Board meeting. They actually met twice. They had a special session on May 5 solely for the purpose of setting tuition rates for the 2003-2004 academic year which is usually done earlier in March but in March we didn’t have a budget so they waited but they didn’t want to wait until June either because they thought it would be
nice if the students knew what the tuition was going to be before they left, so hence, this meeting. What they did was increase tuition by 9% for freshmen and sophomores, 12% for juniors and seniors and also graduate and law students and there’s still a per hour – per quarter hour savings if you take more than 12 hours so you get savings in bulk.

The regular session that they met was on the 19th of June. They elected new officers. They do this, I think, every two years. The new chair is Gary Skoien – there’s a list of the other officers there. I’m not going to read all of this to you but one thing I did want to point out is that they did have in there their guidelines for FY05. That’s what the university plans to submit to the IBHE and they’ve got a 5% salary increase, 3.1 million in deferred maintenance, 1.7 million in operation and maintenance of new buildings along with some other things. If you look at that from last year, what it was for 2004, it was sort of similar. That was what we sent to the IBHE. What the IBHE did was zeroed out everything except the salary increase, which they put at 2%. That’s what went to the Governor and he zeroed out that so that’s what happens to these things. Anyway, we’ll see. Nevertheless, the Trustees did approve a salary increment for this year as you may have noticed or not, 1.5% effective on the first of July or the 16th of August for us and another 1.5% effective on the first of January. They are not ruling out the idea of additional increments should the economy suddenly become wonderful but they’re committed to at least that much. All right, that’s – I’ll let you read the rest of it. Any questions? Yes?

B. Miller: I’m Beth Miller of CNS. The second 1.5% that’s coming in January, I heard two rumors; one that it’s merit and one is that it’s not. Can you clarify that?

President Willis: It’s across the board and it covers essentially everybody also. It’s service staff as well as faculty. Okay, any other questions?

VIII. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

President Willis: I assume the standing committees don’t have reports yet but I know some of them want to say that they’re meeting. Bill?

A. Academic Affairs – William Baker, Chair

B. Baker: This is for information. The first meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee will be on September 17 at 3:00pm in Holmes Student Center, Room 303. There are two matters immediately on the agenda. One concerns the LHB matters, the status of non-tenure track faculty and they will be addressed by the head of the instructors. I believe Dr. Willis will also be there. Correct?

President Willis: Yes.

B. Baker: Then after we’ve dealt with that, I hope David Wagner’s paying attention, we will deal with a matter raised by him on academic affairs. He raised the matter on March 5 concerning the existing grading system. So never fear, David, we haven’t forgotten that issue.

D. Wagner: I haven’t either.
B. Baker: That’s what I suspected. Thank you very much.

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

President Willis: Economic Status – Jim?

J. Lockard: No report and no formal meeting scheduled at this moment but I would appreciate it if the members of the committee would come up here for just a moment afterwards so we can see about a meeting time.

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

President Willis: Okay, Resource, Space and Budget – C. T.?

C. T. Lin: No report.

D. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities – Ngoyi Bukonda, Chair

President Willis: Faculty Rights and Responsibilities – Ngoyi? Get a mike so we can get you on tape.

N. Bukonda: We have not met yet but I would like also to ask the members of this committee to please wait a few minutes after this meeting so we can schedule a time for our meeting. Thank you.

E. Rules and Governance – Gretchen Bisplinghoff, Chair

President Willis: Rules and Governance – Gretchen?

G. Bisplinghoff: As you can see, we have a lot of work ahead of us immediately. I need to get a meeting scheduled so I would like to meet with anybody who’s here today. I contacted some folks about their schedules and about scheduling a meeting to consider the packet. Also, if anybody has any comments or input or would like to get in touch with me about anybody in the Senate while we’re working on this, this will be a process in the next month or so, please feel free to e-mail me with any of your input on the grievance procedures that are in here.

F. Elections and Legislative Oversight – Stephen Nord, Chair

President Willis: Okay, thank you Gretchen. Elections – Stephen, you’re on.

S. Nord: I have no announcements ???.

President Willis: Let’s see, we’re starting with the drawing of names out of the hat, right? The box.

1. Election of members of Faculty Grievance Committee – William Tolhurst, Chair

President Willis: Let me take a second for congratulations to all. Let me take a second to explain what the Faculty Grievance Committee is. The Faculty Grievance Committee is called into session if a faculty member files a grievance either against another faculty member or against an administrator or something like that and requests a grievance hearing. So, if nobody files a grievance, that committee has nothing to do but if somebody does then they do have something to do. That’s the only instance in which it would be called into action. Bill Tolhurst was the vice-chair, whatever we call it, and will be the chair of that committee this year. Yes, Bill?

B. Tolhurst: I want to reassure people that if these new people –

President Willis: Could you get a mike?

B. Tolhurst: It’s my understanding that if the grievance procedures are passed quickly, this committee will go out of existence. Is that correct?

President Willis: Yes. Even if they’re passed slowly, they’ll go out of existence.

2. Election of University Council alternates – see sample ballots – ballots will be distributed at FS meeting. (Pages 29-34)

S. Nord: If you’re on the Elections Committee will you please come forward and help hand these out? We’re now going to vote for alternatives to the University Council. If you’re in the College of Business, please raise your hand and you’re supposed to vote for three. What do alternates do with the University Council?

President Willis: What do alternates do with the University Council? This is for University Council members. If you cannot go to a University Council meeting, what do you do? Well, what you do is you call up somebody who has been designated an alternate for your college. Those designated alternates are Faculty Senate members so what we’re doing here is selecting Faculty Senate members who will be on the alternate list so that if a University Council member from your college can’t attend, they will call you and say “can you go?”. That’s what the alternates are. We vote by colleges because it all goes by colleges on the Council.

S. Nord: ??? or are you selling them? The College of Education, you are to vote for five and would you please raise your hand. If you’re College of Engineering, please raise your hand and you’re supposed to vote for two. Then we’ll collect the ballots. College of Health and Human Sciences, select three. All right, Liberal Arts and Sciences, you are supposed to vote for six.

President Willis: We will count these ballots later and put the alternate list in the next packet so you’ll know who they are.
S. Nord: Do we have all the ballots?

President Willis: Okay, thank you all. Let me move on to Item 3.

3. Nomination of two Faculty Senate members to serve on the Responsible Conduct of Scholarship Committee. Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School will choose one member from the two nominations to serve on the committee. (Pages 35-36)

President Willis: This is the nomination of two Faculty Senate members to serve on the Responsible Conduct of Scholarship Committee. This is a new committee that will be reporting to the Graduate Council. It will encompass such things as our address by the IRB but that’s one of about a dozen things that it’s going to be looking at. There’s a description of it on pages 35 and 36. The Senate is to nominate two people of whom one will be chosen to be on this committee and, if not, we’ll draw two names out of the box because we’ve got to have two names. So, is there anyone interested in the Responsible Conduct of Scholarship Committee? Is there anybody on the Graduate Council who can talk about it more than I can. So everybody’s hoping someone else’s name is going to get draw out of the hat.

S. Nord: Select two from the magic box? Is that what ---

President Willis: Yes.


President Willis: So we will – unless there’s people who utterly refuse to serve, we’ll forward those names and see what happens. Okay, thank you Steve.

D. Mathesius: Everyone did get their ballots handed in, right?

President Willis: Okay, Stephen doesn’t have to do anything now I think until the last meeting so. He gets the easy committee.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Willis: All right, we have nothing under Unfinished Business.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Recommendation for Advisory Board for Technology Services (Page 37)

President Willis: There is one item of New Business that was brought up at the Executive Committee meeting and, in fact, it came from Bill Baker. It’s on page 37. It’s short so I think you can read it pretty quickly but Bill do you want to speak to that a bit?

B. Baker: ???

12
President Willis: Please get a mike.

B. Baker: I think it’s self-evident that some decisions seem to be being made which effect us all relating to technology, for instance our e-mails. I think there ought to be considered some kind of independent, non-vested interested think tank as stated basically.

President Willis: Then this would go as a recommendation to the University Council?

B. Baker: Yes.

President Willis: Yes, question?

L. Kamenitsa: Lynn Kamenitsa, Political Science and Women’s Studies. Could you be a little more concrete about some of the issues you’re talking about and something for us to sort of sink our teeth into about kinds of issues that come up?

B. Baker: Well, for instance, we could be told that e-mails are being changed. That are all sorts of issues that have been involved in the past effecting us all over which we seem to have little control and the question is who has been making those decisions on our behalf as faculty, as support staff, etc.

L. Kamenitsa: What sort of issues?

B. Baker: Many, many issues. Perhaps our colleagues could give illustrations.

President Willis: Yes, Paul?

P. Stoddard: Paul Stoddard, Geology. I know certain software packages such as PeopleSoft and GroupWise have not met with universal acclaim around the university. Just this last summer, right before the beginning of classes, ITS “upgraded” all the smart classroom computers with new operating systems which on old computers causes them to be virtually useless and eliminated a lot of software that was on there that they thought was too difficult to maintain and none of this was really accomplished with any input from the people using the systems.

X. Song: I have two examples of the issues. One is the smart classrooms. I was told as an individual that you have to file your request 90 days ahead of time if you want to install any software. Not only that, if you have existing software that has ??? by previous semesters they would delete it or ??? assuming you don’t need it anymore. It’s assuming everybody’s guilty until proving not guilty. It’s so bad. It causes a lot of inconvenience so I really hate this one. Another one, I found the forms, the travel voucher or, I forgot, whatever it is. They change too often. Sometimes they just change the font saying it’s too big or too small then they make you to redo it one more time if you are not quick enough to keep up in those forms but they up them too often. All those little things sometimes can be so ???.

President Willis: Okay, other comments? Yes, David.
D. Wagner: David Wagner. I have heard, I don’t know if this is true, they’re going to get rid of Wilbur. I’m probably the only person in this room who uses Wilbur but there hasn’t been any discussion of it all. I do my syllabi, all sorts of things. I don’t know how they’re going to be transferred in some way I can make use of them.

J. Kaminski: He was such a damn good pig too.

B. Baker: I’d like to move.

President Willis: You’d like to move the recommendation and that it be referred to the University Council?

B. Baker: Yes.

President Willis: All right, do I hear a second? Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye. Opposed? Okay, we will send it on to the Council and we’ll let you know if anything happens. A number of the committee chairs have asked that their committees get together briefly at least to set meeting times.

XI. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

President Willis: Are there any comments or questions from the floor? Yes, David.

D. Wagner: Isn’t it at the first meeting of the year there report if there are any outstanding issues that have been sent from this body to the University Council that haven’t been acted on? Are there any such?

President Willis: There are four things that are still pending in the University Council. Two of them have to do with the Faculty Personnel Advisor. One is the Office Privacy Policy and the other one – the only one I don’t think came through here. It has to do with tentative tenure in the law school. So there’s still two items concerning the Faculty Personnel Advisor. I think one is whether they can be present at meetings if the grievant wants them there and the other one was what – I forgot, but I can look that up. The Privacy Policy is essentially as this body passed it. Yes?

J. Engstrom: John Engstrom, Business. Could you comment on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving?

President Willis: Yes, what kind of comment do you want? What’s happening? Okay. The University Council last spring voted to have Thanksgiving vacation start Wednesday morning essentially so we would not hold classes Wednesday morning. There are a number of arguments both for and against this as you can imagine but that did get passed. There was some discussion at that meeting as to when this could take effect. If you go back and look at the transcripts which are on the web, it was decided that we would like to have it take effect this fall unless there was some reason why not. The bylaws of the Council say that actions taken by the Council take effect either immediately or at a time specified by the Council or if they need approval by the
Board of Trustees, then they have to go to the Trustees. So we looked to see what the deal was with the academic calendar. Well, it doesn’t need Board of Trustee’s approval but they are supposed to be notified and it does say that you’re supposed to file a calendar with them twelve months in advance and so we thought well, okay, you know, we’ll do it next year. In the meantime, the schedule books had been printed and they had the new schedule in them so I went back and read the bylaws again and the Board of Trustee regulations and all this kind of stuff and discovered that what it says is that the university has to file an academic calendar with the Board of Trustees a year ahead of time. Whether they ever do that or not, I don’t know, but anyway, that’s not my problem. Then it says that you’re supposed to give notification of changes. So, I said well okay, this is a change, we’re doing fine and so that was how we handled it and that seems to have made everybody happy. The upshot of all that is that there are not classes Wednesday morning before Thanksgiving.

Any other comments or questions from the floor? If not, I would entertain a motion to adjourn.

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Minutes, Academic Planning Council
B. Minutes, Athletic Board minutes
C. Minutes, Campus Security and Environmental Quality
D. Minutes, Committee on Initial Teacher Certification
E. Minutes, Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum
F. Minutes, Graduate Council
G. Minutes, Undergraduate Coordinating Council minutes
H. Minutes, University Assessment Panel
I. Minutes, University Benefits Committee minutes
J. Faculty Personnel Advisor Annual Report for 2002-2003 (Page 38-39)
K. Meeting Schedule for 2003-2004 (Page 40)

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.