FACTOR IN UNIV

FACTOR SENATE MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2004, 3:00 P.M.
HOLMES STUDENT CENTER SKY ROOM


Parliamentarian Ferald Bryan was present.

THOSE FACULTY SENATE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Arriola, Booth, Briscoe, Clayton, Cummings, Gebo, Ghrayeb, Greene, Johnson, Kang, Kolb, L’Allier, Loubere, B. Peters, Ridnour, Smith, S. Song, X. Song, Swanson, Thu, Tollerud, Wade, Wang, Zerwekh

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as written.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 29 MEETING

(Pages 3-7)

The minutes were approved.

IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Update on Computing Facilities Advisory Committee.

1) The CFAC is concerned, as is the FS, with improving communication between themselves and the rest of the campus community. 2) Internet II (of which NIUnet will be a part) is a group of institutions, such as Fermilab, U Chicago, etc., that have very high speed connections for internet communications within the group. NIU should be part of this group by spring semester. A. Windelborn asked if all faculty would have access, and if different rates of access would have different costs. P. Stoddard responded that his impression is that if you’re at your machine and you download or access information from another Internet II site the higher connection rate is automatic. All campus machines, student, faculty, staff, have access to it if they’re going to other Internet II sites. B. Miller expressed concern regarding how the computer facilities group was supporting faculty in their teaching. P. Stoddard answered that he had spoken to them about
increasing faculty representation on the committee and that the University Council Rules & Governance Committee is looking into what would be a more appropriate representation. CFAC has a website that you can check. Wally Czerniak has been very helpful. **S. Lowman** added that an e-mail was sent to the committee specifically asking faculty for feedback on what kind of support they needed.

**B. Update on Lecture Series**

This lecture series, to be given by NIU faculty, would be geared towards the community and also meant to serve as an aid to our local teachers especially at the middle and high school levels. The lectures could be followed up with a workshop for the teachers on topics of interest. Anne Kaplan (V.P for University Outreach) thinks it’s a good idea. Gip Seaver in his capacity as a member of CITC thinks this is a good idea and had some ideas on how to make this work better. Thoughts and suggestions are always welcome!

**C. Committees Book**

The Committees Book has been completed and is on line after another Herculean effort by Donna. I’m sure everybody who ever uses it will thank her.

**D. Confidentiality/Anonymity**

A letter was received by this office that raised a concern about the way something happened or didn’t happen in the university. While it is this office’s job to handle such issues, this particular letter was anonymous, making it very difficult to do anything and certainly impossible to report back to whomever raised the issue. Such letters need to be signed but any letter we receive any will be handled in a confidential manner.

**V. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION**

**VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Approval for Augden Windelborn to replace Roberta Burke on the Academic Policies and Procedures Manuel Advisory Committee

The consent agenda was approved.

**VII. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

A. FAC to IBHE – Patricia Henry – report (Pages 8-9) and Chicago Tribune Op-Ed – walk-in

**P. Henry** reported that there is some concern that Illinois reading is slipping in terms of a national report card where we were once #1, we’re now #8. Regarding the Illinois Commitment, one of the Board members is particularly concerned that higher education should be playing a role in preparing students for civic life through civic education and to be participating citizens.
The IBHE, while not wanting to block progress, wants to maintain quality as we move into different kinds of online course offerings.

The FAC has crafted an OpEd piece to be sent to places like the Chicago Tribune and DeKalb Chronicle. The main concern is the “privatization” of public education. I think there are some statistics there that I think are of interest and concern. J. Knapp suggested adding statements about balance among the various disciplines and what a university ought to be. W. Tolhurst expressed concern about the word “privatization,” noting that when an enterprise is privatized, it passes from state ownership to private ownership – not the situation here. B. Goldenberg suggested “commercialized” and J. Stephen suggested “neglected” instead of privatized. P. Henry urged everyone to make these suggestions and send things in.

J. Newman-Ryan pointed out that a common model is for the state to pay a third, the federal government a third and our tuition a third of higher education costs. This says that “Illinois universities receive state support for a third” but doesn’t make clear where the other two-thirds come from. Are shortages in the federal government’s third being made up by tuition? P. Henry said that she will bring that up. J. Stephen argued that the unifying feature of American culture has been access to education. That opportunity isn’t there for lower-class people, single people etc. without the state’s help. Furthermore, study after study shows money spent on higher education is a sound investment for the state. P. Henry agreed that that is the point they are trying to make. J. Knapp noted that higher tuition rates means students have to work more hours at part-time jobs, thus decreasing the amount of time available for their studies. J. Stephen added that this is true for even some of our best students.

B. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee – Paul Loubere – no report

C. BOT Finance, Facilities, and Operations Committee – Paul Stoddard and Xueshu Song – no report

D. BOT Legislation, Audit, and External Affairs Committee – Donna Smith and Shey Lowman – no report

E. BOT – Paul Stoddard – no report

VIII. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic Affairs – John V. Knapp, Chair – no report

B. Economic Status of the Profession – Radha Balamuralikrishna, Chair – no report

C. Resource, Space, and Budget – C. T. Lin, Chair – report (Page 10)

C. T. Lin reported that the Resource, Space, and Budget met with the Director of Physical Plant, Vice President Bob Albanese; Norman Jenkins, who is Chair of the Parking Committee as well as the Director of Campus Parking; and Executive Vice President Dr. Eddie Williams. Mr. Al-
banese said that the water leak in Montgomery Hall had been solved. Units should follow up on work orders to make sure that the work is done in a timely fashion. Regarding the traffic problem around the DuSable area parking Lot 20 as well as the Stadium Drive, he said that the problem has existed for some time and that several modest improvements were being made to address the problems. An earlier attempt to ease traffic congestion ended up with free bicycles in the lagoon.

Campus Parking would like to discourage students from bringing their cars to the campus, especially to center of campus during the daytime, but rather have students use the campus bus system. Parking fees at NIU is among the lowest in the whole system. The fees are used to improve the parking facilities. There are 8,000 parking spaces distributed among the blue, yellow, brown, green permits and Campus Parking constantly adjusts the distribution based on actual usage. The blue and yellow spaces have increased this past year. The Parking Committee will work on the issue of generally unused reserved spots, such as those found in the first row of the parking structure’s lower level.

Dr. Williams talked about the NIU development master plan, established in 1988. Despite uncertainty as to funding sources when the plan was created, several elements of the plan have been realized or are under way, such Barsema Hall and the new Alumni and Visitor Center.

W. Tolhurst suggested that access to Lot 20 be restricted to those with valid permits for the lot. J. Stephen offered that the root of the problem is there’s no place to drop off students other than right by the library. C. Minor reminisced that at her alma mater freshmen couldn’t have cars and students were not allowed to drive on campus between 8:00am and 4:30pm. C. T. Lin said that the Chair of the Parking Committee would welcome input from the faculty and staff and would like to add a committee member (from FS?). C. Minor volunteered.

W. Tolhurst moved to endorse C. Minor. The motion was seconded and passed.

J. Wolfskill asked if the free bicycle program was dead. C. T. Lin replied that it was not dead.

D. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities – Ngoyi Bukonda, Chair – no report

E. Rules and Governance – Augden Windelborn, Chair

A. Windelborn reported that R & G was tasked with consideration of attendance by University Council members at both Faculty Senate and University Council meetings in which almost identical agendas are presented. Is this the true desire of the Faculty Senate?

P. Stoddard called for a show of hands of those interested in re-evaluating attendance requirements by UC members at Faculty Senate. (A large majority raised their hands.)

W. Tolhurst pointed out that there are department reps who are obliged to be here to represent their departments and there are University Council members who are also obliged here so that we have some interaction with the Faculty Senate. There’s not as pressing a need for the University Council reps to attend every Faculty Senate meeting; however, it’s important that a sufficient number of University Council reps attend. A system of selected attendance might be a good
idea. **A. Windelborn** said that they found that it would be much easier to revise attendance expectations than to amend the bylaws.

F. Elections and Legislative Oversight – Gretchen Bisplinghoff, Chair – no report.

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**XI. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

**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

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at or about 4:15 p.m.