
L. Porter attending for K. Thu.

Parliamentarian Ferald Bryan was present.

THOSE FACULTY SENATE MEMBER NOT PRESENT: Arriola, Bishop, Bisplinghoff, Blaschak, Booth, Butler, Ceisla, Coller, Docking, Doederlein, Gandal, Gorman, Hamlet, Holmes, Hubbard, Jeris, Kolb, Lieberman, MacFarlane, Marchewka, Markowitz, Morris, Peters, Pierce, Ridnour, Schoenbachler, D. Smith, S. Song, X. Song, Spires, Tatum, Tollerud, Wade, Walton

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

An amended agenda (move Mayor Van Buer from “Items for Consideration” to “President’s Announcements”) was approved.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 8, 2006 FACULTY SENATE MEETING (Pages 3-5)

The minutes were approved as written.

IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. DeKalb Mayor Frank Van Buer will be at Faculty Senate Meeting for questions and answers

Mayor Van Buer talked and answered questions regarding railroad warnings, the relationship between downtown DeKalb and the University, local growth, liquor licenses and the new smoking ban, parking regulations, and bike trails through town. Questions and further discussion were provided by J. Stephen, J. Kowalski, W. Tolhurst, and C. Rollman.

P. Stoddard updated on the Senate on the Parking and Computer Facilities advisory committees.
P. Stoddard also passed along some of President Peters’ thinking on the state budget process and its implications for NIU. B. Miller, P. Stoddard, S. Lowman, and J. Hamlet then discussed implications of the above for salary increments.

V. TIMES FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION

A. Nominations for the Bob Lane Eternal Vigilance Faculty Spokesperson Award (Page 6)

P. Stoddard called for nominations for the above award.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

VII. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic Affairs – Kendall Thu, Chair – no report.

B. Economic Status of the Profession – Radha Balamuralikrishna, Chair – report (Pages 7-8) and walk-in report

R. Balamuralikrishna reviewed the status the Family and Medical Leave Act and how it is being addressed at NIU.

B. Miller J. Kowalski, R. Balamuralikrishna and N. Churyk also discussed dual-career couples and partner placement issues

C. Resource, Space, and Budget – C.T. Lin, Chair – no report

D. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities – Joseph “Buck” Stephen, Chair – no report

E. Rules and Governance – Nancy Castle, Chair – no report

F. Elections and Legislative Oversight – Stephen Nord, Chair – report

B. Miller J. Kowalski, R. Balamuralikrishna and N. Churyk also discussed dual-career couples and partner placement issues

1. Nominations for Executive Secretary of University Council/President of Faculty Senate – See list of University Council members eligible to be elected (Page 9)

P. Henry nominated Paul Stoddard. Kent Gallagher seconded. P. Stoddard accepted the nomination.

A motion to close nominations was made, seconded, and passed.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
There was no unfinished business.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. “Electronic Student Response System” (Clickers)

A new technology, an electronic student response system, is being used across campus. There are several different versions of this technology, and at present they don’t seem to be mutually compatible, presenting a hardship for students. The discussion included information from faculty familiar with the situation and what action, if any, is warranted at this point.

J. Stephen moved to refer this matter to Academic Affairs. C. Smith seconded the motion.

The motion to refer to the Academic Affairs Committee passed.

X. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

A. FAC to IBHE – Sharon Holmes – no report


J. Stephen reported that all faculty and SPS sabbatical requests were endorsed by this subcommittee and that they unanimously endorsed Denise Schoenbachler to become appointed the new dean of the College of Business.

C. BOT Finance, Facilities, and Operations Committee – Paul Stoddard and Xueshu Song – report

P. Stoddard reported on Finance, Facilities, and Operations Committee, which approved University-recommended increases in student fees and various contracts and expenditures for next year.

D. BOT Legislation, Audit, and External Affairs Committee – Rachel Turner and Shey Lowman – report – walk-in

S. Lowman: Senate Bill 3146 proposes a 1.2% increase in funding for NIU. House Bill 4867 (textbook rentals) does not look to pass.

E. BOT – Paul Stoddard – no report.

XI. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

P. Stoddard: Any comments and questions for the good of the order?
J. Stephen asked D. Haliczer about the new Roth 401K/403B.

D. Haliczer said HR is looking favorably at implementing this.

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 4:32 p.m.