FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2007, 3:00 P.M.
HOLMES STUDENT CENTER SKY ROOM


S. Clayton attended for J. Monteiro; S. Willis attended for C. Thompson.

Parliamentarian Ferald Bryan was present.

ABSENT: Bisplinghoff, Boughton, J. Brown, P. Brown, Butler, Changnon, Docking, Elish-Piper, Grall, Greene, Hansen, Johnson, Kowalski, Lusk, Marchewka, Markle, Miller, Millhorn, Mirman, Mogren, Mohabbat, Onyuksel, Prawitz, Ridnour, Schneider, Sido, Song, Stephen, Stravers, Swanson, Thu, Tollerud, Valle, Wade, Wickman, Zahay

I. CALL TO ORDER

P. Stoddard welcomed everyone back from Thanksgiving.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Snow moved; Baker seconded. The agenda was approved as written.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 31, 2007 FS MEETING
(Pages 3-4)

Michael moved; Jeff seconded. The minutes were approved.

IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Janet Rintala and Bobbie Cesarek will discuss NCAA Compliance Issues.

J. Rintala and B. Cesarek gave a presentation about NCAA compliance issues. They gave several examples of what is and is not permissible with regards to student athletes. The basic premise is that student athletes can in no way receive special treatment. Any consideration, kindness, extraordinary arrangements offered to student athletes must also be available to all other students. When in doubt, contact the compliance office. Err on the side of doubt.

V. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION

VI. CONSENT AGENDA
VII. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

A. FAC to IBHE – Earl Hansen – no report

B. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Joseph “Buck” Stephen and Ferald Bryan – no report

C. BOT Finance, Facilities, and Operations Committee – Paul Stoddard and Nancy Castle – report – walk-in

N. Castle reported on the Finance and Facilities meeting of the Board of Trustees. The FFOC recommended continuing the energy conservation program and the student-negotiated contract for bus services for next year, which included new provisions for environmentally-friendly and disability-accessible service.

In response to a Title IX violation we’re being required to provide a NCAA-regulation track for the women’s’ team, thus the Board of Trustees was asked by this committee to approve a budget of $3.2 million to seek bids, execute the work and they have this track laid out on west campus, west of the stadium. The last action item was to give DeKalb township permanent easement to be able to bring Bethany Road all the way around to loop DeKalb down to Route 38.

D. BOT Legislation, Audit and External Affairs Committee – Jay Monteiro and Bobbie Cesarek – report (Pages 5-6)

B. Cesarek related that Ken Zehnder reported on both the 95th General Assembly and the Congressional Report. A bill worth watching is the Higher Education Reauthorization Budget Reconciliation Law. Also mentioned was the peer-to-peer file sharing, and that Congress was going to require the twenty-five higher education institutions that have received the highest numbers of infringements to notify the Secretary of Education about their policies regarding implementing technology to deter such things from happening. Deb Pierce made a presentation regarding third-party student loans and the Study Abroad Program. Steve Cunningham reported on the audit findings.

P. Stoddard relayed information from Wally Czerniak at ITS to wit., that something like 90 or 95% of all illegal file sharing is going through conduits like Verizon and ComCast and universities are really a very small percentage of the problem.

E. BOT – Paul Stoddard – no report

VIII. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

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

B. Economic Status of the Profession – Cason Snow, Chair – report
C. Snow reported on the committee’s assessed graduate assistant stipends. Based on a comparison among Eastern, Northern and Western Illinois Universities, NIU is competitive as far as GA stipends, and our fees are competitive with the exception of health insurance ($350.00/semester compared to about $100.00/semester).

L. Sons suggested that a broader survey might be worth undertaking.

In response to a question as to how much control the University has over stipend levels, S. Willis responded that the university establishes a minimum stipend. There’s also supposed to be a maximum that’s twice the minimum but that is not necessarily strictly enforced.

C. Resource, Space and Budget – C. T. Lin, Chair – report (Page 7)

C. T. Lin reported that on October 24, Executive Vice President Dr. Eddie Williams gave the committee an update on resources, space and budget. Tuition has increased in the last 20 years from 30-33% of the budget to nearly 54% of the budget. At the same time, the state support to NIU has gone down from 45-46% to 26-28%. Flooding concerns about Kishwaukee Hall in the School of Art has lead to the consideration of its demolition.

B. Jaffee pointed out that even though Kishwaukee Hall flooded in August, there was no structural damage, and that any degradation of the building is from benign neglect.

B. Cesarek asked about the scheduling of the move of the Physical Therapy and Tri-County Clinic and Speech and Hearing Clinic. N. Castle responded that they’re shooting for a March move-in but that is not a firm date.

D. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities – Alan Rosenbaum, Chair – no report

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

F. Elections and Legislative Oversight – Earl Hansen, Chair – no report

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

X. NEW BUSINESS

P. Stoddard asked the Senate to start thinking about a possible recommendation to the UCPC regarding upcoming salary increments.

C. Garcia, P. Stoddard, B. Jaffee, and B. Cesarek engaged in a brief discussion of how this year’s 45 (average) increment was apportioned, and the differences in that apportionment between SPS, OS, and faculty.

XI. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR
There were no comments or questions from the floor.

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:12 P.M.