

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
Wednesday, January 21, 2015, 3 p.m.
Holmes Student Center Sky Room

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Arado, Arriola, Baker, Bateni, Brubaker, Cefaratti, Conderman, Demir, Fredericks, Henning, Hunt, Irwin, Jaffee, Khoury, Koren, Lenczewski, Macdonald, Mackie, Manning, Markowitz, Martin, McHone-Chase, Millis, Montana, Moremen, Naples, Novak, Pitney, Ryan, Ryu, Schwartz-Bechet, Shin, Siegesmund, Sirotkin, Slotsve, Than, Un, Xie

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Abdel-Motaleb, Allori, Azad, Briscoe, Bujarski, Campbell, Chakraborty, Chen, Chmaissem, Deng, Feurer, Giese, Hathaway, Hedin, Konen, Lee, Long, Mogren, Mohabbat, Long, Mogren, Mohabbat, Moraga, Patro, Plonczynski, Riley, Rush, Sagarin, Stephen, Stoddard, Tonks

OTHERS PRESENT: Armstrong, Block, Bryan, Freeman, Hardy (for Haliczzer), Klaper, Smith (for Monteiro), Streb

OTHERS ABSENT: Doederlein, Falkoff, Gebo, Haliczzer, Monteiro, Shortridge, Stafstrom, Waas

I. CALL TO ORDER

W. Pitney called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Agenda was adopted with one change – item IV. B. would be moved to approximately 4 p.m. when Dr. Freeman can arrive.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 19, 2014 FS MEETING

R. Siegesmund moved to approve the minutes; seconded from the floor. Minutes were approved with no revisions.

IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

W. Pitney requested a moment of silence to honor the death of Dr. Donna Munroe.

A. NIU Smoke Free Campus Task Force [draft policy](#) – Dean Derryl Block – Page 4

D. Block provided an update on the NIU Smoke Free Campus policy and entertained questions from the floor.

B. [Budget Overview and Program Prioritization](#) – Provost Lisa Freeman

[Postponed until 4 p.m.]. Dr. Freeman provided a program prioritization presentation that summarized the steps taken on this initiative to date as well as the future steps. Key points included:

- Programs included both academic and administrative functions.
- Fall 2014 was a period of initial exploration of the process.
- Spring 2015: a) the criteria will be established based on input from faculty and staff, b) nominations will be solicited for two task forces that will be looking at doing the actual prioritization of administrative and academic programs, and c) data will be identified and provided to programs to conduct initial analyses.
- Fall 2015 data analysis will be continued and each program will compile a report.
- Spring 2016: The task forces to complete their prioritization of programs, dividing them into quintiles or five groups, and then there will be some type of resource allocation exercise by the senior leadership based on the program prioritization that will impact the budget for the first time in 2017.
- Continuous and ongoing communication to the university community will be conducted throughout the process.

Guiding principles for the process include:

- There are no sacred cows—meaning no program will be exempt from the process.
- Tenure will be honored.
- Contracts will be honored .
- Programs that may be restructured or diminished in a way that require personnel to change their suite of responsibilities or portfolio of expectations will be supported, and we will make every effort to retain valued personnel at NIU.

The framework for prioritization process will borrow from the work of Dickeson, but NIU will modify the criteria and process as necessary to fit our profile. The coordinating team was introduced and explained. It was emphasized that the framework is a starting point for the process. The process will be guided by the coordinating team. One of the first initiatives is to identify the criteria, and that will be unfolded to the university community for participation in the very near future.

Questions from faculty related to: 1) the difference between program prioritization and program review, 2) status of free community college education and its impact on 4-year institutions, 3) whether NIU would do prioritization on a regular basis, 4) faculty hiring, and 5) NIU's competition for money with other schools. Provost Freeman provided some thoughts on the current state of funding in the State and what that means for NIU.

- C. Open Access to Research Articles Act (OARAA) Task Force – Gleb Sirotkin – [report](#) – Pages 5-6

W. Pitney explained that the task force worked to get some language together for a policy, and our Academic Affairs Committee, under the leadership of Sarah McHone-Chase, developed a resolution from the Faculty Senate and a policy that passed through the University Council. This policy is now actually in our APPM.

- D. Proposed curricular committee revisions – Bill Pitney

W. Pitney provided senators with an update regarding two curricular committee proposals that are being reviewed at University Council. The first is a consolidation of the Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Environment and the Committee for the Improvement of Undergraduate Education. The second proposal consolidates the Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum and the Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee.

Other Announcements

Our next Faculty Club lunch is scheduled for February 4 in the Chandelier Room. I believe the menu is soup and salad. Reservations are due to Pat Erickson by January 26.

Nominations for the Executive Secretary for the University Council and Faculty Senate President will be taken at our next Faculty Senate meeting.

V. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION

- A. The Bob Lane Faculty Advocacy [Award](#) – call for nominations – Page 7
Written letters of nomination should be submitted to Faculty Senate President William Pitney no later than noon Monday, February 9, 2015.

W. Pitney announced that nominations for the Bob Lane Faculty Advocacy Award will be accepted by February 9.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

VII. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

- A. FAC to IBHE – Sonya Armstrong – report
[November 21, 2014](#) – Page 8
[December 12, 2014](#) – Pages 9-10
[January 16, 2015](#) – walk-in

S. Armstrong highlighted some staffing changes at the IBHE.

- B. University Benefits Committee – Brian Mackie, Faculty Senate liaison to UBC – [report](#) – Page 11

G. Slotsve highlighted that the University Benefits Committee is examining expanded bus service or better transportation between the Elburn train station and NIU. Also, the committee is looking into whether or not you can purchase parking passes at Elburn so that you could leave your car there five days a week but rather than having to pay the \$1.25 or \$1.50 every day, that you could get a monthly pass or something similar and maybe leave your car there.

- C. Computing Facilities Advisory Committee – George Slotsve – no report

- D. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Dan Gebo and William Pitney – no report

- E. BOT Finance, Facilities, and Operations Committee – Jay Monteiro and Rebecca Shortridge – no report

- F. BOT Legislative Affairs, Research and Innovation Committee – Deborah Haliczzer and Dan Gebo – no report

- G. BOT Compliance, Audit, Risk Management and Legal Affairs Committee – Deborah Haliczzer and Greg Waas – no report

- H. BOT Enrollment Ad Hoc Committee – William Pitney – report
[November 14, 2014](#) – Page 12

W. Pitney explained that the November 14 meeting was essentially an information gathering session for the Board of Trustees to learn about what steps NIU is taking to improve our enrollment.

- I. BOT Governance Ad Hoc Committee – William Pitney – report
[November 17, 2014](#) – Page 13

W. Pitney explained that the Board of Trustees prioritized some of their policies that they would like to update and change. Many of the policies for our Board of Trustees have been in existence since we moved from a Board of Regents to a Board of Trustees back in '96.

- J. BOT – William Pitney and Greg Waas – [report](#) – Paged 14-15

W. Pitney summarized that the Board of Trustees approved the cost of attendance put forth by the administration. They also approved the changes to the graduate and law school tuition. The key pieces here are that they have consolidated the tuition and fees to make it easier for our students to understand the cost of attendance and will also help some students get reimbursed for some of their courses that they might take if an employer is willing to pay for courses for him or her. The BOT also approved hiring Lipman Hearne, a Chicago-based marketing company, to cover the enrollment management process at NIU for the next several months.

VIII. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

- A. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities – Richard Siegesmund, Chair – no report
- B. Academic Affairs – Sarah McHone-Chase, Chair – no report
- C. Economic Status of the Profession – George Slotsve, Chair – no report
- D. Rules and Governance – Gary Baker, Chair – no report
- E. Resources, Space and Budget – Stephen Tonks, Liaison/Spokesperson – [report](#) – Pages 16-24

W. Pitney shared the Resources, Space, and Budget report. On the very first page is a summative overview from fiscal year 2013 to currently and then projecting to 2017 in terms of the salaries for upper administration. The sum and substance of this is that with the projections, after termination, appointment completion, etc., we're looking at about a \$300,000 reduction in those salaries. The rest of the report are each of the questions that the Resource, Space, and Budget Committee forwarded from Faculty Senate that we got answers to from our administration.

- F. Elections and Legislative Oversight – Stephen Tonks, Chair
 - 1. Selection of a committee for the evaluation of the President of Faculty Senate and Executive Secretary of University Council – see Faculty Senate Bylaws, [Article 7](#) and NIU Bylaws, [Article 14.6.3.10](#) – Pages 25-26

T. Arado led the Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee selection of the Committee for the Evaluation of the President of Faculty Senate and Executive Secretary of the University Council: Donna Plonczynski, Gary Chen, Jana Brubaker (alternate), Abul Azad, Kheang Un, Fred Markowitz (alt), Alyssa Freeman (student member), Ben Donovan (alt), and Deborah Haliczzer, Assistant Vice President of Employee Relations.

- 2. Selection of a committee for the evaluation of the Faculty and SPS Personnel Advisor – see Faculty Senate Bylaws, [Article 7](#) and NIU Bylaws, [Article 14.6.3.10](#) – Pages 27-28

T. Arado also led the Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee selection of the Committee to Evaluate the Faculty and SPS Personnel Advisor, Paul Stoddard: Rosemary Feurer, Brian Mackie, Barbara Schwartz-Bechet, Cynthia Campbell (alt), and Cathy Doederlein.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

XI. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

- A. Faculty Senate's role in the curricular process

W. Pitney initiated a discussion about whether the Faculty Senate should have an expanded role in the curricular process. **B. Jaffee** asked for clarification on the current process. The process was explained and a request was made that faculty senators weigh and consider this issue for future discussions. This discussion was stopped at 4 p.m. so that Provost Freeman could present.

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. [Minutes](#), Academic Planning Council
- B. [Minutes](#), Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee
- C. [Minutes](#), Athletic Board
- D. [Minutes](#), Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee
- E. [Minutes](#), Committee on Advanced Professional Certification in Education
- F. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education
- G. [Minutes](#), Committee on Initial Teacher Certification
- H. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Experience
- I. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum
- J. [Minutes](#), General Education Committee
- K. [Minutes](#), Honors Committee
- L. [Minutes](#), Operating Staff Council
- M. [Minutes](#), Supportive Professional Staff Council
- N. [Minutes](#), Undergraduate Coordinating Council
- O. [Minutes](#), University Assessment Panel
- P. [Minutes](#), University Benefits Committee

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.