

Spring 2-4-2009

Senate Meeting, February 4, 2009

Academic Senate
Illinois State University

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Academic Senate Minutes
Wednesday, February 4, 2009
(Approved)

Call to Order

Academic Senate Chairperson Dan Holland called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Student Body President Ted Mason called the roll and declared a quorum.

Approval of Minutes of December 10, 2008

Motion XXXX-: By Senator Wortham, seconded by Senator Stewart to approve the Academic Senate Minutes of December 10, 2008. The minutes were unanimously approved.

“Gladly We Give”: Faculty/Staff/Retirees Annual Fund Presentation (Kim Pereira and Debbie Lamb, Campaign Ambassadors)

Debbie Lamb, Gladly We Give Campaign Ambassador/Office of Admissions: We are very proud to be a part of the Gladly We Give Campaign. Gladly We Give is a fundraising campaign aimed at faculty, staff and retirees. Thank you to all who have given to the university and Gladly We Give is an introduction to those who are thinking about giving back. The mission of Gladly We Give is, certainly, to raise money for the university, but also to encourage all faculty and staff members to find out what your passions are. I know that many of us in this room think of Illinois State as an extended family. For me, that rings very true. It’s just so rewarding being a part of this university. My passion, coming from the Office of Admissions, is really about recruitment and scholarships. When we go out to recruitment events, it’s so nice that we don’t really have to sell this institution. It is what people like you do on a daily basis that make it such a wonderful place for people to be. Finally, one of the other things I think about is the relationships I have built here at the university. It is a continuing opportunity to learn—to interact with faculty and staff in different areas of the university. To have those types of professional development opportunities is just one reason that I want to say thank you and give back to the university.

Dr. Kim Pereira, Gladly We Give Campaign Ambassador/Director of Honors Program: When I came here 18 years ago as a faculty member in the School of Theatre, it was a rather different university at that time. I don’t mean that in a negative way; it was a university at that time in search of an identity. Those of us who have been here for some time will notice, through the leadership of the administration, the faculty and the quality of students, this university has positioned itself beautifully in terms of competing for students, both within the state and outside of it.

I have spent the last three weeks now reading applications for the Presidential Scholarships Program. This year, the applications were up about 120, so we had about 350 applications for about 30 seats. What is interesting about the applications was the quality of them. I rejected a student with a 33 ACT and a 4.0 GPA, not just from the Presidential Scholars pool, but from the Honors Program, so you can tell from that how high the quality of the other applications was. It is not just about grades and GPAs. We take a more holistic view of it and look at their writing abilities and their abilities to succeed in the program. The quality of their writing, the kinds of service they are involved in, the mature reflections of the activities they have participated in throughout their high school years is really astounding. So that is something that this university has created that is really attractive.

Though the Gladly We Give Campaign is a fundraiser, it is more than that; it is an opportunity. It is an opportunity to become more vested in the kind of university you want this to be over the next few years. It is an opportunity to be a part of a community in more tangible ways. I have heard over the years that we should run universities like corporations. When you look at corporations today, I am sort of glad that we are not run like them. So I think it is important to decide for yourselves what kind of community you want this to be.

People in corporations often invest in stocks because they want to make more money out of profits of their company. We see profits differently. For us, profits are not just about money. Profits mean providing a more full education for our students. It means having the opportunity to bring speakers, for example, to colleges and departments. It means having the opportunity to take our students to conferences, to take our students on field trips. It means the opportunity to do simple things like having social gatherings so that we can bring back a lost art, the art of conversation among colleagues. It's an opportunity to create the kind of university that you imagined. These things take money so this is where your dollars can help.

Ms. Lamb: Kim and I certainly don't claim to be fundraisers by trade, but one of the things that I learned when we went through this process in general is that when the university is entertaining a large individual donor or corporation, one of the first things that the administration is asked is how many of your current employees give back to this institution. The number of us that currently give back is about 22%. That was a little overwhelming for me when I think about the things that I am passionate about at this institution and what it has done for me, as an individual, so kind of think about your passions when you think about giving to this institution.

Dr. Pereira: I know that we have been talking about what you are passionate about. What would happen if I suggested to you that you give money to a department with which you have no contact at all? I am not suggesting you do that, but I am asking the question. Why is that such a radical idea? After all, they are all our students and we need to have a more holistic view of this university. As we think about the way in which our country and the world is moving, we are starting to realize that we need to pay more attention to everything as a whole, not just our own fiefdoms, not just our own corners of the turf. We need to start broadening our horizons and realizing that the frayed edges of our universe are as important as the center. So, what I am asking you to do is ask yourself that question. By asking that question, what would happen if I give to another department, it might lead to other questions, such as, what are they teaching there? How can I design a course to intersect with what they are teaching? Then we have started ourselves on the road to creating the kind of liberal arts educational institution that we claim to be. Therefore, this campaign can and should be more than just a fund-raising campaign. It should be an opportunity to invest in the kind of integrative cooperative that we should be.

IBHE-FAC Report (Professor Lane Crothers)

Professor Lane Crothers, Illinois Board of Higher Education Faculty Advisory Council

Representative: The Faculty Advisory Council has met twice since I was last here in the Senate. We met once in Springfield with the IBHE Director and once in Olney, Illinois. Some of this is fairly dated, so I won't go into it, as I know that you will get more recent updates on some of this information. I just want to point out a few highlights.

When you think things are about to fall apart and when you discover what's going on elsewhere, you feel better about being here. Some of you may be aware of a situation emerging at the College of DuPage. It turns out that the Board of Trustees there decided that they are going to review 230 policies, including the Academic Bill of Rights, curriculum approval and the right to engage in individual salary review for all of their faculty. That suggests that the Board of Trustees does not fully understand what a Board of Trustees is

supposed to do, and that is to hire and fire presidents. Boards of Trustees have one employee and that is the president.

We all know that the budget situation is pretty bad; most of the numbers that I received in December were based on October numbers, which predates the October-November meltdown, so, as a consequence, it can only be, I would imagine, worse. More broadly, I have a lingering suspicion that the group that I am on is effectively useless. The IBHE in the state, at one point in time, was a reasonably influential group. It has not been for a number of years. Its staffing levels continue to go down; its effectiveness has decreased.

The IBHE has now hired a new Deputy Director for Academic Affairs. That person has typically come to our meetings to talk about issues and coordinate with the IBHE. They are now suggesting that they are not even going to send anybody to our meetings, this after deciding that they would not host our website because it would cost too much. Moreover, given that we have been through a governor, a new governor and all the rest, it is very difficult to assess what real impact is going to occur in this process anytime soon. I did get a report from the person who was at the December Board meeting, which occurred on the date on which the Governor was arrested, so you had this remarkable situation where peoples' iPhones and BlackBerries went going off throughout the meeting, and everyone was trying to find out what was going on.

At Olney, I think it is fair to say that a number of other universities, certainly the U of I, are beginning to ring a bell of true crisis, up to and including things like mandatory furloughs. I don't think that that is the position at ISU, but I am not really in a position to assess that. Additionally, I see that ISU had a couple of issues on the last IBHE agenda for approval. The Board has been kind of flaky in the sense that it will fight about things that nobody cares about and it will ignore things that are actually quite essential. I think that the Senate ought to be at least curious about how those kinds of issues were handled. I don't have answers to these questions, but I hope that the Senate will ask questions of the people who might.

There were some reports about potential things that may come out of budget stimuli packages, but those packages are in the process of changing even as we speak. So, I guess the final thing I have to report is that we are going to try to get the new Senate President, John Cullerton, to come to our next meeting. Normally, we would not try, but the meeting is at Northwestern and we have some push and some shove there, so we are hoping to bring him in. We are developing a slide show power point presentation of just kind of the quick highlights of all of the obvious things: declining state support, increasing tuition, but also some of the other things that are quite remarkable.

When you look at this data within my report, you find, for example, people who have college educations smoke and use things like public services at radically lower rates. So you can make a pretty good argument that investing in education is actually cheaper than cutting funding for education. We will see whether or not Senator Cullerton will attend and report back to you.

I know this sounds kind of vague, but since December, the entire universe has turned upside down. So I don't have any sweeping conclusions to make because I don't have a really good feel about what's going on at the state level and I am not sure that anyone else does.

President Bowman: Did you get the sense that the budget crisis is affecting institutions differently across the state?

Prof. Crothers: I don't think that there is any question of that. One of the things that is very striking, and this was true when I was Chair of the CIUS, like Senator Holland is, and now on FAC, is how bad most of the

institutions are at communicating with their faculty and staff. The administration seems to just to do what ever it wants and then expects people to accept it. I can't assess that question as clearly as I wish I could, because people literally don't know what's going on. For whatever reason, those institutions have not developed the relative sharing patterns that we have. There is no question that at places like Southern and Western, they are vastly more nervous than we, at least I think, are, but it is so striking how bad a job lots of leaders of other institutions are doing to explain what is going on and to help us to collectively understand it.

Senator Borg: In your written report, you talked about your experience at Olney, but also about the community college there and the proportion of "real faculty" to "unreal" faculty and the semester-hour fee there. You talked about the potential ramifications. Do you want to elaborate more on that?

Prof. Crothers: The cost of credit hours at Olney Central College, which is part of a four-community-college network, is \$60 an hour. It is the cheapest per-credit-hour in the State of Illinois. Olney Central College has 31 full-time faculty and 249 part-time faculty. Frontier Community College, which is part of the same network, has seven full-time faculty and 500 part-time faculty. It's not hard to figure that one out in terms of how a lot of institutions are pressured to control costs. If you believe that full-time, fully-accredited faculty are likely to do a better job, then that is a nightmare scenario. If you believe that generating credit hours as fast as possible and as cheap as possible, then that may be very desirable.

One other thing that they pointed out at Olney was that 20-22% of their credit hours are generated by people 17 and younger through these things called dual-credit courses where students get college credit in high schools. Many times, those courses are taught by high school teachers and it is not at all clear that students are being taught community college curricula, which they should be. That is causing some significant problems. The U of I, in many cases, won't accept dual-credit courses.

Senator Borg: In that discussion, was there any mention at all about quality?

Prof. Crothers: Of course, but, essentially, you are asking a group of faculty to look another group of faculty and ask if they are bad teachers. It doesn't happen. In their due credit, the faculty, who are representing those colleges, are clearly upset by this, but their administrators are facing pressures, which they have chosen to handle by hiring 500 part-time faculty. I can't even imagine an institution with seven full-time faculty.

Senator Abdalla: Are there students involved in the IBHE?

Prof. Crothers: I am on the Faculty Advisory Council and there is a Student Advisory Committee, which, hypothetically, you have a representative on from the Student Government Association at Illinois State University. I am getting a nod from Senator Mason. The coordination between these two groups has not been good, historically, which has been a little frustrating. Student committees have focused on textbook costs, which is understandable. It turns out that at many colleges the cost of textbooks exceeds the cost of tuition. We endorsed some recommendations about trying to go to open-source textbooks and electronic textbooks where appropriate, etc. It is worth pointing out that the Student Advisory Committee never talked to FAC about it before pushing those issues, so some coordination would be very much appreciated. I should point out that there are two student representatives actually on the Illinois Board of Higher Educations, just like a student representative serves on the Board of Trustees at Illinois State. None of boards, however, have faculty representatives.

Senator Holland: Is there any significance in the fact that the IBHE-FAC will meet at a private school next time?

Prof. Crothers: No, we rotate meeting locations. This Faculty Advisory Council is made up of private institutions, a selection of community colleges and the 12 public institutions in the state. The question of who represents institutions, for me as a political scientist, is fascinating. UIC's representative has been retired for 15 years. The U of I's representative was, until this November, a retired person. He's a wonderful guy, but he was a retired individual; he is now a full-time faculty member. The representative from Northwestern, where the next meeting will be held, is the Assistant to the President.

Senator Borg: On the Faculty Advisory Council?

Prof. Crothers: Yes, he has a faculty appointment in Religious Studies, but he is actually the full-time assistant to the president.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Holland: Going back to the Gladly We Give Campaign, I would highly encourage everyone to contribute, even in a limited way, because the percentage of faculty contributing is a huge issue. If our fundraisers can go out and say that 80% of the faculty support the institution, that would make a very big difference.

Student Body President's Remarks

Senator Mason: We have finally approved our Student Elections Code; it was approved by Student Government at our meeting last week. The Association of Residence Halls and the Black Student Union approved it earlier this week. The Student Elections Committee has started to meet, so you will be hearing about next year's association soon. We participated in Winterfest today in the Brown Ballroom. We met with a lot of constituents. We talked to them and handed out our surveys; that was really useful for us. We have purchased a table at the BSU Heritage Ball, which is this Saturday night, so we will be attending that. We also have our first Pack the Place event coming up Saturday afternoon for the women's basketball game against Indiana State, so please tell your students that they can come out and get a free ticket if they don't have Red Alert.

Administrators' Remarks

President Al Bowman

President Bowman: Dr. Bragg will have comments about the budget and the economy, but I will just briefly mention that, as you may have heard, unemployment in Illinois moved up to 7.6% in December. That is the highest level since 1993. There are over 500,000 people in Illinois who are unemployed. It is the first time since 1992 that the number of unemployed in Illinois has exceeded 500,000. Governor Quinn met with the four legislative leaders in Springfield today and they pledged to work together and cooperate. The tone is much better than it was with our former governor. There was a new report released today that suggests that next year's budget deficit could reach \$9 billion. That is certainly discouraging news.

It is interesting how other states are dealing with funding problems in higher ed. On the one extreme, you have Arizona where the governor has announced a \$141 million cut for higher ed. We were just in Phoenix last week for a fundraising event with some alumni. The University of Arizona announced that it would be cutting \$57 million from its budget and would eliminate 3 of its 16 colleges. On the other hand, the Governor of Missouri announced that he would try to provide the same level of funding this year as they did last year for higher ed. Maryland's governor has pledged not to cut higher ed despite a \$2 billion deficit in state revenue.

There is good news on our campus; it's not all gloom and doom. Our spring enrollment is very strong; it is up almost 300 students over what it was a year ago. The fall 2009 applicant pool is also very strong and Kim Pereira talked a little about the quality of the applicants for our Presidential Scholars Program. Across the board, applications are very strong. We are encouraged by all of the talk in Springfield about a capital bill and we will see how it gets paid for, but there is an awful lot of interest in putting people back to work. Of course, if that happens, we are optimistic that our Fine Arts project would be funded.

A lot of fundraising activity is underway right now. It may be surprising that we would entertain that activity now, but it is very important that we lay the groundwork for future giving. We have been doing some smaller events that target higher capacity donors. Those have been going very well. We have an event tomorrow at Caterpillar headquarters. We had a College of Business dinner at my home last night. I met with a managing partner of one of the biggest law firms in St. Louis at noon today.

People are still very interesting in making plans for future giving. Right now, a lot of plans involve estate gifts, but so far, our giving from July 1 until now is not as bad as you would expect, given what the economy is. With the Missouri Valley Basketball Tournament starting in St. Louis in about five weeks, we will have another good opportunity to get our message out to alumni and other supporters, so we are looking forward to both the men's and women's tournaments.

We also have had some success in encouraging donors to add to the expendable portion of their endowments. We don't want to spend endowment money that is down in the market right now and a number of our donors have been willing to step forward to make it possible for us to continue to release funds next year. So, it's a mixed bag. It's certainly not all bad news, but we are very concerned about where the economy is going and when things will turn around. We don't know what is facing us. We have not been given a number by Springfield in terms of cuts for this year or next year. I think it is going to take awhile for Governor Quinn to sort through exactly what's there and what will have to be done to close out this fiscal year and what can be done to generate revenue for next year.

Senator Klitzing: I lived in Champaign, so I read the newspapers over there. I have read a lot about what Lane's report referenced, such as the University of Illinois and President White's statements. In many ways, it feels like I am in two different lands. When I am in Champaign, I hear about the cuts, but I am not hearing so much about cuts here. Am I, indeed, in two different lands? What is the difference in positioning of the two universities?

President Bowman: It is surprising. You might not expect such announcements from an institution with the kind of resource base that University of Illinois has, particularly the greater diversity in revenue streams, not only because of their larger fundraising apparatus, but also their grant and contract activity. Our situations are quite different. They have spent their money in different places. We have been very conservative. They have some utility issues that we don't have and that may be the biggest difference between where they are and where we are. Their utility problem is enormous; it's millions of dollars. There is a long story about how it happened, but their president has been sounding the alarm in a way that is not appropriate for our campus.

In our budget right now, we have \$2 million set aside from the holdback this past fall. A number of the expenditures that we have engaged in over the last couple of years have been one-time items, so that money rolls back into the budget the following year. We have just been cautious and have been able to do some things that they haven't done, such as midyear raises, so there is a slight difference in the management of funds. Steve Bragg has done a marvelous job of keeping us on a steady path despite the unknowns with state

funding.

· **Provost Sheri Everts**

Provost Everts: I would also mention in regards to the Gladly We Give Campaign that the website is up and running and has a lot of very valuable information there, including the campus and college priorities. Since last I spoke with you, we have made several dean announcements. Scott Johnson accepted the position of the Dean of the College of Business. You will recall that Dr. Johnson is currently Dean of Business at Minnesota State University. I would like to thank the campus, as well as the search committee, for their hard work on behalf of Illinois State. I know that all of you will join me in wishing Dean Olson all the best as the next Provost of Idaho State University and in supporting the Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Jim Payne. Finally, the search committee for the Dean of the College of Nursing is receiving applications and will be meeting later this month to review those applications.

Senator Klitzing: I was not at the last meeting when we talked about midyear raises, although certainly I have been seeing things about it in the media. Could you tell me the number of full professors on this campus and then the number of associates?

Provost Everts: In terms of faculty receiving midyear salary increases?

Senator Klitzing: That or just a total number.

Provost Everts: Midyear salary increases were given to 461 faculty members during the January pay period.

Senator Klitzing: I am curious about how many full professors there are on campus and how many associates.

Senator Holland: As a general rule, for these kinds of questions, we would prefer 24 hours notice. You can find just about any statistic you want in the Fact Book.

Senator Kalter: The Vice President for Finance and Planning has a Fact Book on their website that has all that information in it.

· **Vice President of Student Affairs Steve Adams**

Vice President Adams: I would like to make mention of some events that have taken place over the last couple of weeks. The ISU NAACP Chapter worked with the President's Office to host the Danny Glover/Felix Justice event on January 23rd. That event drew some 700 people in the ballroom; it was an outstanding event. I call your attention to that because Student Affairs sponsored a post event. It was organized in order to create a dialogue about civil rights and about civic engagement. It was attended by 30 students, perhaps some of you in this room, and 30 alums and some 20 facilitators. So if you were there at the Danny Glover event, you will know that that event ended at 9:00 p.m. I was still there at 11:15 p.m. and they were still going strong. It was a tremendously successful event that created a dialogue in this very room, along with entertainment by our students. I think that is a testament to the fact that our students want to be engaged in these types of events. They want to be a part of it and they want to have their opinions heard. The same thing applies to the alums that were here, who we were so proud to be able to host.

Just this past Monday night, we kicked off Black History Month with a performance by Roland Martin, who spoke on "Living Black History: President Barack Obama and the History of the Race". Roland Martin is a

nationally syndicated columnist, has a radio show in Chicago and also is a frequent contributor on CNN. He gave a tremendous performance. He related so well to every faction of people in the audience, which was mostly made up of students. It was a diverse group, retirees, faculty, staff and students, totaling about 450. That event was tremendously successfully and was sponsored by the Watterson Unity, Campus Dining Services, University Housing Services, Watterson Area Government, Association of Residence Halls, Dean of Students Diversity Initiative, and the Student Government Association.

Next, I want to mention Redbirds Basketball. On Saturday afternoon, there was a sellout crowd for the ISU-Bradley men's game. The student body turned out in force for that game. The Redbirds won 69 to 65, but the tremendous support this year that is being shown for both the men's and women's teams by our students, both with Red Alert and other student organizations, deserves a tremendous amount of credit. I can't say enough about what went into organizing the spirit that comes out of this institution. For all of the years that I have been here, this is one of the games that will go down in history as having one of the best student crowds ever.

The Career Center is part of Student Affairs. It develops partnerships with businesses and school districts. It provides sessions on interviewing, etiquette, resume building and also coordinates on-campus programs to provide opportunities to meet with businesses, corporations and school districts. We have four events scheduled this spring, events that usually draw about 150 participants. Those numbers have dropped significantly, which means that the companies and school districts have yet to show interest in coming to campus and hiring our students, which a sign of the state of the economy. Another sign that times are bad is that we have learned that all of our job and internship offers to Illinois State University from Caterpillar have been rescinded. We had somewhere in the neighborhood of 14 students who had been hired, but Caterpillar has now notified those students that their jobs will not be available. The Career Center is doing all it can to draw businesses and hopefully we can get some answers about the situation at Caterpillar when we are at their corporate headquarters tomorrow.

Senator Glascock: Last time you mentioned that there might be some sort of an investigation about an eight-day delay in reporting a crime on campus between the Normal Police and the ISU Police.

Vice President Adams: If I am not mistaken, ISU Police Chief Swan will be at the next Senate meeting to report.

Senator Holland: Yes, he will be at the next Senate meeting.

· ***Vice President of Finance and Planning Steve Bragg***

Vice President Bragg: I would like to follow up on the comment about higher education statistics. One statistic I found was just startling. During the last recession, the dot com post-2000 recession that we thought was pretty deep at the time, about 37% of the parents that were surveyed thought that a college education was absolutely essential for their children to lead a better life. In the results that were just quoted last week, the percentage was 51%, a 14% increase in less than eight years in the population who now considers a college education to be absolutely essential. If there is a silver lining in any of this, it is that our product is valued by society and I think that we are going to continue to see high demand for enrollment at Illinois State University. Coupled with the correct market niche that we have identified and the high quality of product that we offer, that is going to sustain us through these economic times.

President Bowman did a good job in characterizing the uncertainty of the economy and the uncertainty of

information. I really don't have much more specific information to add to that. I had the figure of somewhere between six and nine billion dollars as a potential shortfall. That is much larger than the last recession, so I don't want to sugarcoat it. It will be a big shortfall in the budget. It will be ameliorated somewhat if the stimulus package is passed by the federal government. We can expect somewhere in the neighborhood of \$2 billion from the stimulus package. What proportion of that would go to higher education and within higher education, what proportion would come to Illinois State University, as the President said, is still unknown. We will learn more as the semester moves along.

The good news is that we have been doing a lot of preparation. The President has been leading his cabinet in conversations about what we need to do to get ready. We have talked about principles that we can adopt; we have talked about strategies that we can use. We have already agreed, for example, that we will have to take some budget cuts as the shortfall comes along, but we will also use some new revenues to help ameliorate the cuts. We have also agreed that, unlike previous recessions, the entire university will help shoulder the burden, so we will spread some of these cuts across all fund sources.

Also, like the last recession, we have reestablished the highest priority as protecting the instruction function as best as we can. It is our core function, especially undergraduate education, and we will do everything we can to exempt it from any of the budget cuts. At the same time, we will work very hard to keep tuition and fee increases as reasonable as possible to protect affordability. The President has reiterated several times that faculty and staff compensation will remain our highest priorities. So those are the guidelines that we are working under as each of the vice presidents look at our divisions and look at what might be possible. As we learn more numbers, we will certainly share that here in the Academic Senate.

The work continues on the student fitness, kinesiology and recreation center. It is amazing to me that they continue to work in this cold weather. A few years ago, that would not have been possible, but with modern technology, they can continue working. We have pilings in already for that structure. Work continues in Manchester. If you have not been over to what was formerly the Vrooman Dining Center to see the renovations, you should really do that. I think that we are having a formal dedication of the Julia Visor Academic Center, in association with the Board of Trustees meeting, on February 20th at 2:00 p.m. That is a good opportunity to get over there. They have done a marvelous job in reconfiguring and redesigning that.

I know that there have been some conversations here about the ongoing work in Stevenson Hall, which has been a challenge for all of us. The Provost and I met with representatives in that building in December before Christmas. We followed up on all of the items that came up at that time and met again today with the department chairs to report on progress. We will be taking a recommendation to the Board of Trustees at the February meeting to augment the project budget so that we can work specifically on upgrading the plumbing and the window systems in that building, as well as in Turner, which is the next part of that project.

We will also be taking an item on the next stages of the new human resources and payroll system that we will be upgrading. We are recommending a three-year contract with an external consulting firm that has worked with major universities in implementing this People Soft software. They are very good; they will be a major asset to this project.

Senator Ellerton: With reference to Stevenson, do you have any update as to the progress with the heating systems?

Vice President Bragg: Yes, a lot of the heating problems are related to the fact that we are not heating the

first two floors as we are working on them and to the cold air that is coming up through the open stairwells. Beyond that, some of the fluctuations that we have experienced in the heating systems have to do with the reheating coils in the air ducts as air moves across them. Some of the heating problems are related to the plumbing system. The same problems that have created all of the plumbing leaks and the lack of hot water in that building are affecting those reheating coils and the ductwork. They are getting clogged with materials that are being shaken loose as that plumbing is being worked on. It effectively changes the whole temperature control system for the building. The contractors are now aware of the specific problem and, in fact, have started a separate initiative to clear out that system and replace those heating coils. We hope that that, plus all of the space heaters that we delivered in the last couple of weeks to the worst offices, will help to modify that situation.

Senator Ellerton: Thank you. The space heaters were gratefully received, but not everyone received them, so it is difficult to work in some offices.

Vice President Bragg: If you know of others, please let Ann Beck know, because as of this morning, she had the understanding that all 31 people that had requested them had received them.

Committee Reports:

· ***Academic Affairs Committee Chairperson***

Senator Stewart: The committee met this evening. We should have several things coming across the Exec Committee Agenda and then on to the Senate. We got an initiative from the Planning and Finance Committee about interim and self-funded courses for the summers. We will be passing that back to them with our approval. We saw no problem with that academically. We talked about a policy on ten-year limits on prerequisite courses. We will be sending that to Exec probably tomorrow. Our major problem with that was deciding where to locate it. It is an addition to an existing policy, the 2.1.9 Baccalaureate Degree Program Policy, rather than a new policy. We looked again at the policy on dress codes and we will be sending a slightly amended version on to Exec and then to the Senate for the next meeting. Then a policy on withdrawals will be introduced this evening as an Information Item.

Senator Holland: Speaking for the Planning and Finance Committee, we thought we were going to meet with you next time about the document we sent to you.

Senator Stewart: That would be fine.

· ***Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee Chairperson***

Senator Kalter: The committee met tonight with the Provost, Jan Murphy and Kay Moss to do some finishing up and following up on the report on the Academic Impact Fund. We hope to be sending a finalized version of that to Exec sometime in early March. Then we went into Executive Session to start working on the Presidential Commentary Report.

· ***Faculty Affairs Committee Chairperson***

Senator Borg: At our meeting this evening, we discussed the next steps we are going to recommend be taken with the apparent discrepancy in interpretation of the ASPT Document and the recruitment procedure manual for the university.

Senator Kalter: Something has come up in our searches this year that I was wondering if you could particularly look at. The HR guidelines ask us to check references for hires and that seems to not be a particular practice in tenure-track hiring around the country. In other words, we get letters of recommendations, but we have not often had the practice of calling those recommenders, at least as far as I know, so I was wondering if you could talk about that when you talk about the two policies.

Senator Borg: We can talk about it in the Executive Committee meeting on Monday.

· *Planning and Finance Committee Chairperson*

Senator Holland: We had a fabulous meeting with Deb Smitley from Institutional Research and Planning going over *Educating Illinois* and in particular how that affects our Institutional Goals and Priorities Report that we create each year.

· *Rules Committee Chairperson*

Senator Solberg: The committee this evening talked about a couple of issues, including some proposed bylaws changes for the Athletic Council, mostly related to membership. Dr. Jeri Beggs from the Marketing Department and Chairperson of the Athletic Council was kind enough to join us and take our questions today. We also talked about some proposed bylaws changes for the Library Committee and also had a short discussion about the makeup of the Executive Committee. We are going to go into more detail about each of those at our next meeting.

Information Items:

01.23.09.01 Withdrawal Policy – Withdrawal from Courses/Withdrawal from University (Academic Affairs Committee)

Senator Stewart: The policy recommends the elimination of the WP and the WF and just having a WX in the case of students who have a specific need to withdraw from the university. There could be several legitimate reasons for doing that. There may be psychological issues, health issues and financial issues, in which case these students are making the right decision to withdraw from the university. To give them a WF after 12 weeks would give them a zero on their GPA, making it impossible for them to return to the university. It puts a roadblock to the student's future and it also hurts the university because we will not get them back. The recommendation is that students, who, for legitimate reasons, need to withdraw from the university, not be penalized. In a nutshell, that is the idea behind this policy.

Senator Holland: Does this mean that they are going to get a WX or just a W?

Senator Stewart: A WX.

Senator Holland: And that is up until 12 weeks?

Senator Stewart: Yes, 12 weeks.

Senator Holland: Because right now it's at eight weeks I believe.

Senator Stewart: Right.

Senator Mallory: I hope that I am referring to the correct part, because it looks like there are two parts of the withdrawal policy, one for dropping a course and then another section for dropping all courses. Am I correct

about that?

Senator Stewart: That is correct.

Senator Mallory: In reference to the first part, in terms of dropping a single course, in the last paragraph, I am just wondering about the phrase ‘similar reasons’ for dropping, in addition to medical or psychological, still implies some sort of health-related reasons. What other reasons would the committee consider to be legitimate for a student to drop a course?

Senator Stewart: I have no idea of what other possible reasons there would be. Those are the two main reasons in the policy. I could see financial constraints as being a consideration.

Senator Mallory: Would the committee consider more general wording, for example, ‘extenuating circumstances’ or something that might reflect a broader application of the policy? I could think of, for example, a student with a family situation or something along those lines that would not necessarily be covered here. I am just wondering what other language might work there.

Senator Borg: I noticed that what we have here is a complete strikethrough of the current policy and a complete rewriting below that, but in many cases, you are not changing the language of what was stricken out, so it gives sort of a false perception of a rewrite. For example, if you take a look at the top of page 3, “Students are strongly advised to complete all courses in which they enrolled.” Then, if you take a look on the opposite page, which would be page 2, under “General”, the first line that is stricken also reads, “Students are strongly advised to complete all courses in which they are enrolled.” In other words, they have not changed the wording and the strike out is a little deceiving. In the case to which you have referred, at the bottom of the page, there is exactly the same wording that has been there; that has not been changed. So they have not really questioned what those “special circumstances” are. Apparently that has not been a part of the discussion. Is that true?

Senator Stewart: Yes, as far as I know.

Senator Mallory: So then would the committee consider changing the language of the policy to be more inclusive of other kinds of problems that students might have?

Jonathan Rosenthal, Associate Vice President of EMAS/Academic Affairs Committee Member: As Senator Borg said, we have repeated language and what we have done, essentially, is taken the policy as it was currently worded and replaced it with the catalog copy with a few tweaks that seems to be better worded and much more up to date about a process. So that is why you have a massive strike out followed by new text. By virtue of the fact that really we are talking about exceptions to policy in this paragraph, it is hard to be more inclusive than “other unusual circumstances”. To me, that is the phrase that allows us to exercise some judgment.

Senator Borg: And with the phrase, “Or other similar reasons” (page 3, paragraph 6).

Senator Mallory: But “similar reasons” sounds like psychological or medical reasons since it reads, “medical, psychological or other similar reasons”.

Senator Holland: I think what you are asking for is to just to make it ‘other extenuating or unusual circumstances’.

Senator Mallory: Whatever language the committee might consider.

Vice President Rosenthal: I want to make sure that we are looking at the same text.

Senator Mallory: I am looking at the last paragraph of the “Withdrawal Policy – Dropping a Course or Courses” section.

Vice President Rosenthal: The first line of that paragraph reads, “Upon written recommendation of a licensed physician or clinical psychologist, or in other unusual circumstances...”

Senator Kalter: I think the third line of that paragraph, “for medical, psychological, or other similar reasons”, is what is at issue.

Vice President Rosenthal: I understand. To me, the first “other unusual circumstances” gives us the room to be flexible, but certainly other wording would be acceptable.

Senator Mallory: I am also wondering if the faculty have any say about whether a withdrawal is granted.

Senator Stewart: I think this goes through the Registrar, because they are monitoring the situation.

Senator Holland: At this point, faculty members no longer have to sign for a withdrawal.

Senator Mallory: I wondered about that; I couldn’t recall.

Vice President Rosenthal: Right, that is really not a change in policy. Before, we used a paper form that faculty signed, rather as a courtesy to the faculty, to make sure that the faculty member was aware. Now it is handled electronically and we send the faculty member an e-mail to make sure the faculty is aware. So the policy has not changed; just the notification.

Senator Mallory: My last question has to do with the “Withdrawal Policy – Dropping All Courses” section. In the third paragraph in that section, line 4, it says that “If medical or other reasons make it impossible for the student to follow the usual procedures, a letter requesting withdrawal that explains the situation, with appropriate documentation and the student’s signature, will sufficient.” What if the student is unable to sign?

Senator Stewart: I would imagine a guardian could sign it.

Senator Mallory: So does that need to be specified in the policy?

Vice President Rosenthal: We certainly could. I mean the intent is to give a student latitude when a student has to be away because of unforeseen circumstances. I would respond similarly that other appropriate signatures would be accepted in the case when a student was not able to sign.

Senator Mallory: Thank you.

Senator Van der Laan: I wonder if you could quickly say what the rationale was for moving from 12 weeks to 8 weeks.

Vice President Rosenthal: There is no change there, really. A student, within the first two weeks of classes, can withdraw from a class with no record. Up through the eighth week, there is a WX. After the eighth week, normally a student is there until the end of the semester unless there is a withdrawal for the kinds of exceptional reasons from all courses, so that eight-week deadline has not changed in any way.

Senator Holland: I am guessing this will return to us in a couple of weeks.

01.25.09.02 *Academic Department Chairperson/School Director Responsibilities, Appointment, Compensation, Terms, Evaluation Policy-Second Revision/Second Information Session (Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee)*

01.25.09.01 *Academic Dean Responsibilities, Appointment, Compensation, Terms, Evaluation Policy-Second Revision/Second Information Session (Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee)*

Senator Kalter: As it says on your agenda, this is the second time that these policies have appeared as Information Items. If you don't mind, I am going to talk about both of them together since they are so similar. I believe that these came up for review on the regular three-year cycle this year.

You will see that some of the changes to the Chairperson/Director Policy are cosmetic. The substantive changes are on the third page under the "Responsibilities, Roles and Authority", just above "Nature of Appointment". We changed "research" to "scholarly and creative productivity" to better reflect the ASPT Document and the entire campus community. We also added "service. Many of the changes were actually from the last information session. We also added a couple of lines about the ASPT Policy, just to put those in there explicitly and to add "salary" to those.

Additionally, on the third page, to clarify leaves and sabbaticals, the committee is recommending in letter C, under "Nature of the Appointment", that the second sentence now read, "Upon completion of each five-year period as Chairperson/Director, the individual shall receive all possible consideration for a sabbatical", rather than what was there previously, which was "Upon completion of each five-year period as Chairperson/Director, those not continuing in their administrative capacity shall receive all possible consideration for a sabbatical." That is probably the most significant change that has been made. Whereas the other wording could have left it open that they only were considered for sabbatical if they were stepping down as chairperson, this would allow some flexibility with respect to that.

Let me go now to the Academic Deans Responsibility Policy. On page 1, we have made similar changes to "research", changing that to "scholarly and creative productivity" and adding "service". We added that the dean, as well as the chair, should be responsible for leading the processes of retention for faculty and staff. On the second page, we added the same kind of language about the ASPT Policy and at the end of those bullet points, right above "Nature of the Appointment", we changed the wording there to say "fundraising" rather than philanthropic outreach, so that it now reads, "developing, leading and encouraging fundraising in support of the college's goals and the goals of its departments and programs, as well as outreach and public service efforts." Also, on page 3, we made the same kind of edits for sabbaticals. You may remember that back in the fall that we had already made a change so that the compensation under "Selection Process", letter C, read as "commensurate with all other Deans." I think that before it said something like the 'same as' or 'similar to'.

Senator Holland: For faculty, you usually have to wait six years after your last sabbatical before you can take another one, hence the term "sabbatical". Do chairs and deans need more rest?

Senator Kalter: I am surprised that no one brought that up on the committee. You will have to ask the person who wrote this in 1943. We will discuss amongst ourselves whether we want to change that either on the Academic Affairs Committee or on Exec.

Senator Stewart: If they have to wait five years, then the sixth year would be their sabbatical.

Senator Holland: Correct, and what would be the equivalent terminology for a sixth year rest? We will revisit these policies as Action Items in two weeks.

Communications

Senator Van der Laan: I can't resist speaking about this after hearing from Kim Pereira about what we can do for programs that we usually don't think about at all. I have no vested interest in this at all, but I have initiated a scholarship for German majors and I encourage all of you to donate to it. I, myself, donate to it, and that is in the spirit of, again, liberal arts education.

Senator Gudding: The English Department just instituted the David Foster Wallace Memorial Reading Series Funds in commemoration of this great writer who used to teach here. He taught here for about ten years. The second part of that is on March 4th, the English Department is hosting, in the CVA Gallery at 7:00 p.m., a reading by Cecil Giscombe, who is a major poet in the U.S. He now teaches at Berkley and he is a former faculty member at ISU. He is much remembered here and much loved still. He is an extraordinary writer and an extraordinary reader, so please feel more than invited; you won't be disappointed.

Senator Long: As all of you know, next weekend is Valentine's Day. If you are still looking for something to do with your special someone, we are having the Big Band Dance at the Lafayette Club in Bloomington starting at 7:00 p.m. on February 14th. It's a lot of fun; I highly recommend it.

Senator Stewart: This is advance notification, but we have an artist coming for a show March 3rd through the 15th. It's very short and it's during spring break, so I want to make sure that you are all aware. His name is Eric Garcia; he is a Mexican-American artist. He is from Albuquerque and is now at the Art Institute of Chicago working on his MFA. He is a printmaker, painter, social commentator. He creates very interesting, very humorous work. He uses the comic book image in his artwork. His opening is on March 3rd and he will be giving a gallery talk on Wednesday at noon.

Senator Briggs: The reason that we are so excited to have him here is that his main issue is about immigration. He is a young man who has won notable awards in his field. E-mails will be sent out with more information. The event is sponsored by the Urban Teacher Preparation Course. It crosses all sorts of discipline boundaries. We are just really excited.

Senator Stewart: I wanted to also point out an article in the *Pantagraph* about the digitization of the Children's Art Collection. Senator Lonbom is mentioned in that article. Is it true that this was funded by a \$90,000 grant?

Senator Lonbom: That figure was a bit exaggerated; it was actually \$85,934. This was a competitive grant awarded through the Illinois State Library and the Institute of Museums and Library Services. They get federal funding every year and they chose to give it out in the form of grants to libraries throughout the state.

Senator Stewart: It is a really big collection. It contains children's artwork from all over the world across a large span of time. It is just a phenomenally important collection and it is here at ISU.

Senator Major: Tying into the visual arts, we have the second annual postcard art event occurring on February 28th. This is the second time that we have done this and last year, we raised \$17,000 for student scholarships, which is an incredible accomplishment for those of us in the college. We look forward to having you all there.

Senator Stewart: You don't have to be an artist or an art major to make a postcard to put into the show.

Senator Borg: On Thursday, February 26th, you have the opportunity to hear one of the great monuments of western civilization performed in the CPA. The University Concert Choir and the University Orchestra will be performing Bach's B Minor Mass. It will be performed a second time at the Second Presbyterian Church in Bloomington on March 1st.

Senator Hoelscher: There will be a conference called Entrepreneurship in the Arts February 26th through 28th; it's a Thursday, Friday and Saturday. It involves students wanting to get into, make a living at and practice their passion. For anyone who has students who might be interested in this, it is very inexpensive. It's in Lyle, Illinois. I used to have money for it; I don't this year, but I probably will next year to get those kids up there. I will be attending. I would like to gather together ISU students, who are artists, sculptors, in dance, doing anything to practice their passion, to attend the conference. They would actually get to sit down and visit with practicing artists that they bring in from all over the State of Illinois. It's quite a conference; it's very inexpensive, so please give me a buzz if you have students who might be interested.

Adjournment

Motion XXXX-: By Senator Long, seconded by Senator Leigh, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.