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Fall 12-8-2010

Senate Meeting, December 8, 2010

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Illinois State University

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Academic Senate Minutes
Wednesday, December 8, 2010
(Approved)

Call to Order

Senate Chairperson Dan Holland called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Senate Secretary Susan Kalter called the roll and declared a quorum.

Approval of Minutes of November 10, 2010

Motion XXXXII-28: By Senator Farrell, seconded by Senator Hoelscher, to approve the Academic Senate Minutes of November 10, 2010. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Administrators' Remarks

• ***President Al Bowman***

President Bowman: I wanted to give you a brief update of some things that are going on. Talk a little bit about the Illinois budget. I had a chance to meet with the deputy governor yesterday in Chicago. But first of all, many of you subscribe to the Chronicle on Higher Education or read it online and on Monday, they published a study on graduation rates at 1,400 4-year colleges and universities and graduation rates actually dropped at a third of the universities across the country. That hasn't happened here. In fact, we were ranked in the top ten for percentage of change in graduation rates. We improved 11 points since 2300.

The IBHE met yesterday afternoon in Chicago. The public presidents met with the deputy governor, the individual who has responsibilities for higher education, and she talked through some issues. Really no surprises there. It looks as though the General Assembly will take up some sort of revenue-enhancement bill after January 1. The governor's plan, whether or not the General Assembly goes along with this is another matter, what they would like to do is borrow enough money to clean up all of the FY10 bills, clean up FY11 bills up to this point and essentially function in a normal cash flow fashion from this point forward. The state still owes us the \$396,000 on our FY10 appropriation and we have now received \$153,000 on FY11. That's not a lot of money. We vouchered over \$40 million. We have not received any FY11 MAP funds either. The governor's office is well aware of where universities and what our needs are. They have assured us that they are not going to allow any institution to be in a position where there is a disruption in the operations. There are a couple of large universities that will not have positive cash flow beyond January, so the problem will be fairly immediate.

We also talked about the IBHE finance study. You can go to the BHE website. That report is online. It does recommend that the state move forward with some sort of performance funding mechanism. It is not spelled out, so it is obviously not going to happen immediately, but clearly next fiscal year and beyond, we will see some sort of performance based funding in place.

Steve Adams announced his retirement. We have selected Lane Crothers from the Panel of Ten to chair that committee and we expect to be able to fill the position by June. Steve will be missed. Fortunately, he will continue to be a part of campus. He will certainly continue in his role as the voice of the Redbirds.

Senator Holland: What exactly do they mean by performance based funding?

President Bowman: Typically, a small percentage of the total higher ed pot is put into play in a competitive arena where institutions compete for the dollars depending on how close they come to some sort of performance measure—retention rates, graduation rates—that kind of thing.

IBHE-FAC Report (Professor Lane Crothers, IBHE-FAC Representative)

Professor Crothers: The FAC has met twice since last I was here. The Oakton meeting was dominated by what President Bowman talked about. We had Senator Edward Maloney, who is the Chair of the Higher Education Committee in the Senate, and Representative Prichard, who is the Republican spokesperson for the Higher Education Committee in the House, come and talk about their perceptions of what is going on in Illinois and this notion of the performance-based target funding is a key issue. Senator Maloney used the statistic. 77% of students who come from the top quintile graduate in six years; whereas, only 7% of students who come from the bottom quintile graduate in six years. You can make an argument that the state, therefore, should focus on those top-performing students because you'll get college graduates out of them. You can also make a very strong equity argument that it's the students at the bottom of the scale who actually need the help. It does appear that the state is tilting toward the high-performing-student model, which has all kinds of interesting implications for the broad spectrum of American society.

We also had a discussion about the notion of adopt a legislator. I am not entirely sure it was a big deal for us. We did have an opportunity to chat with the state legislators. These are relatively sympathetic people; they are knowledgeable about higher ed. We talked in particular about the \$106,000 pension again. It was raised by an accounting faculty at Southern and basically got the blowback: 'It could have been worse; go away.' The answer basically was they wanted to kill your pensions a lot worse. They wanted to take the money away a lot worse and besides that, most people think that faculty are underworked and overpaid. Who knows what long-term implications that has for other hiring schemes, particularly in some disciplines.

After that, we had a redux of some conversations that we had previously involving this proposal to bond out MAP funding—things like that. Nothing particularly insightful or exciting there.

The process of putting it together and showing off Illinois State University at its very best was very easy to do and very positive. The actual meeting, itself, was focused on remediation and articulation. How you prep students who graduate high school who aren't really quite ready for college level work and how you cross-count programs gained at community colleges or elsewhere and then bring them into the university environment. There are very elaborate remediation and articulation standards across the state. There are all kinds of programs and plans. The fundamental problem, of course, is lots of high schools and lots of community colleges have not been preparing students for the work they need to do when they get to traditional universities for a whole bunch of sociological and complex reasons that we could probably spend several meetings talking about. The frustration for me was there wasn't much anybody around that table could do about it. It was one of the things where you had people who knew a lot about explaining all the things that they were doing, but not actually telling you that you could do anything about it.

The person who is currently on the executive committee representing the public universities is going on sabbatical in the spring, which means that I am now going to be on the Executive Committee. We are meeting Friday in Springfield. That meeting is a tradition and is always with the Director of the IBHE and the IBHE staff. Hopefully, we will have more direct policy insights.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Holland: I had the pleasure of attending a Council of Illinois University Senates meeting fairly recently. It was possibly one of the less productive meetings we have had. It was very useful for some other schools, but the thing that gets me every time I go to one of them is how functional we are in comparison. Because Vice President Adams is going to be retiring, we are constituting a search committee with Lane as the chair, but we need to have six volunteers to serve on that search committee from the faculty and President Bowman will select three of them.

Student Body President's Remarks

Senator Marquis: Last week was World AIDS Week and World AIDS Day was on December 1. The Student Government Association passed out red ribbons as well as provided free HIV/AIDS testing for any student

wishing to do so. I, on behalf of the Student Government Association, sent out a letter to all department heads and the deans regarding textbook affordability. It was to try to open up the lines of communication with the faculty and encourage them to work to utilize some means to make sure textbooks stay affordable. The goals of the letter are never to encourage faculty to pick one book over another or to do anything that would inhibit you from doing something. We want you to pick the best textbook that you can, because that makes our learning experience better. However, at the same time, the costs of college textbooks are going up. It's more of an awareness issue of the students' perspective.

Vice President Adams received the Neil R. Gamsky Quality of Student Life Award last week. That award is the highest award that a member of the Student Affairs Division can receive. He absolutely deserves that and I am sad to see him go.

SGA is going to be hosting the opening ceremony for the rec center for students on January 9th and the official opening will be on January 10th. It is finals week, so students will be taking care of that coming up next week. This week, they are all preparing for that. On Sunday, we are hosting a stress-relief event for students. We are having a flash dance party in the library at 10:00 p.m. to kind of give students just for ten minutes something to break the studying and dance around and go crazy for a little while and then go back to studying.

Senator Holland: Will the race up the rock wall be on the 9th or the 10th?

Senator Marquis: I think it has been forgotten and I'm ok with that.

Senator Holland: It hasn't been forgotten.

Administrators' Remarks

- *President Al Bowman (See Page 1)*

- *Provost Sheri Everts*

Provost Everts: The Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Search Committee has met and the ads are out in the Chronicle and other locations. Greenwood, Asher and Associates search firm is assisting us with this search and applications and nominations will be provided for best consideration by February 21st. For the Director of Assessment position, the search committee is reviewing applications and scheduling phone interviews currently. Also, our colleague, Chuck McGuire, will be stepping down from his position in the Provost's Office next year. It is going to be very difficult to replace Chuck, as you can well imagine. We will follow search committee formation rules according to policy 3.2.13, as Chuck would demand. You will be hearing more about that.

The applications remain strong for our fall 2011 class. ACT averages are once again over 24. Applications and admitted students are up for new freshmen in the underrepresented categories over this time last year. New transfer student applications are remaining steady. Also, the average transfer GPA for admitted students is 3.26 to date. New transfer underrepresented student applications have increased slightly over this time last year.

Senator Kalter: Do you have the list of people on the CAS dean search committee?

Provost Everts: I don't have that with me, but it's on the Provost's website.

- *Vice President of Student Affairs Steve Adams - Absent*

- *Vice President of Finance and Planning Dan Layzell*

Vice President Layzell: First, an update on the Cardinal Court redevelopment. We remain on track. The financing is getting into place and we will be tentatively closing February 2nd with demolition and asbestos

abatement to begin shortly thereafter. The schedule is still on track to officially open the development in the fall of 2012 in time for the decommissioning of the south towers.

In terms of the Master Plan, we are rapidly approaching the end of at least the planning process. We have scheduled the sessions to get around to each of the governance groups to get final endorsement of the plan. We will be coming to the Senate on January 19. January 18 will be the Civil Service Council. January 26 will be SGA. January 27 will be the AP Council working toward final endorsement by the Board of Trustees in February.

Academic Affairs Committee:

Senator Stewart: We unofficially had a chat about the guidelines for 124 credit hours for degrees. This is probably something that will come to Exec and then we will officially discuss it. We had a brief chat about the committee that is looking at textbooks and textbook costs.

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee:

Senator Kalter: We decided to take off item number three off the Information Items so we can discuss it further. We spent the rest of the meeting talking about the survey instrument for the Presidential Commentary Survey that's coming up. That survey will come out the first week of classes of the spring semester. It's going to be out for three weeks and then the committee will write its report.

Faculty Affairs Committee:

Senator Cedeño: We discussed some finishing touches on the ombudsperson policy and we hope to put that as an Information Item early next semester.

Planning and Finance Committee:

Senator Van der Laan: We have been very busy planning. We have a recommendation for the Executive Committee and that is to invite the Dean of Milner Library to come and speak to the full Senate about changes underway at Milner Library. We also decided on four important items we will address next semester. One is the Honors Program curriculum. The second is summer school. The third is revenue sources, and we hope to meet with the Vice President for Finance and Planning, and the fourth is technology and the future at ISU.

Rules Committee:

Senator Bailey: Associate Vice President Brent Paterson was kind enough to join us tonight to discuss the Student Services Programs Policy. We also discussed the AFEGC Policy and a policy related to the vice presidential surveys. All three are going to Exec.

Information Items:

03.03.10.01 Statements of Economic Interests Policy (Rules Committee)

Senator Bailey: University Ethics Officer, Shane McCreery, was kind enough to come tonight to discuss the policy he had a part in writing. So I will direct all questions to Shane.

Shane McCreery, Equal Opportunity, Ethics and Access: The language is taken directly from 5 ILC S 420/4, a, 101. The key element of this is that the state legislature recently added the fourth bullet point, which states, "Those that have responsibility for procurement of goods and services." That's created a lot of confusion amongst the state universities. To combat that, the President asked that I put together a committee of six persons, two from the Academic Senate, two from the Provost's Office, one from the Purchasing Office and myself to come up with a reasonable definition of what type of employee that fourth sentence should capture. There is no intent to have secretaries, but those with administrative responsibilities have to be involved with the Statement of Economic Interest. We are targeting decision makers and those with significant administrative responsibility as those responsible for doing an annual Statement of Economic Interests.

Senator Kalter: I wonder if it would change the policy at all to say in that fourth line either those who have primary responsibility or those who have ultimate responsibility so it would be that much clearer or would that change the intent there?

Mr. McCreary: I am uncomfortable with that only because this is statutory language and I know of no other university or entity that is changing those four bullet points.

Senator Holland: As I recall in the various emails this week, there was a particular legal term that was being kicked around.

Mr. McCreary: There was and I will defer to the person who said that legal term to repeat that if he deems appropriate.

Dr. Chuck McGuire, Associate VP for Academic Administration: Eiusdem Generis ("of the same kind," used to interpret loosely written statutes.) Essentially, the question arose whether secretaries and administrative assistants were covered here and the answer is no because the character of one line is taken from the characters of the other lines in a list. So if you have a list of these four bullet points, the character is limited by all of the items in the list. All of these items are significant decision makers; therefore, any single one takes that definition.

11.11.10.02 Use of Electronic Equipment for Surveillance Purposes-Draft 2 (Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee)

Senator Kalter: This is the second time that the Senate has seen this as an Information Item. Last year the committee did revisions to this policy and what you see after the first paragraph is what the committee of last year agreed to for the revisions. When we brought this to the Senate as an Information Item, we received more information about the nature of electronic surveillance on campus and undertook to add the first paragraph. So the first paragraph reads, "State and federal government officials conduct ongoing undercover operations in the State of Illinois that involve the use of electronic equipment for surveillance. These operations occasionally take place on campus grounds. Although they are expected to follow all laws protecting individual rights and freedoms, officials are not required to notify any university authorities of the fact, nature or location of their activities. This policy therefore covers only uses of electronic equipment for surveillance over which the university exercises control and consent." If you like, I can read the rest of it, but will only do so if somebody requests that.

Senator Weeks: What is this equipment?

Senator Kalter: As I understand it, these are things like cameras at the entrances to dorms. It could cover cameras in parking garages. As I understand it, it could cover taping, but it's illegal to eavesdrop, so there is some discussion about that. But when there has been a place where there has been repeated crimes or a crime, such as vandalism, to put up cameras partly as a deterrent and partly in case you would catch somebody in the act of vandalizing property or what have you. Those are sort of the basics.

Senator Holland: This comes up every fall in Executive Committee because every fall, the President is required to notify us if they do it sometime during the course of the year. This is just the process for doing that.

Senator Van der Laan: This would certainly include internet use and email as well, wouldn't it? Many companies do surveil their employees' internet use and emails. This is electronic surveillance and it would certainly fall under that category.

Senator Holland: As far as I know, we do not search people's emails. It says 'advance notice of the purpose and location of such equipment will be given to the Chair of the Academic Senate'.

Senator Van der Laan: The answer for Senator Weeks was that it would primarily be cameras and so on, but surveillance nowadays is really internet and email in addition to cameras.

Senator Kalter: I can check this, but I think the parameters that this sets out imply that if you are going to surveil your own employees, you have to have some sort of reason to be doing it. It was discussed almost a year ago in my committee. I believe that there is another policy that covers computer use, but I may be wrong about that.

Provost Everts: I think you are right about that.

Senator Kalter: So, if you would like, I can try to find out where that is, Senator Van der Laan, and bring that just so we know what that policy is.

~~10.08.09.05 — Administrator Selection and Search Policy — Milner and Mennonite Search Committees
(Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee)~~

10.29.10.01 Pass/Fail-Credit/No Credit Policy-Revised (Academic Affairs Committee)

Senator Stewart: This is basically a re-write and a cleanup. Existing policy was not probably written cleanly as it could have been. Also, it did not align well with the catalog copy. This is an attempt to make catalog copy and current policy line up. The long and short of it is that students can take a limit of 25 credit hours as pass-fail over the course of their tenure here at ISU, with no more than five hours per semester. They can't take pass-fail within their major. They have to be a student in good standing. It's mainly for undergraduate, but for graduates if it's a workshop institute, professional practice, there might be a possibility of pass-fail. It does not affect the GPA of the student either positively or negatively.

Senator Kalter: The policy as it is currently has a maximum of five semester hours...

Senator Stewart: Five credits per semester.

Senator Kalter: So if you look at on the first page 'Recommendations for Pass-Fail Program Undergraduate', a maximum of five semester hours may be taken for pass-fail credit per semester.

Senator Stewart: But no more than 25 hours for the total grade.

Senator Kalter: In the proposed policy, page two, 'Limitation on Number of Hours', it says six semester hours may be taken each semester and I wondered if there was a reason for the additional hour.

Dr. Jonathan Rosenthal, Associate VP of Enrollment Management and Academic Services: It's the first asterisk on the second page: "Per Academic Senate, June 23, 1971".

Senator Kalter: So, since 1971, we've been doing it at six hours.

Senator Stewart: The Academic Senate said, but it wasn't in the written policy, so that's why we made the change.

Senator Holland: I know that some of the schools will give credit for a D, but we are restricting it to C or better?

Senator Stewart: Yes.

Dr. Rosenthal: Yes, we did benchmark across the state and that is not an uncommon practice.

Senator Horst: Is that a change?

Senator Holland: No, it's what we've been doing.

Senator Reifschneider: What is the rationale for 25 semester hours for the program?

Dr. Rosenthal: I don't think that's an uncommon practice. Two, I think it's a protection for students in that it's an assurance of quality, that we have a range of course work to base the GPA on, but also should the student want to go on to graduate school or gainful employment, I think the employer wants to know that this grade point average was established in a majority of the courses.

Senator Reifschneider: When was the 25 semester hours established?

Dr. Rosenthal: That's long established and not uncommon.

Senator Stewart: I should have made these remarks in my report. This is my last Senate meeting and as Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee. I will be on sabbatical (during the spring) and Wendy Woith will take over as chair.

11.11.10.01 *Classified Research Policy-Draft 3 (Faculty Affairs Committee)*

Senator Cedeño: You have in your packet kind of an amendment to the current policy. The idea was to clarify the last paragraph: the request for exceptions to any items in the policy and to explain what the constituents of the Review Committee are, which wasn't present in the previous version.

Senator Rich: I can imagine a situation where a faculty member is working under grant with data that has confidentiality and the agency may require materials of research for the purposes of assuring that those confidentiality requirements are not violated. Does that fall under this clause that is being amended?

Senator Cedeño: I think that's true, but I think Senator Custer may have a better opinion about that.

Associate Vice President Custer: There is actually a prior step that we typically go through because the boiler plate of many of these agencies will include that kind of language. So the first step is through our legal counsel and our office to try to negotiate those out. In the first place, these kinds of exceptions are relatively rare. When they do come through, we usually are able to negotiate those out. Then in those cases where we are unable to... Let's say for, example, there might be a situation involving minors and sensitive medical information and something with criminal justice, there could be some kind of legitimate concern. Then this provides a mechanism whereby that can be examined, see whether it's reasonable or not and then make a recommendation to the Provost. There are actually several different layers that that can go through to assure that it's a reasonable request.

Senator Van der Laan: The one concern I have is the exception at the bottom. It maybe renders all of it quite ineffective. I would think that the development of the first atomic bomb rendered tremendously important scientific, scholarly, and educational benefits to all those involved in its development.

Senator Cedeño: The policy's aim is to gather some constituents of the university to discuss. The policy is very clear that we won't engage in contracts supporting something that might cause damage. The policy provides that second layer where things are discussed and to see what is the benefit to the university.

Senator Holland: You will notice that the restrictions are relatively minor and outweighed by, so I am guessing that some of the restrictions for the atomic bomb are major.

Communications:

As always, the College of Fine Arts has marvelously talented students who do wonderful performances. This week, there is the Martha Graham dance concert on the 9th, 10th and 11th. The Madrigal dinners are ongoing, the 8th to 11th. A George Bernard Shaw play, Major Barbara, at Westhoff Theatre, the 8th through 11th. It is sold out, but you can put your name on a waiting list for tickets.

Senator Clayton: My RSO is having a book drive for Better World Books. If you have seen those big orange and green bins in certain locations, those are also for professors, too. If at the end of the year you have textbooks or books that you can't use any more, we would love for you to drop them in there. They raise money to help children in Africa and things like that.

Senator Schlessler: Senator Mason is graduating in two weeks. Last Wednesday, the Student Government passed a resolution commending him for his service at Illinois State. I would like to give him a round of applause.

Executive Session: Honorary Degree Recipient Recommendations (Provost Everts)

Senator Holland: We now have to go into executive session to look at the Honorary Degree Recipient Recommendations. We need a motion for such.

Motion XXXXII-29: By Senator Farrell, seconded by Senator Stewart, to go into executive session.

Senator Holland: According to the Open Meetings Act, section 5 ILCS 120/2 section c, allows for closed meetings to consider "The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body." So 100% of what we discuss stays here. If you are not actually members of the Senate, we do have to ask you to head out.

The motion to go into Executive Session was unanimously approved.

The Senate returned to open session.

Adjournment

Motion XXXXII-31: By Senator Schlessler, seconded by Senator Cedeño, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.