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Academic Senate Minutes

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Spring 1-19-2011

### Senate Meeting, January 19, 2011

Academic Senate  
*Illinois State University*

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**Academic Senate Minutes**  
**Wednesday, January 19, 2011**  
**7:00 P.M.**  
**(Approved)**

***Call to Order***

Senate Chairperson Dan Holland called the meeting to order.

***Roll Call***

Senate Secretary called the roll and declared a quorum.

***Approval of Minutes of December 8, 2010***

**Motion XXXXII-34:** B Senator Schlessler, seconded by Senator McMahon, to approved the Academic Senate Minutes of December 8, 2010. The motion was unanimously approved.

***Presentation: Accreditation Policies (Jan Murphy, Associate Provost)***

**Jan Murphy, Associate Provost:** I have with me Mandy Chapman, who is the Coordinator of Academic Services in the Office of the Provost. Mandy will be providing some support for us as we look at the accreditation of the university. In the past, typically when a university goes through accreditation--and our accreditor is the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association—you go through this massive self study. The last time we went through this was in 2004-05. You gather all of this evidence and materials and you are writing these big self-study reports to address the criteria for accreditation. This 10 member site team comes to campus and it's just the most stressful thing a campus goes through. We have an extremely good reputation with our accreditors.

The Higher Learning Commission is finding that it's a lot of time, it's a lot of people hours, it's a lot of cost and there's not that much that you get out of a site visit. So the Higher Learning Commission is trying to test a new model of reaccreditation and they have chosen ISU and about 20 other institutions in the Midwest and Arizona. They have asked us to test drive a new model. Over the next three years, we are going to be working on a pathways project that's going to take the place of what we would be doing over the next three years to get ready for our reaccreditation. One hundred people asked to be on these large self-study teams. Starting in a year, we will be gathering evidence that we meet the criteria for accreditation, but we are going to be deposition that evidence into kind of a web-based repository that the Higher Learning Commission is going to develop. They said it's going to look like a simplified version of blackboard. They haven't developed that yet, and we are going to help them develop that and test that. Then we also have to do an improvement project. For this cohort of 20 institutions, we have to join the Assessment Academy of the Higher Learning Commission to participate. ISU is pretty good at assessment. We have a University Assessment Services, so we are kind of excited about joining the Assessment Academy.

The benefits of this are it is a different kind of work and far less work to look at those criteria for accreditation. You are not writing a 400-page document, but rather a 50 page document to address criteria for accreditation and it's hard to argue with that. The financial costs are about the same, but the human factor cost is much less and much more appropriate. There isn't much more that we know about it at this time. In February and then again in March, Mandy and I and several members of the University Assessments staff and some faculty from our Assessment Advisory Council will go to Lyle, Illinois to learn more about the Assessment Academy.

It really is a credit to this institution to be asked to do this. The Higher Learning Commission accredits thousands of institutions and to be asked to test this model, we really were very honored to be asked. We cannot find a reason not to do this.

***Presentation: Master Plan – Final Draft (Dan Layzell, VP Finance and Planning)***

**Vice President Layzell:** My purpose for being here today is to provide a brief recap to you of the Master Plan process and also to seek your endorsement of this plan. We are seeking endorsement from each of the governance groups before we get to the Board of Trustees meeting in February when we present it to them for their endorsement as well. One of the key guiding principles that we built into this process was to build at all stages extensive consultation on the campus and in the broader community. Through the consultation process, we held a number of forums both leading up to the initial draft in July 2010, as well as some forums afterward to get feedback on the draft, online surveys, various meetings with each shared governance group and targeted meetings with colleges, departments and other units.

Based on the feedback that we got from the public review of the 2010 draft, there was strong agreement with the various planning assumptions, goals and recommendations. There were of course a number of areas that could be strengthened or clarified. As a result, there are a number of new recommendations, as well as some significant clarifications and other additions in response to the some of the feedback.

The plan includes 67 recommendations. They are not presented in priority order. They are organized into five different groups according to function or form. This is the end of a very long process. The plan is ambitious, but is also a very exciting vision for the next 20 years.

**Senator Rich:** In the discussion of the Cardinal Court redevelopment, I know that President Bowman had indicated interest in addition on-campus housing development. Is there any reference in the revised plan on that subject?

**Vice President Layzell:** We are redeveloping the Cardinal Court property and I think the goal, and this is referenced, but I can't tell you exactly where in the plan it is, but once we have established that development and we are moving down the path for the next several years, I think at that point, it will give us a chance to evaluate what additional on-campus housing we may need. We don't want to overbuild.

**Senator Cox:** In light of the renovations and expansion of Milner Library, could you let me know what the future is of the tinsel structure outside on the patio?

**Vice President Layzell:** That, I can't tell you. This plan seeks to set forth a vision with some specificity, but when you address things like what's going to happen with that structure once we get into talking about getting the resources from the state to do the renovation of Milner, at that point we are going to have a much better sense of what's going to happen.

**Senator Cox:** I would like to make a plug for the preservation of that structure. It's a unique to Midwest design. It's a work of art.

**Motion XXXXII-35:** By Senator Kalter, seconded by Senator Reifschneider, to approve the Master Plan. The Master Plan was approved with aye votes, with the exception of one nay.

***Chairperson's Remarks***

**Senator Holland:** Faculty members, it is not in your packet, but we have to have a very short caucus meeting to elect faculty representatives for the search committee for the Vice President of Student Affairs. We will be begin our debate of ASPT changes in two weeks. Our representative for the IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee, Professor Crothers, is not going to be able to attend the April 8 meeting and if anybody would like to go to that, I am accepting volunteers.

**Senator Kalter:** It's at NEIU.

**Senator Holland:** Ok, we will see what we can do with that later. There's lots of time between now and April 8.

### ***Student Body President's Remarks***

**Senator Marquis:** The student rec center is open. We are starting an Illinois State Tenants Union on our campus. The underlying purpose is to encourage off-campus students to be better represented, not only to the Town of Normal and leasing companies, but on our own university campus to the Student Government Association and things like that. We are working on a Tenants Union Guide. If you know of any students who are interested in this type of program, we do need volunteers. It will be a new RSO student organization. Faculty, staff and students are able to apply for the Sustainability Fund, which will be starting to collect proposals. The Sustainability Committee is an external committee of the SGA and has been allocated a pretty sizable chunk of money that should go out to sustainable projects on campus. That committee has an application and a proposal process. All the information can be found on the SGA website. We are looking for presentations for the SGA Diversity Week. That will be March 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>. You can contact me if you are interested. We are continuing the calculator lending program, which was started last year. Students check out TI83 and TI89 calculators just like a book. We have added clickers as well. We are seeking three new students, specifically one graduate senator, so if you know of any students that interested, please have them apply. Applications are available on our website, which is SGA.ilstu.edu. I am also in search of a Secretary for Public Relations and a Secretary for College Affordability.

**Senator Weeks:** It would make sense then to refer students with problems or conflicts living off campus to the Tenants Union? What sort of services—do you have legal counseling?

**Senator Marquis:** The Dean of Students already provides legal counsel for students. There is a students' attorney. The Tenants Union will provide the guide. It's really an information campaign. Secondly we are working to create a data base so that we can collect all this information about grievances, but also customer service—the amenities that they have, so students are better informed when they are making decisions to sign the leases. We will get more information out to students prior to that lease. This is another opportunity for students to reach out. If they have a concern that's not being resolved, this is an opportunity for them to ban together and really be able to get those problems solved.

### ***Administrators' Remarks***

#### **• *President Al Bowman***

**President Bowman:** Let's talk a little about the tax increase that was recently passed by the Illinois General Assembly. The impact on Illinois State could be dramatic, although no immediate change. The dramatic change is we believe that state finances will be stabilized and it will be less likely that we will see further reductions in our appropriation. In the long term, once the back log of unpaid bills is clear then we should start getting our approbation payments on a more timely basis Those two things in a nutshell is what's likely to happen. Had the state gone through with a major borrowing program, it would have actually saved the state money to have cleaned up all of those old bills at once. But the political environment was such that it was very difficult for people in Springfield to vote on a massive borrowing plan. It still could happen this spring, but if it doesn't happen, we obviously will eventually get paid, but the payment cycle will continue to be fairly long.

There's been some articles about Moody's investor service and their outlook for universities, both public and private. Their outlook for finances is fairly negative for most universities. People like Dan that watch our finances on a day-to-day basis I think rightly feel a great deal of pride in how we have managed our finances during this downturn. Moody's believes that the best managed institutions will actually thrive in this

environment, but that a number of small private schools and some public institutions will be under pretty severe pressure.

The celebration in Hovey was our final appropriation payment for 2010 came in. We are starting to get FY11 payments. We got \$2.3 million last week and we have been paid \$6.7 million this year. I think we have vouchered over \$55 million. We still have not received any MAP funds. We are owed \$15.5 million. We expect those dollars to materialize at some point this spring or summer. The tax increase is very unpopular. Something had to be done. So that will hopefully provide a great deal of stability. I

BHE has put together a taskforce on a MAP proposal to sell what are called human capital investment bonds. That group met for the first time today and they will meet two more times. The current MAP program provides about \$400 million each year. It is not enough to meet the demand so a lot of students who qualify can't get funded. This program would provide additional dollars; it still wouldn't meet the demand and is what some people believe is a fairly risky proposal. It has been opposed by the Illinois Community College Board and their Trustees Association. The public university presidents haven't taken a vote on it, but we discussed it at a meeting and not a single president believes it's a good idea. There is more information at IBHE.org.

The Student Affairs search committee met this week. We are looking for faculty volunteers and I guess that will happen tonight. Lane Crothers has agreed to chair the committee. The search consultants from Greenwood and Associates tell us there is a lot of interest in the position.

Dr. Zenger, Athletics Director, has done a marvelous job. He will certainly be missed. The position is highly desirable and we will attract a very strong pool. I have appointed a search committee. They haven't met yet, but that will happen very soon. Dan Layzell will chair that committee. We will follow the usual pattern, but we will do some targeted recruiting, as we will for Student Affairs, to reach out to individuals that have very good credentials.

- ***Provost Sheri Everts***

**Provost Everts:** The applications indicate a freshman profile consistent with previous years. The ACT average for incoming freshmen is 24.4. Applications are also up for both the new freshmen category as well as for transfer students. Apps are up 7% for freshmen and up 18% for transfer students in the underrepresented categories. Tuesday, March 29 and Wednesday, March 30, are dates for the program planning budget presentations for Academic Affairs. Those will be morning sessions in the Alumni Center. They are approximately 8:00 a.m. to noon each day. .

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

**Vice President Adams:** In the first three days after the rec center opened, more than 5,000 visits were paid. 95% were students. For the entire week, there were 25,600 visits paid to the new student fitness center and McCormick Hall. I am very thankful that we are opening it at midyear. That gives a good six to eight months to assess how things are going to play out. We will take a look at the hours, activities and we have already made some adjustments by adding some fitness classes, a yoga class. Dawn Sanner, who is the Executive Director of that building, has stood tall and done an outstanding job in using her staff to get that facility underway. Just yesterday, in that building, Jamba Juice opened. That will be an attraction.

It hasn't been that long ago when it was difficult to sell meal plans to off-campus students from campus dining. This semester, there are nearly 1,000 off-campus students who have on-campus meal plans. The appeal is the variety of options.

The Watterson Towers renovation is moving along. The first group of students has moved into the new rooms. About 400 students moved into the renovated part. We expect it to be finished in fall of 2012.

**Senator Rich:** I apologize for not submitting this question in advance. How might the recent chain of events in Arizona regarding class disruption and mental health concerns and might hopefully play out differently here at ISU.

Vice President Adams: Many of you are familiar with the student intervention team that we have and we have a lot of information on a lot of different students. We have taken action at various times since that group has been in existence. We have used local, state and federal law enforcement to report information about particular students. We have suspended or dismissed, so we are as prepared as any college or university can be, but certainly that does not prevent someone slipping through the cracks. So I would strongly advise any of you who witness any unusual behavior to report the student situations to the Dean of Students Office and to report the faculty and staff situations to Human Resources.

• ***Vice President of Finance and Planning Dan Layzell***

**Vice President Layzell:** With regard to the Cardinal Court project, both the design and the financing are moving along very well. We are hopeful that will be closed out in the next three weeks. We remain on track of getting this project done by fall 2012.

***Academic Affairs Committee:***

**Senator Woith:** We spent the evening reviewing what had already been done and organizing and planning for the rest of the meetings.

***Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee:***

**Senator Kalter:** We had a very informative and educational meeting about doing our first NEPR, which is reviewing the cost, staff and other budgetary implications of new and expanded academic and administrative programs. We learned about the relatively new program, the Nursing Ph.D.

***Faculty Affairs Committee:***

**Senator Wedwick:** Our committee met with Chuck McGuire, Shane McCreary, Provost Everts and Chris Clevenger to continue our discussions about the university's hiring practices. We reviewed a document that those individuals created for best practices for faculty search committees.

***Planning and Finance Committee:***

**Senator Van der Laan:** Kym Pereira, Professor of Theatre and Performances and also the Director of the Honors Program. He spoke to us about the possibility of an honors college. We learned about the many benefits and advantages to be gained by forming an honors college at ISU.

***Rules Committee:***

**Senator Bailey:** Two members of the Mennonite College of Nursing met with us to review proposed changes to their bylaws.

***Action Items:***

**03.03.10.01**                      ***Statements of Economic Interests Policy (Rules Committee)***  
***(Distributed in 12/8/10 Packets)***

**Motion XXXII-36:** By Senator Bailey to approve the Statements of Economic Interest Policy. The motion was unanimously approved.

**11.11.10.02**                      ***Use of Electronic Equipment for Surveillance Purposes-Revised (Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee)***  
***(Distributed in 12/8/10 Packets)***

**Motion XXXXII-37:** By Senator Kalter to approve the Use of Electronic Equipment for Surveillance Purposes Policy. The motion was unanimously approved.

*10.29.10.01 Pass/Fail-Credit/No Credit Policy-Revised (Academic Affairs Committee)  
(Distributed in 12/8/10 Packets)*

**Motion XXXXII-38:** By Senator Woith to approve the Pass/Fail-Credit/No Credit Policy.

**Motion XXXXII-39:** By Senator Rubashkin, seconded by Senator Farrell, to increase the numbers of hours possible to take pass/fail courses from six to nine hours. This won't increase the number of overall hours.

**Senator Schlessler:** While it may seem like students may need to take more pass/fail courses, the idea was to see how good a pass/fail course looks on your transcript as opposed to classes for credit. So I would urge you to vote no on the amendment.

**Point of Information:**

**Senator Kalter:** I would like to hear an argument about the amendment before we debate it.

**Senator Rubashkin:** I took two pass/fail classes last semester and I really thought it was a great way of learning. When you take a pass/fail class, you don't focus on each little point in hopes of getting an A. You go with the hopes of just learning from the class. I found it to be a far more rewarding experience when I had a very heavy workload.

**Senator Van der Laan:** I would like someone to speak to the advantages and disadvantages of six hours of pass/fail as opposed to nine hours.

**Senator Crowley:** In our committee, we discussed the integrity of student learning in an environment where they know they will be evaluated versus the integrity of a learning environment where it is a matter of pass and fail and how our degree will look to a receiving audience upon graduation.

**Senator Rubashkin:** It really isn't increasing the cap, it's just allowing for students who need to take three courses pass/fail in a semester. I don't believe it would decrease the integrity of the academic programs.

**Senator O'Rourke:** I think both sides have interesting points, but what concerns me is unintended consequences. I would recommend that we approve the policy as presented tonight and take under advisement on the committee the suggestion that that be changed to a nine credit hour limit per semester.

**Senator Rich:** Can someone from the Provost's Office comment on whether there is any guidance in the accreditation process?

**Dr. Jonathan Rosenthal, Associate Vice President for EMAS:** Not that I know of. We did benchmark against other comparator institutions and our policy is very consistent with those other institutions.

**Senator Tomlin:** I would like to know what kind of demand there is for the six hours. Is there a need for nine?

**Dr. Rosenthal:** I don't know. I would have to research that question. I would suspect that six hours would be very rare.

**Senator Rubashkin:** Since there are so many questions, I would consider withdrawing my amendment if the committee would go back and look into the possibility of increasing it from six to nine with us not voting on the policy tonight.

**Senator Holland:** You are withdrawing your proposed amendment?

**Senator Rubashkin:** Assuming that the policy is withdrawn from the agenda.

**Call the Question:** The question was called. There was an objection by Senator Rubashkin

**Motion XXXXII-40:** By Senator Rubashkin: I will just move to withdrawal the bill from debate. Seconded by Senator Dawson.

**Senator Holland:** So we have a motion to withdraw the bill from debate and send it back to committee.

**Senator Kalter:** It would do no harm to pass this policy, because the committee has shown itself amenable for further considerations.

**Senator Olendzki:** I am in favor of the motion to withdraw. If it is found that this is something students are interested in, just take care of it all at once.

**Move the Question:** By Senator Schlessler, seconded by Senator Marquis, to move the question. There was one nay vote; the remaining votes were aye.

**Senator Holland:** Now we come to the question on whether we are going to withdraw it or not. All in favor to withdraw it and have it reconsidered say aye. Opposed?

The Senate voted by voice vote. There was a call to have a vote by roll call.

**Senator Dawson:** So what is the question?

**Senator Holland:** The question we were voting on was whether to withdraw it and have it reconsidered. A yes vote will move it back to committee.

A roll call vote was done on the motion to withdraw the policy. The motion did not pass.

**Point of Information: Senator Rubashkin:** If we do not pass this right now, will the recommendation actually have power or will it not?

**Senator Holland:** Yes, unless you change it, it stays in effect. By the way, we are back to debating the bill as submitted.

**Called the Question:** The question was called and there were no objections.

The majority of the Senate approved the Pass/Fail-Credit/No Credit Policy.

**11.11.10.01** *Classified Research Policy-Draft 3 (Faculty Affairs Committee) (Distributed in 12/8/10 Packets)*

**Motion XXXXII-41:** By Senator Wedwick to approve the Classified Research Policy. The policy was unanimously approved.



**Information Items:**

**01.12.11.01** *Administrator Evaluation Policy – Revised to Include VP Commentary Survey Information (Rules Committee)*

**01.05.11.01** *Blue Book Revisions for VP Commentary Survey (Rules Committee)*

**Senator Bailey:** We have amended the policy to include evaluations of the vice presidents. There is just one line in the Blue Book that adds to the Executive Committee's role to review the vice presidential commentary survey and forward the raw data to the president.

**Senator Rich:** There are no substantive changes to the department chairpersons' evaluations. Is that correct?

**Senator Bailey:** Correct

**12.17.10.02** *Student Services Programs Policy Deletion (Rules Committee)*

**Senator Bailey:** There is an existing governance structure that exists through the Association of Residence Halls, so this policy was unnecessary.

**Senator Kalter:** In the absence of the policy, what is there to prevent the removal of the existing governance structure?

**Senator Bailey:** I don't know.

**Senator Crowley:** What motivates the deletion?

**Senator Holland:** It's talking about something that doesn't exist.

**Senator Bailey:** It was something that hasn't existing for years. There is an existing structure that serves the same purpose and has elected students that serve and/or are able to provide input, so it was unnecessary.

**12.16.10.01** *Blue Book Revisions to the Academic Freedom Ethics and Grievance Committee Section – Inclusion of NTTs (Rules Committee)*

**01.12.11.02** *Academic Freedom Ethics and Grievance Policy Revisions – Inclusion of NTTs (Rules Committee)*

**Senator Bailey:** As we started to revise the document, more classifications of employees were noted, so we ended up adding quite a few individuals to this document. We moved from 18 to 31 members because of the different classifications, for example Metcalf and University Lab Schools. There are non-unionized, non-tenure tract and they were not represented previously. We also realized that NTTs don't have a service obligation in their contracts, so we added contingency language on page 7. If they were not able to get individuals willing to be elected, in that case it allowed for appointment of individuals. We also modified the Blue Book to reflect those changes.

**Senator Dawson:** As the non-tenure track representative to the Senate, my question to the committee is what items did you reference in terms of numbers of NTTs and in terms of those covered by the negotiated agreement, versus non-covered. Was there any representation of NTTs on the committee?

**Dr. Chuck McGuire, Associated Vice President of Academic Administration:** The negotiated agreement does not cover non-tenure track faculty in either Mennonite or Milner Library. Under the non-tenure track collective bargaining agreement, the non-tenure-track covered by that agreement have a grievance procedure, but it does not cover academic freedom issues. Therefore, they need representation in academic freedom issues

only. The non-tenure track non-represented individuals have no grievance procedure, so they needed a grievance procedure in this document as well. We did not reference the numbers of either group. We simply wanted to provide an avenues of representation for both types of non-tenure tracks.

**Senator Dawson:** Was there additional information? Did you have everything you needed and is there anything more we need to find before considering these changes?

**Dr. McGuire:** The committee had quite a lot of input from the Human Resources Department with regard to both types and also with regard to the nature of the contracts. My understanding is the fee-paid, non-tenure-track are still represented in the grievance procedure and therefore they would fall under the first category that we talked about. It's the non-tenure-track not covered by the collective bargaining agreement that need special representation within this document.

**Senator Kalter:** It came up in Exec that we wanted to verify just Mennonite and Milner.

**Dr. McGuire:** It's only Mennonite and Milner that are not represented at all.

### *Communications*

**Senator Marquis:** The SGA is doing its second annual State Your Art program. It is an annual contest for students from any department. They have the opportunity to submit a two-D piece of art. The SGA will pay for that artwork to be hung around campus. Submissions can be submitted till Tuesday. Right now, they are only taking in pictures or pdfs. Those can be sent to [ajtribe@ilstu.edu](mailto:ajtribe@ilstu.edu).

**Senator Clayton:** This Sunday, we are having a red out for the game. The game is televised. Everyone wear red. It will keep our spirit up.

**Senator LaCasse:** ISU Theatre and College of Fine Arts alum Jane Lynch received a Golden Globe on Sunday for her performance as the very mean-spirited gym teacher on *Glee*.

### *Adjournment*

**Motion XXXXII-41:** By Senator Dawson, seconded by Senator Diaz, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.