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Spring 3-23-2011

Senate Meeting, March 23, 2011

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Recommended Citation

Senate, Academic, "Senate Meeting, March 23, 2011" (2011). *Academic Senate Minutes*. 827.
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Academic Senate MINUTES
Wednesday, March 23, 2011
(Approved)

Call to Order

Sen. Holland called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Sen. Kalter called the roll and declared a quorum.

Approval of Minutes of March 2, 2011

Motion XXXXII-60: By Sen. Hoelscher, seconded by Sen. Rubashkin, to approve the minutes of March 2, 2011. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Chairperson's Remarks

Sen. Holland: Even though we have a fairly long agenda, we have a Faculty Caucus after this.

Student Body President's Remarks

Sen. Marquis: We have installed six bulletin boards across campus that are now considered Bird Call Boards. They are for general posting. They are located in Schroeder Hall. There are also postings in Stevenson, Femley and Moulton Halls. No approval is necessary for the postings. The Student Government Association will monitor the boards on a monthly basis. In addition to that, the State Your Art is also in effect. The winning submissions have been chosen and were hung over Founders Day. They can be found in east campus residence halls and Vrooman. They can also be found in Milner Library and a couple of other places around campus.

This week is the Student Government Association's Diversity Week. Our annual events all deal with different areas of diversity. This week's theme is think outside the box, look inside the person. It's not focusing as much on just the physical diversity, but this is focusing on lots of different areas of diversity – physical disabilities, mental disabilities, as well as what makes us unique.

My note about Fools' Fest is that I will be sending an e-mail to the student body in regard to the event. It won't be anything trying to chastise students, but I will strongly encourage them to behave appropriately. I will really try to encourage safe behavior.

Administrators' Remarks

• ***President Al Bowman***

President Bowman: We hosted Sen. Durbin on campus for a news conference this afternoon to talk about a piece of the IRS code called the American Opportunity Tax Credit. It's a fairly generous tax credit available to middle class families that provides up to \$2500 per college student. The program isn't well known and that was the purpose of his visit today. They have calculated that just for the State of Illinois, \$1 billion worth of credit hasn't been used. If you want some additional information about it, you can go to Sen. Durbin's website.

We traveled to Springfield for the first round of appropriations hearings with Provost Everts and Dan Layzell and Phil Adams. It's clear that despite the tax increase, Illinois will still face some significant cuts in order to bring the budget into balance. We've received \$24 million from the state so far this year. Our appropriation is \$79 million, so we still have a ways to go. We have received the fall MAP payment, but we are still waiting on the \$7.2 million payment for the spring.

You may have seen some media reports on MAP funding; the application deadline is coming up this Friday the 25th. Because of the large number of applications for the popular program, ISAC has moved up the application

deadline. It will be the earliest suspension date in MAP history. There have been a number of reports about Pell funding. At least on the House side, the program has been cut by 15%. Those bills are still working their way through Congress. It's up in the air how far that will go.

I had a question on the concealed carry legislation. A bill to allow licensed Illinois citizens to carry concealed firearms did advance out of the House. The dynamic that's in play right now is really the same one that has been there for the last 15 or 20 years. The bill passes out of a friendly committee and then the Chicago Democrats and a few suburban Republicans team up to prevent the bill from moving forward. That may not happen this year. The bill may move through the Senate, but there is no reason to believe that Gov. Quinn will sign it. In some states, universities are able to opt out. That provision has been included in this bill. That doesn't mean that guns couldn't be carried on campus. What it would mean is if the University opted out, they couldn't be carried in our buildings, but it would still be legal to carry a firearm on campus property.

Sen. Kalter: My question about that was whether there were any policies that the Senate can pass that would prevent weapons everywhere on campus.

President Bowman: Only if state law allowed it. It's doubtful that the law would be written such that we could prevent them from being on campus. The gun lobby is interested in the ability of parents to carry a gun to a K-12 door to drop their child off for school.

On to Fools' Fest. I would like to complement Steve Adams and his staff, as well as all the other campus groups that gotten involved for preparing for the event. Our police department worked as well on this preparation. We made contact with area hospitals. I think we've done all we can. The University is certainly not opposed to a large student gathering. Our concern is when these events have occurred in other places, they've often gotten out of hand. There have even been deaths in some places.

The VP for Student Affairs search committee is moving forward. We're at the point where we're ready to do off-site interviews. The same is true for the ADD search committee. I'll be part of both teams. We've got a very capable pool of individuals.

Sen. Farrell: My question is about the increased security in the residence halls. Will the residents be prorated for the increased security?

President Bowman: No, we would absorb those costs.

Sen. Marquis: I've talked to two of the organizers. They wanted to come tonight to speak with all of you about the event. They are very apologetic about what it has snowballed into. We are working to try to do some risk management.

Sen. Schlessler: I know that the town council voted on whether or not to allow the mayor to halt liquor sales. Did that pass? I wanted to know how that works.

President Bowman: It did pass. I haven't seen the bill. The media reports indicated that the mayor now has the authority to curtail liquor sales. They could force businesses to close early or eliminate them completely up to 48 hours.

- ***Provost Sheri Everts***

Provost Everts: I will do a quick update for the Fools' Fest from Academic Affairs. A memo went to all faculty earlier today from the Provost's office. The memo reminds faculty and staff of faculty rights under policy 4.1.17, as well as requests to share this information with students prior to the end of next week.

I also have a short update on Academic Affairs searches. The search committee for the Dean of Arts and Sciences conducted airport interviews last week. Candidates will soon be selected for on-campus interviews. We anticipate those will occur the week of April 11. More information will be available soon and updates can be monitored at the Provost website. Interim CAS Dean Jim Payne has accepted a position at South Florida. The search committee for the Assistant Vice President for Academic Administration will meet next week. I will remind you that Dave Malone is chairing the committee. Dr. Malone is a member of the Panel of 10 and Janet Krejci will serve as the Provost's liaison to that committee. The Assistant Provost's position will be available online shortly and Mark Walbert is chairing that committee, which will have its initial meeting on April 1. Finally, the Academic Affairs budget hearings will be next week, Tuesday, March 29, and Wednesday, March 30, at the alumni center on both days from 8 AM to noon. The agenda for that is on the Provost's website.

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

VP Adams: I'm not sure how much more I can say about Fools' Fest. Sen. Marquis, you made an excellent point and that is the message that was sent out to the residents by Maureen Blair as far as the housing situation is concerned. Chief Woodruff is sending a letter to parents of students. Provost Everts mentioned the faculty and staff posting. The messages are not meant in any way to admonish the students. That was not the intention whatsoever. We have to remember that, at one point, there were over 10,200 people who signed in on Facebook indicating that they would attend this event particularly in light of other events--the unofficial events at the University of Illinois and at Southern Illinois. There have been some very serious injuries. There has been some severe property damage. There has been one death that we are aware of. We did everything we could to prepare and to contact as many different individuals, including police agencies from Bloomington/Normal. The state police have been involved and the security force will be involved as well. There will be an increase in emergency responders. The safety of our students is our number one priority.

Sen. Farrell: You said the Town of Normal has already passed a law prohibiting the sale of alcohol. Did the City of Bloomington also pass a similar law?

VP Adams: The City of Bloomington did not.

Sen. Liechty: I have heard that there are some pretty bad bugs going around. I have had students not able to make it to class because of that. I am wondering if the hand sanitizers are being kept full.

VP Adams: We can certainly check in with facilities. I will make that call to them tomorrow.

- ***Vice President of Finance and Planning Dan Layzell - Absent***

Academic Affairs Committee: Senator Woith - No report

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee:

Senator Kalter: We spent the first part of the meeting discussing policies 3.3.6 and 3.2.13, which are about the role and identity of the chairs of Milner and Mennonite College. We will be sending our recommendations to the Executive Committee. We spent the rest of the time talking about the academic calendar, the proposed calendar for 15-16 and policy 1.11, but we are foregoing that recommendation until we hear back from one of the senators on our committee.

Sen. Schlessler: This came up in our committee last week. Was there discussion about moving the spring break?

Sen. Kalter: A faculty member forwarded to the Executive Committee a proposal to move the spring break one week. We discussed that and decided that it would cause as many problems as it would solve.

Faculty Affairs Committee:

Senator Wedwick: We discussed some more of the Intellectual Property Policy, but it was conveyed to us that that will be taken up by a larger campus committee than Faculty Affairs. It won't probably be on our agenda until next year and some decisions are made about that. We also started talking about a pros and cons list for junior sabbaticals.

Planning and Finance Committee:

Senator Van der Laan: We consulted with Barb Blake, instead of Dan Layzell, Sheri Everts, Mardell Wilson and Danielle Lindsey about summer school funding and summer school scheduling.

Rules Committee:

Senator Bailey: We discussed the Endowed Chairs and Professorships Policy and the University Naming Policy. We have just a couple of friendly amendments, typos, that sort of thing.

Action Items:

02.18.11.07 University Naming Procedures Proposed Policy (Rules Committee)
(Dist. in 3/2/11 Packets)

Motion XXXXII-61: By Sen. Bailey to approve the University Naming Policy.

Sen. Bailey: The second bolded heading is called Presidential Facilities Naming Committee. That's actually a typo. It's supposed to be the Presidential University Naming Committee because not everything that's going to be named is going to be a facility. The second one is in that same paragraph beginning with the president. This is a result of your conversation last week. We are going to propose that the president appoint one student representative, one faculty representative and of course the three additional at-large members.

In the next paragraph, we'd like to propose a student member shall serve a one year term. The faculty representative and any at-large members serve two-year appointments. If you will flip to the very end of the policy, there are two more small amendments. The sentence that begins the University Director of Facilities Planning. Apparently, that is not a single person, so we would like to propose the Office of Facilities Planning will maintain a list of all official University facilities, etc. Within that same paragraph, the next sentence, again it's a typo that says Campus Director of Facilities Planning. Again, that's Office of Facilities Planning.

Sen. Kalter: I just wanted to clarify the second one I think that was made on the first page. Am I right that you said the president may appoint?

Sen. Bailey: The president shall appoint one student representative, one faculty representative and up to three additional at-large members.

Sen. Kalter: And the next one, you said that the student would have a one-year appointment. I missed the next one

Sen. Bailey: The faculty representative and any at-large members serve two-year appointments and may be reappointed for a maximum of three consecutive terms.

Sen. Marquis: This doesn't have to be amended in the policy, but my recommendation would be to have the Student Body President or Vice President be the student representative because I know one of the concerns was that students aren't easy to reach where as the Student Body President and the Vice President would always be here in the summer and so could be available on a short notice.

The policy, as amended, was unanimously approved.

01.18.11.02 *Endowed Chairs and Professorships Proposed Policy (Rules Committee)*
(Dist. in 3/2/11 Packets)

Motion XXXXII-62: By Sen. Bailey to approve the Endowed Chairs and Professorships Policy.

Sen. Bailey: In the third paragraph down, that begins Endowed Professorship Defined. The first sentence, I'm going to read it as it is now written. An endowed professorship is the named position founded on a gift agreement that will ordinarily supplement the salary of an occupant for that term. What was changed were the words partially fund, which were exchanged for ordinarily supplement. I believe the reason for that was it's more indicative of a supplement to the general nine-month salary; it would be to supplement the summer, etc., rather than partially fund the nine-month salary in addition.

Sen. Holland: Mostly that was put in to make it absolutely clear that at the end of the endowed professorship term...Further on down here it says the unit will pick up the salary. That then is not something that the unit is going to be picking up.

The policy, as amended, was unanimously approved.

01.11.11.01 *Request for Additional Academic Planning Committee Members for 2011-2012 (Rules Committee)*
(Dist. in 3/2/11 Packets)

Motion XXXXII-62: By Sen. Bailey to approve the request for additional members on the Academic Planning Committee for the term 2011-12.

Sen. Holland: This is for a one-year ad hoc basis because 32 programs are up for review or something on that order. We need additional committee members; otherwise committee members will not do anything else that semester.

The request was unanimously approved.

01.18.11.04 *Withdrawal Policy-Revised (Academic Affairs Committee)*
(Dist. in 3/2/11 Packets)

Motion XXXXII-63: By Sen. Woith to approve the Withdrawal Policy.

Sen. Kalter: I brought up last time that students would have to come into the Registrar's Office in person on the last day of the eighth week and in some cases it would be physically impossible. I'm wondering if Jonathan could speak to that and whether there is any flexibility in that.

Jonathan Rosenthal, EMAS: The purpose for that is that we need to verify identity. We do have alternate means. People can fax things in, but we don't write policies for the exceptions. We do have another policy that has to do with medical withdrawal where we know it is more difficult for the student to come in.

Sen. Kalter: So the policy is written one way, but the practice will be somewhat flexible if the circumstances merit flexibility?

Dr. Rosenthal: Yes.

The policy was unanimously approved.

02.18.11.04 *Blue Book Revision to Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee Functions
(Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee)
(Dist. in 3/2/11 Packets)*

Motion XXXXII-64: By Sen. Kalter to approve the revisions to the Blue Book.

The Blue Book revisions were unanimously approved.

02.18.11.05 *Academic Impact Fund Recommendations (Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee)*
02.18.11.06 *Accompanying Table
(Dist. in 3/2/11 Packets)*

Motion XXXXII-65: By Sen. Kalter to approve the Academic Impact Fund Recommendations.

Sen. Rich: Upon reading this, I am worried about a seemingly small detail. The second to last column has average credit hours divided by tenure-track faculty. The numerator in looking at the numbers is apparently limited to the tenure-track faculty credit hours as opposed to all credit hours. I would be happy to provide examples where that reveals over time exactly the opposite measure of what you'd like it to reveal. I would suggest a more robust indicator of department staffing needs would be the ratio of all credit hours divided by tenure-track faculty. There are some supplemental measures that reveal NTT use in addition to that. That's something I would suggest as a change for the future.

The Academic Impact Fund Recommendations were unanimously approved.

Information Items:

12.20.10.01 *Baccalaureate Degree Document-Proposed Revisions (Academic Affairs Committee)*

Sen. Woith: The Baccalaureate Degree Document addresses some of the issues related to needing to decrease the time to degree. There were two changes identified. We deleted and changed some of the wording in number 3. Documentation should include a comparison with similar programs with the same CIP code. Number five was deleted because it is state specific and doesn't apply any longer. On the second page are just some questions that they are going to be adding to the online program revision form that will help them obtain more information.

Sen. Kalter: I just had a question for Jonathan if I may about a little bit of elaboration for three and the rationale for revisions. At the bottom of page 1, it says the revision to item three lessens the research and explanation required while maintaining the most useful benchmarking comparison. As we all know, sometimes more research is bad and sometimes more research is good. So I was wondering if you can elaborate on why it is a good idea of what we're doing here.

Jonathan Rosenthal, EMAS: I think we are trying to compare majors to majors. I think where General Education comes into it, it would be an overlap with the major. Generally, within the state, General Education programs are about the same size, so it's not usually what is at stake here and honestly I think it was out of concern for faculty time.

Sen. Kalter: So the basic thing in that part that you are crossing out, you are focusing on the differences in the General Education requirements. Why would you want to be doing a lot of work on that when you're talking about the degree program? Can you give an example on the other one where it says and other baccalaureate degree requirements? Is that sort of the language requirement if you get a bachelors degree?

Dr. Rosenthal: Yes.

Sen. Kalter: Okay that makes that a lot clearer.

Sen. Van der Laan: I'm curious about the exemptions and I know that you're concerned keeping the number of hours within reason. It says exceptions will be rare, but the opening sentence says the UCC received a number of requests and I wondered if this is a one-time event, a spike in the requests, or if they are becoming more prevalent.

Jonathan Rosenthal: There are a certain number of programs that are over 124 hours and we're concerned about those; we watch those. That is part of the program review process that folks have to justify that periodically. UCC had many proposals to add hours and I think we all need to be concerned about time to degree given the cost of attendance, given everything else. We take our responsibility for review seriously, so we've added some questions to give us a little more insight into the reasons that programs have to add hours.

Sen. Holland: What is the most number of hours any of our degree programs have?

Jonathan Rosenthal: I believe it would be an education program and music.

Sen. Cedeño: For the programs that wanted to have more than 124 hours, what is the usual answer by UCC?

Jonathan Rosenthal: We have adjusted General Education about five years ago. That went down about six hours for most students. I think we sorely needed that flexibility within our curriculum. I think every case is handled individually. We had a case this year where we did some hard negotiations with the department and the department came back with a different proposal that was accepted. So it is very much a matter of the individual curriculum and how a department negotiates with us.

Sen. Tomasino: Being in the education program, specifically the deaf ed program, a lot of other education majors would like to take sign language and they're not in the major so they can't. Also, a bunch of deaf ed would like to take vision courses and we can't because we're not in that major. Have you ever thought about opening sign language up to other education majors, because they might have students in their classes with vision problems and deaf and hard of hearing.

Jonathan Rosenthal: I could defer to Dean Curtis on that, but I think it's a matter of capacity.

Sen. Crowley: If I were to add anything to that, speak with the professors involved. That would be the place to start.

08.26.09.01 Grading Practices Policy (Academic Affairs Committee)

Sen. Woith: This policy is just part of the annual review cycle. That's why we're bringing it forward.

Sen. Holland: Are there any changes?

Sen. Woith: There were no changes.

Senate Rich: This is a change or just a reaffirmation on an annual basis? If there is a change, what is the intended scope and application of this particular paragraph?

Sen. Woith: There is no change. This has always been the policy, which was written back in the 70s, I believe. We were looking at the possibility of experimenting with different ways to grade.

Sen. Crowley: How wide is the implication?

Jonathan Rosenthal: I would say that no one has contacted a dean or the Provost's office about this ever.

03.08.11.01 Oral English Proficiency Policy (Academic Affairs Committee)

Sen. Woith: If you look on the back of the policy that was in your packet, it explains that there is a statute that this policy was written to address. We have not actually had the policy prior to this point in time. It's there to demonstrate that we are meeting the law.

Sen. Kalter: I know that the committee changed the wording from the one that was below. I was wondering if maybe it would be a good idea to go up even closer to the way that the law is worded and say the University shall 1. Maintain a program to assess. One of the things that got brought up in the Executive Committee meeting was that if you say the University shall assess, it implies that every single teacher in every single classroom will have to go through this assessment, where usually that's not what we do and I think it's probably not what the law intends. So I'm wondering if we could phrase it almost exactly like they do. The University shall maintain a program to assess and then shall resolve student concerns and shall report the results.

Communications

Sen. Horst: As far as music, there is a symphony concert this Thursday. On March 31, the faculty string quartet is giving a concert. On April 5, the brass quartet is giving a concert. There are numerous different recitals.

Sen. LaCasse: We cordially invite you to attend Shakespeare's Two Gentlemen of Verona. It will be in Westoff Theater March 30 through April 3. Also the production of Tom Stopperd's Rock 'n Roll, which will open March 31 and runs through April 3 and April 6 to 9 in the Center for Performing Arts

Adjournment

Motion XXXXII-66: by Sen. Hoelscher, seconded by Sen. Farrell, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.