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Academic Senate Minutes

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Fall 8-26-2015

Senate Meeting, August 26, 2015

Academic Senate
Illinois State University

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Academic Senate Minutes
August 26, 2015
(Approved)

Call to Order

Chairperson Kalter called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Secretary Lonbom called the roll and declared a quorum.

Approval of Minutes of May 6, 2015

Motion XLVI-4: By Senator Lin, seconded by Senator McHale, to approve the minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Kalter: Welcome! Welcome to all our new Senators and welcome back to our continuing Senators! There is activity and ferment in the air. As a university, we are going to face a lot of challenges this year, but I also sense strongly that we're going to rise to those challenges and accomplish a lot. As a governing body, we are starting our business early and it promises to be an active and productive year, and I hope therefore a satisfying one.

On the docket for this year: tonight, in fact!...we will be seeing tonight several policies that the Academic Affairs Committee passed late last spring, as well as an item on changes to Academic Progress Alert grades, and everybody's favorite, the Academic Calendars! The Protection of Minors policy was revised over the summer and is almost ready to come back to the floor. We'll be looking at Financial Exigency policies and long-range financial planning; revised college bylaws from the College of Applied Science and Technology, College of Education, and Milner Library; textbook affordability; improvements in Library Committee membership; the Academic Impact Fund; the Sick Leave policy; and the Academic Freedom, Ethics, and Grievance policy. We'll have ongoing items of interest, such as edTPA and the much-needed, enhanced communication between the Council for Teacher Education and Senate communication on that exam and other education issues, as well as continued contemplation of how best to resolve some MW/MWF/TR scheduling conflicts. And, as the faculty Senators know, this year is the regularly scheduled 5-year-cycle review of Appointment, Salary, Promotion and Tenure policies, so the Faculty Caucus can look forward to lively debate on those suggested revisions from the University Review Committee. A slideshow with some of our other cherished ambitions is posted on the Provost's website under the "Professional Development: Administrator's Retreat" tab, from an early August meeting of the department chairs, school directors, deans, and other administrators that I attended.

I wanted to thank President Dietz and his wife Marlene for inviting us to the lovely reception and to Janet Krejci and Jay Groves for hosting it in the Dietz's absence. It is a wonderful tradition to begin the first Senate meeting of every year with a gathering at the University Residence.

On behalf of President Dietz, I have been asked to formally announce that we will be conducting a search, beginning this fall, for the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Searches for vacant administrative positions described in our Administrator Selection policy begin when the President or his/her designee officially announces to the Academic Senate that a vacancy has occurred or will occur. The Senate office has contacted the faculty to call for nominees for the search committee which will be

formed under the auspices of the Panel of Ten. That search committee consists of four faculty members, five students, one civil servant, one administrative professional, an administrator who serves as secretary, and a fifth faculty member from the Panel of Ten who serves as chair.

I would like to thank Cynthia James for all the hard work that she did over the summer (and does over every summer) closing out last year, tying up loose ends, and getting us prepared for this coming year.

One of the items Cynthia takes the lead on is organizing the meetings of the Council of Illinois University Senates. This is an all-day meeting attended by the chairs of public university Senates across the state to discuss shared governance in the state. Illinois State will be hosting this semester's meeting on Friday, September 11, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., probably in Founder's Suite. You are invited to attend all or part if you are interested.

I hope and trust that shared governance has been occurring on the department and college level with respect to budget planning. Provost Krejci and I discussed earlier in the week the three areas where faculty, students and staff can contribute their ideas: expressing concerns about things that might be cut; offering suggestions as to things that perhaps ought to be cut; and offering ideas as to where we should be investing more of our monies for the future. Please let us know if you or your constituents have not found an outlet for your wish to participate in the shared governance around budget planning.

Tonight we are going to have a "double session" of administrator's remarks. I have asked the Vice Presidents, the Deans' Council representative, and the Chairs' Council representative, to update us on where we are now in our budget cutting scenarios, and invited our Vice-Chair Ryan Powers to contribute any comments or observations he might have from the student side. We will hear all those reports first, holding questions until everyone has had a change to report, and then have a Q&A just about the budget. Following that, the Vice Presidents will give us their other updates. I will again hold questions until the end. I understand that there is much interest for that Q&A session in receiving some answers about the new student computer system, so we have invited some experts to assist the Provost and Vice President Alt with those queries. Please also remember that the regular "ticket" system that we have for faculty, staff and students to submit any very specific questions and problems should be used, in order to focus the attention of the Campus Solution teams on the highest priority issues first: for faculty and academic staff, those are in the colleges; for students, it is the HelpDesk. Please remind your constituents to use those resources. I'd like to make a special mention of our advisors, and Jess Ray's team, who have been performing heroics all summer and who will be doing so all fall to address glitches that we are identifying in the system.

I have one final chairperson's remark, but I will reserve it until the end of our meeting tonight.

Student Body President's Remarks

Senator Powers: Tomorrow, Festival ISU is taking place on the quad from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Success Week, I hope all of you here are following that new policy. If you are not, please do so. Please inform your colleagues to start following that policy. We have already had some troubles, so please inform the faculty about that policy and how much it means to students to have that week off so that they can do better on the finals.

This year, SGA will be doing the "It's On Us Campaign". Senator Kendrick will be leading the committee for that. The campaign is a campaign against sexual assault on college campuses. Hopefully we will be having our first event mid-September and we will be discussing resources available to students and what they should do if they feel they have been sexually assaulted. Please let your students know about this event and if you have any suggestions for us, please contact Alita or me.

I will be working a lot on textbook affordability. Hopefully, we will be creating a new Textbook Affordability Committee that is an External Committee to the Senate, but there will be more information to come.

Budget Session (Dean McKean, Chair of Chairs Council Jeff Clark, Vice Presidents)

Senator Alt: I have been asked to give an overview of the budget. As I read some remarks that President Dietz sent as an introduction to that, I am going to be passing around a handout. President Dietz could not be with us tonight, but he wanted to provide comments that he wanted me to read:

“Unfortunately, I cannot be with you tonight given my attendance at a funeral service for a family member. Regarding the continuing budget impasse in Springfield, very little has occurred since I communicated to the University community in early July. Governor Rauner’s original budget proposed a 31.5 percent appropriation reduction for public universities. Later, the General Assembly approved a budget including an 8.6 percent reduction in higher education appropriations. The Governor promptly vetoed that budget, and we have remained in limbo ever since.

Illinois State has created three budget cut scenarios reflecting a 31.5% reduction, a 20% reduction, and a 10% reduction as requested by the legislature. I presented these scenarios last spring during appropriation hearings in Springfield. In May we also presented two tuition enhancement scenarios to the Board of Trustees, which resulted in a 3% increase in tuition. It is the tuition income that is providing most of the funding for the operation of the University at this point. In addition, we are still continuing to collect payments from the state for the FY15 fiscal year and that is a good sign that some money is flowing, but the amounts are modest. We have not implemented any overall cuts to the budget at this point because we do not have a figure that has been provided to us. While we wait for a fiscal year 2016 budget to be approved—Illinois State will continue to operate normally. Faculty and staff will continue to be paid, and the University will continue to fulfill its mission and provide our normal complement of services.

We are continuing to monitor hiring. Department heads, deans, and vice-presidents must review and approve the hiring vacant positions and I personally review each hire. Most hiring has been for faculty to teach classes and staff grant-funded projects. We will continue to closely monitor these requests. In addition, Jonathan Lackland, our Director of State Relations, and I are in constant contact with legislators advocating for funding for Illinois State University. Just last Friday we met with a key legislator, and I am in touch regularly with Representative Dan Brady. I am also the convener of the presidents and chancellors of the public universities in Illinois and we hold conference calls weekly to keep each other informed.

While we have input into what happens in Springfield, we cannot control the process nor the outcome. What we can control is our performance and our attitude, and thus far we have performed terrifically. Our planning processes are in place and we have a positive attitude about the future of Illinois State. Our strong enrollment and conservative spending allow ISU to be in a strong fiscal position compared to other institutions in the state.

I do think it is important to educate each other about the various sources of revenue the University has at its disposal as there are restrictions on many of the accounts that sometimes limits our flexibility. Nevertheless, the “color of money” presentation hopefully will provide insight into our overall budget. I am sure that Vice-President Alt will not only provide good information but also be able to answer questions. Thank you.”

(Senator Alt Continued) As a public university, we don’t have the flexibility that a lot of private institutions may have on how we spend our money. Private entities can co-mingle their funds and pay their bills in many ways, but a public university is restricted in many ways. That restriction is tied to where the money comes from. This graph shows the major sources of money. 43% is the Income Fund, where most of our money comes from, which is primarily the tuition. The other large funding for General Revenue, 17%, is our state appropriation. Combined, those are our General Revenue Budget. Years, ago that percentage was much larger and tuition

much lower, but as a result of the state reducing their funding of higher education, more of that is now being covered by tuition.

The other sources of funding are the Auxiliary Operations. That provides student services that are not academically related. One of those would be housing. The university funds those from the fees we charge for the use of the facilities. The other two categories are other local funds and that would be user fees. An example of that would be our health services fee, our athletics fees. Finally, \$27 million is our grants and contracts. Those are primarily research and other public service funded activities. The state restricted our funds so that we can only use those funds for which the funds were collected. If we charge someone for room and board, we can't use that for recreation. It can't be used in the General Revenue side of campus. We are obligated to use the grants for activities such as research.

This is how we spend our money. The 35% is for instruction. Our other mission is for the organized research and public service and academic support. A good example of academic support is Milner Library. Just about half of our expenditures is for the academic functions of the university. \$59 million is spent to maintain our facilities. We have assets in excess of \$700 million. Just under \$500 million of those are in facilities and equipment. You can imagine how much it takes to maintain those facilities.

In addition to the academic services we provide, we provide a great deal of student services with the fees we charge students. Health services, financial aid, advisement would be in that category. Bond services, which is borrowed money, operates the residence halls, Bone Student Center, parking and other things of that nature. There is a small portion that we spent for debt retirement. Finally, we spent about \$27 million in institutional support and that would be the broad services for supporting the campus at large—things like HR, technology, the president's office.

The area that is on the block as far as reductions is the appropriation. That is where the state's proposal is currently between the 8.6% that the General Assembly has recommended and the 31% that the governor has recommended. That is unsettled at this point. So the reductions have to come somewhere in the General Revenue area. 67% of it is in personal services where people are our biggest percent. We also spent about 15% of our budget in goods and services that we have to hire from the outside. That's where we pay for utilities, paper products, legal fees, etc.

\$15.4 million is for financial aid. So in addition to the scholarship money that is awarded by the Foundation, in addition to the tuition waivers, we award cash awards out of our General Revenue Fund. Finally, the permanent improvement section, the 4% of the General Revenue budget—in addition to maintaining our facilities, we have to extend the life by making permanent improvements.

In February, we are responsible for submitting a large amount of budget related, and even operational, information, about the university to the Budget Office and the General Assembly. In February or March, the governor proposes his recommendations for the budget. That's when we would find out what his funding levels would be for higher ed. That's when he announced the 31% proposal for FY15. In March and April, the General Assembly hears testimony from universities about the financing needs and our appropriation request. In a typical year, it is decided by May; the governor and the General Assembly will come to an agreement on an appropriation budget and then we will know what our appropriation is and the Board will set tuition. We are almost at September 1 and there is no budget.

All we know is that our budget reduction will be between 8.6 and 31% and all we can do is plan for that. Since the state is only giving us \$74 million in direct dollars, that means that that reduction could be anywhere from \$7 million to \$23 million in reductions.

Provost Krejci: I can give you an update of what we have been doing in Academic Affairs. When the governor was elected and gave his budget address in February, we realized that there might be a slight rescission, about

2.25%. We looked at the units and we did not want them affected by the FY15 rescission, so the Office of the Provost looked at our temporary monies and paid that bill without asking any units to give up any of those monies. When the legislators were asking where would we get that money, we asked all deans to work with their units and say if we were to have these scenarios, what would that look like. Greg Alt said this is what I can do to protect the units. He took centrally much of those potential cuts and let us know what he would be asking from the divisions. We knew that we would not have a budget by July 1, so we asked the deans to look at their scenarios a little closer and Greg Alt looked more carefully and gave us some reduced numbers. We said we are protecting our faculty and staff at all costs, which was the president's concern as well. We are protecting instruction and anything that is mission critical. We stand ready with scenarios.

Senator Paterson: The mission of Student Affairs is a little different in how it operates and where the funding comes from. About 6% of our budget is General Revenue dollars. Most of that is tied up in the university police, student counseling and Disability Concerns. Another 20% is in agency funds. Those are the dollars that come directly from the student fees. About 74% of our budget is in those auxiliary areas, which we call bond revenue. Auxiliary areas would be housing, dining, student fitness center and the Bone Student Center. We recognized and discussed as a group of vice presidents and with President Dietz last year what our funding needs might be, so we needed to increase tuition as much as we could while still being affordable. We made a decision to reduce the housing and student fee recommendations that came from those two committees, to hold room and board rate at the rate of the previous year, with the exception of Cardinal Court. We also made a decision to increase student fees at just 1%.

We looked at where there might be ways we can save money. We want to support those areas that are General Revenue funding and support the rest of the university. We have reduced some of the operating expenses, reduced equipment expenditures, travel, contractual expenses. We are reviewing vacant positions and only filling those that seem to be essential. We were able to do some shifting within the legislative audit guidelines.

Senator McKean, Dean of College of Business: Collectively as deans, we are so thankful to the administration that the colleges were shielded from the full force of the potential rescission that we are planning for. All of the colleges are different budgetarily. Some use centralized budgeting; others use decentralized budgets. My comments are going more towards the centralized budgeting in the College of Business. In January, we were asked to undertake different scenario in terms of rescissions. I assembled the leadership team and we made plans based on our priorities. With a centralized budget, the college is shouldering a large percent of any potential rescission and the individual departments had a smaller percentage. When the governor proposed the 31.5% rescission, we were asked to think very strategically and keep in mind the central mission of the university of instruction, faculty, students. In the June/July framework, we were asked to perform the exercise again. We took that as being very conservative in this fiscal year going forward with July 1 so that we would have a plan in place.

Senator Clark, Chair of Chairs Council: The appreciation of the chairs and directors of not having to deal with the rescission this past year was recognized and we all benefited from that. We were asked to look at each of our departments and schools given a certain percentage of cut and provide scenarios for each of those as well as what would be the long-term impact on students and faculty. Eventually, we were asked by our deans which of these would be your top priorities. We met again in July with a little more specifics. Our college's approach was not necessarily to look across the board at all of the units, but more at which departments and schools would best be able to have more flexibility. The directors and chairs have a clear idea about what kind of response would happen and are prepared to make a fairly quick response when there is a clearer picture about what the budget would be. Chairs and directors have shared this information with their faculty in their fall faculty meetings.

Senator Powers: It is very irresponsible for the state not to have a budget by September. I just hope when the budget cuts do come, and I hope that they are not too big, that the students are not looked at to fill in the holes

with tuition hikes, but a good mix of budget cuts and tuition hikes. I understand that we do have to pay the bills, so students will have to take a little blow but hopefully not the complete blow.

Senator Cox: In the absence of a state budget, have the chairs agreed to share with their faculty the various scenarios?

Senator Clark: I don't know if that is something that has been discussed with all chairs and directors. It may not necessarily be true in all cases, but that was the scenario in my experience.

Senator Daddario: So if we request to see them from the deans, we would be able to take a look at the scenarios that were run?

Senator McKean: I can only speak for the College of Business in terms of that. The College of Business has an opening faculty meeting where all faculty and staff have been invited to that. During that open faculty meeting, I did share information in terms of priorities that we would have in COB and what things would be at the top of our list and what things that were not as high a priority. Every faculty member in the College of Business has access to that information. I cannot speak to the other colleges.

Senator Troxel: Where do these big donations fall in the revenue stream?

Senator Alt: The Foundation is a separate entity from the university, so these donations all go to the Foundation, which is governed by its own board. They make their distributions according to their own policy.

Senator Troxel: Is that typically scholarships?

Senator Alt: A lot of them are earmarked for scholarships. Some are for endowed chairs. Then they have their distribution of the endowed fund, which is about 4.5%. The primary gifts go to academic programs, primarily scholarships.

Senator Winger: We have not received our appropriation from the state, so what are we running on currently and at what point is that money needed for the General Revenue?

Senator Alt: In 1997, we were allowed to retain the tuition fund locally. Therefore, we collect that and pay the bills ourselves rather than sending it to the state. So that is what we are running on until we get the appropriation paid later. How long? We have planned for this scenario coming about since the fiscal crisis with the state. We have always been prepared for some kind of mid-year rescission. So we have held back and built up some kind of contingency. We are confident that there is no concern this fall. The next tuition round comes in January, so we are confident that we are going to maintain this for several months. I would say that approximately we are good through the spring semester.

Administrators' Remarks

- ***President Larry Dietz – Absent***

- ***Provost Janet Krejci***

Provost Krejci: I, too, have some remarks from President Dietz for his administrative remarks:

“Despite the lack of a fiscal year state budget, Illinois State University is off to a fantastic start. We won't have official numbers for a couple of weeks, but I can tell you that we have once again enrolled a large, diverse and academically motivated freshman class. Last year, we set a 25-year high for new freshman, and although I can't guarantee we will reach that mark again, I do think we will be close, and our overall enrollment will remain consistent with the last several years.

On Monday, the *Washington Monthly* rated ISU 4th in the Midwest as a “Best Bang for the Buck” institution—we were the only Illinois University to reach the top five. The “Best Bang for the Buck” ranking looks at academic rigor, costs, and student debt—so it says a lot for the quality and value of Illinois State.

Earlier this summer, ISU earned an honor we can all be very proud of. The *Chronicle of Higher Education*, rated us as a “Great College to Work For.” What is so satisfying about this award, is that in addition to analyzing qualitative information about the University, they also surveyed our own faculty and staff members about what’s it is like to work at ISU. That is a great vote of confidence in our shared governance processes.

I want to thank each of you and the entire campus for welcoming the new and returning students to campus. Move-in went smoothly and I had lots of positive comments including one from a Congressman whose daughter is enrolled here as a freshman about our efficiency and the friendliness of those he and his daughter met. I also want to wish all of you well for the remainder of the semester and look forward to working with you in this new year. We have a great deal to be proud of including 8 national rankings from last year and the improvement in one of those ranking already this year. So, together I am confident that we can continue to move ISU onward and upward. I will see you next time. Thanks.”

(Provost Krejci Continued) For the Academic Affairs remarks, we have had a very busy and productive summer. We are really focusing on diversity. We had a great reception yesterday for diversity and we will continue to have an intentional focus on that. Civic engagement is high on the president’s list and one of our goals. There was a civic engagement task force last year. A report was submitted to the president. He has asked that we continue the work to begin to move closer to specific conclusions about how we might structure civic engagement. We have asked Dr. Jan Paterson to serve as interim director of civic engagement for the next year as we continue to work on the recommendations of that task force.

We have been working with the students to say what is their message to bring to the college meetings some of their top priorities, looking at textbook affordability, Success Week, the ability to attend university sponsored sanctioned activities without having any penalty. In addition, we worked with the Chair of Chairs Council to talk about what do our chairs need for professional development. We have not had a retreat for new administrators, so we held a new chair and one of our deans’ orientations in July. We also made changes to the administrative retreat held in August to try to be as relevant as we can. We have gotten good feedback on that.

I have asked all of our units to be very clear in their narrative about higher ed. There is a lot of negativity about higher ed and we need to move beyond being defensive and to articulate the incredible impact higher ed has on preparing our future students and leaders for a life of impact, meaningful work and for the ability to take our society where it needs to go. It is important to note that we are not only preparing our students for a job when they get into the workforce. We prepare them to master context, to critically think, to be perceptive and be persuasive.

We welcomed a new dean this summer, Jean Miller, for the College of Fine Arts. We have several dean searches going on. Because of the College of Business cycle, they hire quite early in the year, so we worked with Senator Kalter to get a Panel of Ten search together late in the year. Dr. Tony Lorsbach is the Panel of Ten Chair and Mark Walbert is the secretary. The pool was closed August 15. They will be meeting shortly to look at finalists. We have also named the Mennonite College of Nursing Search Committee. Dave Kopsell will be chairing that and Rita Baily will be serving as secretary.

Dr. Jeff Wood has decided recently to retire. His last day will be August 31. I have been working with the president. I have also interviewed the chairs/directors, assistant and associate deans from CAST asking them what attributes they need in an interim dean. I also talked with the college council chair and we hope to be making a decision shortly about an interim dean.

Another search that we are looking at is the Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies. I have been working with John Baur, who has been serving in that interim role until we launch that search.

We will not have exact numbers for enrollment right now, but we believe that there are 20,751 students registered. That is unofficial. We are up in undergraduates by 208 students. We are down slightly in graduate students. We had a record freshman class last year, but I will remind you that our freshman class this year is likely to be 20% larger than three years ago.

- ***Vice President of Student Affairs Brent Paterson***

Senator Paterson: Welcome back to the students and faculty who were not here during the summer. We had a very successful move in and Welcome Week. We added a new part to Welcome Week and that was colleges having tents at the barbeque. I think that went very well. One of the teams that is part of the division is one that has been known as the Student Behavioral Intervention Team; it has a new name this year. It is the Redbird Care Team. This team continues to work in helping students who may be displaying unhealthy or dangerous behaviors. I will be sending some information out in the next week or so about the Redbird Care Team. The second team is the Inclusive Community Response Team. It was formerly the Campus Climate Team, but people thought we were talking about environmental issues in terms of climate. This will provide students with care and assistance when they are faced with biased-related incidents. The team also reviews a report of bias affecting students and refers them to the appropriate processes and services. It also monitors the environment on campus in terms of trends or issues that might be existing in terms of bias. The team will build an understanding of the campus community about diversity and social justice.

- ***Vice President of Finance and Planning Greg Alt***

Senator Alt: I want to add my congratulations to the great results that Provost Krejci just shared and my appreciation for that. One of the key components is that we have stable enrollment and we have stable enrollment because we have great people working in enrollment and good faculty and staff. That is one of the key components in financial stability that the university has. This month's issue of *College Planning and Management* profiles Illinois State's efforts in bringing together facilities management practices, academics and environmental awareness providing a functional, attractive and safe environment for students, faculty and staff.

The renovation of Capen Auditorium was completed in June. Not quite as positive news is progress on the fine arts' project. The schematic design stage for the complex has been completed. Unfortunately, with the budget impasse, all state-funded work has ceased. There are probably another twelve to fifteen months of architectural designing and planning that needs to be done before that project can enter the construction phase.

The university acquired property located on Kingsley and College and work is in progress to create an additional 117 parking spaces. For right now, the new area will be a gravel surface, but we expect to have that completed in the next couple of weeks. Around the Manchester-Hewitt Hall, resurfacing is underway of the faculty/staff parking lot. It will probably be completed in mid-September. That project will include new lighting. The parking lot next to the Student Services Building has been expanded by 20 additional spaces for faculty parking.

Senator Kalter: Do we have any questions for any of the vice presidents? We will go to committee reports.

Academic Affairs Committee: Chairperson: Senator Gizzi (Fall)/(Spring: TBD); Secretary: Senator Heylin

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee: Chairperson: Senators Lessoff (Fall)/Hoelscher (Spring); Secretary: Senator Bantham

Faculty Affairs Committee: Chairperson/Secretary: TBD

Planning and Finance Committee: Chairperson: Senators Winger (Fall)/Marx (Spring); Secretary: Senator Browder

Rules Committee: Chairperson: Senator Crowley; Secretary: Senator Trujillo

New Computer System – Overview/Question and Answer Session

(Deb Smitley, Senior Associate VP for Planning and Finance, Mark Walbert, Associate VP for Academic Technology, Troy Johnson, Associate VP for Enrollment Management, Matt Helm, Associate VP for Administrative Technology)

Senator Kalter: We will next go to the Information/Action Item.

Senator Lessoff: Listed on the agenda is a presentation about the new computer system.

Senator Kalter: When I asked for questions for the administrators, we did not get any. It was not intended to be a presentation. It was intended to be a Q and A session after the administrator remarks. Since many of the administrators did not have much in their remarks about the computer system, maybe people didn't realize that that was the place for that. Do we want to have Q and A about the student computer system?

Senator McHale: I want to bring up a point that we discussed at our last meeting. We talked about the Go System and when the students choose courses, they are put in a folder called shopping cart. We were wondering if shopping cart could be changed to courses chosen.

Vice President Helm: We would have to see if we can customize that. That is the given functionality of the product. I don't know where it all embedded within the application.

Senator McHale: Do you have staff that would know that?

Dr. Helm: We have staff that could look that up. Oracle makes the decision on how they label their product, so that would be a better question for their product support. We can certainly ask them, but we don't have control over it since it is a pre-packaged product. We just have to see if we can customize it.

Senator Kalter: Is there any cost associated with that?

Dr. Helm: There is a cost with our time, but we don't pay the vendor directly to customize things.

Senator Lessoff: Given the provost report on enrollments that we have had is our version of Y2K. We were nervous last spring that problems in implementing the new registration system might affect enrollment, admissions. That didn't happen.

Dr. Helm: It is important to note how much work went into it by the entire campus. Over 200,000 hours were put toward the project and that is not even counting all the mitigation people are doing behind the scenes to ensure that things are put in manually when need be. I think what you are seeing is the dedication of that staff.

Senator Daddario: There seems to be a disconnect with how the problems with the computer system are affecting faculty and affecting students. From the student point of view, there have been lots of complaints about enrollment. Especially in the College of Fine Arts, there is a problem with recruitment. We don't have the ability to pull information from the system to tell who is enrolled as a Theatre Studies major. Could somebody speak to the difficulties that are being faced on the one hand the technical creation of the new program and the communication of that technical functionality to the application side of things?

Dr. Helm: A lot of the current work that is done is merging the data with data from other systems, sharing that data with data from other systems. Then we have another thing which is the reporting environment, which is you getting access to that data and being able to put it into a form that you can use. We do have a group that is working on reporting. They have an email address that you can send those types of queries to. In terms of the interworkings of the software, it is a very young system. A lot of the system is only three months old. The

application for admission is just a year old. We are still going through the pains of working through a lot of issues.

Dr. Smitley: You can link to the email address on the Registrar's website as well as off of the Planning, Research and Policy Analysis' website. Those requests are being reviewed by the Planning, Research and Policy Analysis Office, as well as someone in Enrollment Management. I don't remember the exact website address, but you can get to it on either of those sites or we can send that to you once I get back to my chair.

Senator Kalter: Troy, do you have anything to add to this about these kinds of glitches.

Dr. Johnson: Students, faculty and staff have shown patience as we are going through this process. I thank you for that. The new admission application is now open for fall 2016. We did see great improvement in the provision of data over the year, since there were many difficulties early last year. I am confident that we can get you the type of information that is actionable and we have a variety of ways to make that happen.

Senator Gizzi: In 2015, how did we end up with an Oracle product that looked like it was designed in 1997? Was this entirely a financial thing?

Dr. Helm: No, it wasn't necessarily a financial thing. Any of the products that you see today are scaled to meet a variety of needs of institutions of a variety of sizes. I know that Oracle is re-styling currently because they heard that from a lot of people. In fact, they heard it from us when they came on campus and showed it to us. So they are well aware of the issue, but it does take a long time because it is a very complex issue. I would hope that they would start with the student self-service part of it and the faculty part of it.

Senator Gizzi: The issue that bothers me the most is the inability to print out a roster with photos all in one print out.

Dr. Johnson: We will get better at this. The first year is implementation. Then we start to leverage it better as our experience gets up to speed.

Senator Lessoff: Given all of the stress of the people in the Registrar's Office and the Admissions Office, now we are in this year of concerns about the budget. I am just hoping that the people in your office got thanked.

Dr. Johnson: That is very generous and I have to say the president and the vice presidents really did a good job of trying to say thanks very often. We hear it often intermixed with when are you going to get this report out.

Information/Action Item:

08.10.15.01 Academic Progress Alert Revision (Jonathan Rosenthal, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education)

Senator Kalter: My alarm is about to go off, so I'm going to make an executive decision and say we are going to do the Academic Progress Alert and the Academic Calendar. The reason that the APA is an Information/Action Item is that they are on a timeline to get out academic progress alert grades in a revised way by the fifth week. If we did not do this tonight, we would be doing it on the fourth week.

Dr. Rosenthal: We have had to make many changes because of the LEAPForward initiative. Our new system is not able to collect APA grades the way the old system was. The new system will be better because faculty will have fewer grades to submit and advisors will have better information. The current system is that we collect grades in all 100-level courses. That provides us grades that we don't need and to miss grades that we do need. In the new system, we will be using Grades First, which is the way we have collected grades for special populations in the past. We will collect grades only once around mid-term time and we will be able to collect grades for all first-time college students, as well as the special populations.

Senator Kendrick: Is this still only for 100-level classes or does it apply to 200 and 300 as well?

Dr. Rosenthal: We won't ask for 100-level classes anymore because that was kind of a proxy. It was as good as we could do in the old system to get at first-time college students. We now know our full roster of first-time college students. We will ask about their grades in any level course that they are in.

Motion XLVI-5: By Senator Gizzi, seconded by Senator McHale, to move the item to action. The motion was unanimously approved.

No motion to approve.

Senator Kalter: All in favor of approving this revision to the Academic Progress Alert method, please signify by saying aye.

The revision was unanimously approved.

The following Information Items were moved to the next Senate Agenda:

02.10.12.06 *From 2014-15 Academic Affairs Committee: 4.1.3 Textbooks Policy –No Revisions*

04.10.15.01 *From 2014-15 Academic Affairs Committee: 4.1.17 Classroom Disruption Policy – Revised*

04.10.15.02 *From 2014-15 Academic Affairs Committee: 9.6 Policy on Student Computer Ownership – No Revisions*

04.10.15.03 *From 2014-15 Academic Affairs Committee: 2.1.19 Verification of Student Identity Policy – No Revisions*

04.10.15.04 *From 2014-15 Academic Affairs Committee: 8.5.1 University Library Policy – Revised*

Advisory Item:

08.06.15.01-06 *Academic Calendars and Documents (Sam Catanzaro, Assistant Vice President for Academic Administration)*

Dr. Catanzaro: The Academic Calendar gets laid out several years in advance. Referring to the handouts that came with it, the development considerations handout references the number of constraints that we have. We cannot move Thanksgiving. We need to provide a certain number of class meetings and minutes in classes to meet compliance regulations. We have two draft calendars; one for 2019-20 and one for 2020-21. These are pretty much the same calendars we have been operating under since we shifted from having a single fall break day to the full week of Thanksgiving off as fall break.

Senator Daddario: Has there been a conversation in the past about pedagogical efficacy of one week back after Thanksgiving break?

Senator Kalter: As the former chair of the Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee, we used to get why are Thanksgiving and spring break where they are. I know that is talked about in Student Affairs the effect that it has on student health because of this long lead up without any break whatsoever. One of the serious objections to moving it was from the fine arts because of the way fine arts does their types of finals. It really does not work very well with fine arts' final exams.

Senator Daddario: Or potentially any type of creative project.

Senator Dawson: Success Week may help if we have a one-week or a two-week on return.

Communications

Request for Honorary Degree Nominations Memo

Senator Kalter: We have a memo concerning the request for nominations for Honorary Degrees for Founders Day 2016. If you have any suggestions about someone who might be deserving of an honorary degree, please send them to Judy Keenan in Senator Baur's office. Does anyone else have communications?

In that case, a little poetry. I have known since May that I wanted to start the year with some poetry, but couldn't find any suitable poems about rain, or cool, rainy summers, or Supreme Court decisions, or wild Presidential races. Then I was listening to a great program that WGLT runs on Sunday mornings at 6 a.m., called *On Being*, and decided that this piece by Irish poet John O'Donohue was just the thing: for our state governor, our legislators, our President, our Vice Presidents, and ourselves, as student, faculty, and staff senators. It is called "A Blessing for One Who Holds Power" and it satisfies my deeply Irish soul.

May the gift of leadership awaken in you as a vocation
Keep you mindful of the providence that calls you to serve
As high over the mountains the eagle spreads its wings
May your perspective be larger than the view from the foothills
When the way is flat and dull in times of grey endurance
May your imagination continue to evoke horizons
When thirst burns in times of drought
May you be blessed to find the wells
May you have the wisdom to read time clearly
And know when the seed of change will flourish
In your heart may there be a sanctuary for the stillness where clarity is born
May your work be infused with passion and creativity
And have the wisdom to balance compassion and challenge
May your soul find the graciousness to rise above the fester of small mediocrities
May your power never become a shell wherein your heart would silently atrophy
May you welcome your own vulnerability as the ground where healing and truth join
May integrity of soul be your first ideal
The source that will guide and bless your work

Adjournment

Motion XLVI-6: By Senator Gizzi, seconded by Senator Dawson, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.