

Fall 11-19-2014

Senate Meeting, November 19, 2014

Academic Senate
Illinois State University

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Academic Senate Minutes
Wednesday, November 19, 2014
(Approved)

Call to Order

Senate Chairperson Susan Kalter called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Senate Secretary Ed Stewart called the roll and declared a quorum.

Approval of Minutes of November 5, 2014

Motion XLV-115: By Senator Cassata, seconded by Senator Porter, to approve the minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

Pensions and Other SUAA Items (Chuck McGuire, Interim Associate VP for Academic Fiscal Management)

Senator Kalter: Dr. Chuck McGuire is here tonight in his role as an annuitant to speak about the pension issues and any other issues related to the State Universities Annuitants Association.

Dr. McGuire: My colleague, Larry Alferink, is passing around some materials for you and we will have more at a later date. The ISU Annuitants Association is one of the chapters of the State Annuitants Association. It represents all of the state university retirement systems. That includes active employees, as well as those who have retired. It is an advocacy group and employs lobbyists in Springfield.

Right now, we are mostly concerned with what is happening to the state pensions. We are here to update you on the lawsuit. The annuitants association is party to two major legal initiatives. There is a pending case called Kanerva v. Weems. There is a 2012 law that eliminated specified contributions to health insurance premiums by the state and pushed those premiums over on to the retirees. It amounted to 1% initially of our pensions and that was going to be raised last July to 2%. That was challenged by the annuitants association in court and it went all the way to the Illinois Supreme Court. On July 3, the Illinois Supreme Court found that it was a violation of the pension clause of the Illinois Constitution. The court held that our complaint stated an effective cause of action. It held that it could be a violation of the impairment clause. It is a limited holding, but after prodding by our organization, the money now ceases to go out. That means that SUAA is now working on getting refunds of those funds.

The second case is called In Re: Pension Litigation. This is the suit against Senate Bill 1, which made major changes in our pensions. The automatic annual increase was changed dramatically. It put an earnings cap on it, it changed the retirement age, it did a whole host of things. Five groups sued on behalf of their organizations: the Teachers Retirement Organization, State Employees Retirement Services and several private organizations together with SUAA. Our attorneys are Maduff and Maduff out of Chicago. They are extremely good lawyers. The five cases were consolidated in the Sangamon County Court. Tomorrow is the hearing on our motion to dismiss the affirmative defense by the state. It deals with the same pension guarantee clause. The Pension Protection Clause of the Illinois Constitution states: "Membership in any pension or retirement system of the State, any unit of local government or school district, or any agency or instrumentality thereof, shall be an enforceable contractual relationship, the benefits of which shall not be diminished or impaired." The state's argument is that the state is in dire financial straits; therefore, the state can balance its interests and police power against our absolute constitutional guarantee and make changes to our pensions based upon that balancing test. The precedence is against them. The Kanerva case has very strong language in it that this is an absolute guarantee.

In May of this year, there was an injunction against enforcement by our group and the other groups and they enjoined the enforcement of Senate Bill 1.

Professor Emeritus Larry Alferink: If that injunction had not occurred, far more university employees would have retired because it would have affected their pensions. If we lose, that will go back into effect and the effects will be felt next year.

Dr. McGuire: Our hearing tomorrow is on our motion to strike the affirmative defense, which is a legal “yes, but”. “We agree that the Constitution says this, but the police power intervenes and we have the right to do this.” We are moving to strike that defense. If we are successful tomorrow, this case will go directly to the Illinois Supreme Court. At that point, it becomes an appellate process, which can be long and drag out. This does cost money and in the material I handed out, there is a request to fund the legal fund. The ISUAA has made substantial contributions, as have many of us individually to this fund.

Professor Alferink: The original amount was \$100,000 and that has gone up to around \$400,000.

Dr. McGuire: If we win, it is not the end. The legislature will do something else. The state is looking for ways not to pay the pensions instead of ways to fund it.

Senator Stewart: One of the things I have heard about the affirmative defense is that it is something sudden and this has been going on for 30 years and the state could have done anything to try to fix this and they didn't.

Dr. McGuire: In 1970 when they amended the State Constitution to include the pension guarantee fund, the pensions were only funded to the extent of 47% at that time. The reason why they put that impairment clause into the Constitution was to avoid exactly this.

Senator Eckrich: Does SUAA have any recommendations on how to garner more revenue? Do you have any positions on state revenue reforms?

Professor Alferink: Generic ones. We have a legislative platform that talks about how revenues could be enhanced. One is to increase taxes or change the way in which taxes are collected. Before the 5% income tax, Illinois had the lowest of the 44 states that have an income tax. A flat tax is not very effective at generating income, so one of things is a recommendation for a graduated tax. That requires an amendment to the Constitution, which is difficult to do. Illinois is unlike its neighboring states in terms of the number of services that are subject to a sales tax. We support reasonable changes to trimming as well.

Senator Kalter: If we win the lawsuit, what is the likelihood that they will move to change the Constitution to take out that clause?

Dr. McGuire: Changing the Constitution has to be a last resort for them because it is so difficult and there will be a major campaign mounted not only by SUAA, but by the labor unions and faculty organizations and staff organizations across the state.

Senator Kalter: I have always been confused by our pensions and our lack of Social Security and how the changing of our benefits can happen given the deal that came in with the Social Security System. Most of the taxpayers do not realize that we do not get Social Security. Why are those issues not part of the lawsuits?

Dr. McGuire: I am not sure I can answer why they are not. It was a deal. It's a fairly common deal among states and I am not sure it would affect it if they changed the pension that we have right now.

Senator Crowley: Is there precedence for the worst case scenario?

Dr. McGuire: That they win?

Senator Crowley: Yes.

Dr. McGuire: Not much. There are two states that have very similar clauses to ours: New York and Arizona. Arizona had a very similar case about a year ago almost identical to this case and the Arizona court ruled six to one (against the state). New York has had cases like it and I believe we copied New York. Precedence is on our side all around.

Senator Winger: What is the procedure for amending the Constitution?

Professor Alferink: The legislature can pass a constitutional amendment that would go to the citizenry for a vote at a normal election. It requires a 60% majority for that to pass. It could also happen through citizens' initiatives where they petition for a constitutional amendment. The legislature then takes that petition and it may end up on a ballot.

Senator Winger: Was that three-fifths of the legislature and a majority on the referendum?

Professor Alferink: No, a majority of the citizens of the state have to vote in favor of the proposition—60% majority, a super majority.

Senator Winger: And 60% of both houses of the legislature?

Professor Alferink: I am not sure on the legislature side.

Senator Kalter: Is that 60% of those voting or 60% of the state?

Professor Alferink: 60% of those voting.

Senator Kalter: Thank you very much to our guests.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Kalter: I'd like to thank the President for his message earlier this week and offer my condolences to the Predmore family.

I would like to remind everyone to nominate faculty for the Vice President of University Advancement search committee.

Not to steal thunder from Senator Dietz, but for those who have not heard, former President Bowman has just been named to Governor Elect Rauner's transition team. This gives me a little hope for the future of higher education and education in general in this state.

I'd like to welcome Paul Dennhardt, who is replacing Senator Don LaCasse on the Senate starting this evening.

Rather than reading an 800-line poem from the eighteenth-century writers Phyllis Wheatley or Joel Barlow, or more of *Moby-Dick*, I am going to stick to the linguistics, history of the English language, and critical thinking sides of the English Studies house and just say a few words about a word.

I'd like to call our attention to a buzz word that has grown up on this campus in the past couple of years. Compliance. Like civility or collegiality, compliance is a word that can be thrown around a lot for a lot of different purposes. Like civility and collegiality, its effect—whether intended or not—*can* be forgetfulness about academic due process or shared governance processes. Haste to be in compliance with state mandates or federal mandates can lead to decisions by the very few rather than the many, or their representatives, and it can even lead to situations of non-compliance, or another buzz phrase—“unintended consequences,”—if not approached with all our careful, deliberative, critical thinking faculties.

Indeed, the first dictionary definition of compliance, now obsolete, indicates its alignment with the semantically slippery term “civility”: Practice of civility, complaisance.

In fact, the first six dictionary definitions and the eighth one are ALL obsolete!, but nonetheless interesting, as they indicate both denotation and connotation, both positive connotation and negative: Compliance as “Accord, concord, agreement; amicable relations (*between* parties).” Compliance as “Agreement in nature, construction, etc.; accord, harmony.” These two seem ideal, wonderful, though perhaps unrealistic to expect at all times, everywhere, in every moment of any relationship.

I am concerned with the potential negative connotations and effects of amplified calls for compliance on this campus; remembering, of course, that many staff charged with ensuring compliance are no more enthusiastic about the burden of that work than the faculty I talk to seem to be about the impact on shared governance. These calls generally originate with a genuine effort to protect us, to ensure that we are following the laws—state and federal—to which we are subject. They generally originate in diligence and conscientious duty. Sometimes, they originate in genuine intellectually grounded commitment to and belief in the integrity of research, such as the research based in Stanford University’s preeminent School of Education that supports a shift toward performance-based assessment of teacher readiness.

However, it is quite important that we remember that in our efforts to decide how best to follow a law, we do not confuse law with policy, nor assume that there is always one way to word a policy, nor behave as though the law is not a thing of interpretation and a balancing of rights, nor forget that it is often quite important for multiple shared governance bodies to see those laws, to be able to debate issues surrounding them, and to research or be provided research that shows the varying ways in which a law might be interpreted, by ourselves, by a court, by other interested parties. Complying with a law is rarely a mere matter of making editorial changes to a policy. Nor should we confuse minimum compliance with the letter of the law with the morally responsible standards to support and protect one another that we expect of our institution and community.

The next definition and also the ones that are NOT marked obsolete should concern us: Complaisant or deferential agreement *with* a person; complaisant or servile accession to his wishes. Obsolete. Unworthy accommodation or submission. NOT obsolete. In compliance with: in harmony, agreement, or accordance with; in submission or active obedience to. The property of a body or substance of yielding to an applied force or of allowing a change to be made in its shape.

Etymologically, or relating to the origin of a word or the historical development of its form and meaning: from the Latin to fill up, fulfill, accomplish, complete, to the Spanish to make up what is wanting to satisfy, to satisfy the requirements or forms of courtesy, to the entry into English where the French verb *plier* influenced the English meaning: to bend, to bend to the will of another.

Far be it from me to suggest, *ever*, that we should not comply with the laws that form the context for our existence. For example, the federal laws on labor exemptions from overtime pay that resulted in recent changes to our colleagues' civil service status. But let us not engage in the semantic fallacies, attendant upon THAT form of compliance, which might imply that we also BE COMPLIANT as individuals or as professionals, that we must yield the debate about how to comply, how to resist, how indeed to try to influence our legislators for sensible changes in laws when they have negative impacts on students, faculty or staff. Or as a recent Q&A at the October Board of Trustees meeting even revealed—on the campus's ability to procure electricity at the lowest cost per kilowatt hour. Let us not refrain from sensibly rewording draft policies so that they do not marginalize campus members from countries whose *governments* are made subject to export control suspicions, so that our approved policy is not at odds with the diversity and globalization goals of *Educating Illinois*. Let us go above and beyond the law when it is the right thing to do.

Our laws are not identical with our policies, even if our policies must interact, sometimes quite closely, with them. Changes in laws always indicate that our governing bodies need to be consulted on accompanying changes to policy. We should never see respectful campus discussion and debate as unhealthy rather than leading to the most sensible, collectively and openly arrived at compliance with those laws, or even just temporary, universally cringe-worthy toleration of them. This is particularly important when it comes to interpretations of laws about education that we have, and ought to exercise, a great deal of independent authority on.

We are also allowed as voting representatives to change our minds. When an individual faculty member votes in favor of a proposal that faculty member does not thereby vote in favor of all unstated, yet to be proposed or yet to be enacted policy changes, nor waive his or her rights to all critique and problem solving regarding the manner of implementation, or even the fact of implementation, for the next 3 years or forever, nor give up his or her leadership potential. A vote in favor of prohibition in 1919 can turn into a vote to repeal in 1933. We should be proud of that quality in our free country, and work to make sure that we work at a university where our views can develop over time and as our understanding and information about the wisdom of our collective decisions or the decisions of boards within the state of Illinois's evolves.

With that, I will take any questions...

Student Body President's Remarks

Senator Joyce: Hello Everyone. Last Friday I had the opportunity to attend one of ISU's planetarium shows put on by the physics department which I thoroughly enjoyed. It really made me think to the scores of activities that ISU has to offer and how all of the different academic departments really come together to create this university. I highly recommend you all to take 5 minutes out of your day to check out the official ISU calendar and try to find an event that you find interesting.

Yesterday the Student Government Association put on our first ever Meet Your Dean event, although the attendance, on the side of the students, was not what I had hoped for I thought the event was still very successful. The students that did attend seemed to have lengthy conversations with their deans. The Student Government has learned a lot from this event and will use this knowledge in future events.

The Student Government is now setting its sights on the conclusion of the semester and our semesterly event Club Milner. This event allows for students to take a 10 minute study break outside of Milner Library and

enjoy live dee-jaying. The Student Government is also appointing new members to the association and if all goes well we will have all but one position filled next semester.

With that I yield for questions.

Administrators' Remarks

- ***President Larry Dietz***

President Dietz: The last time the Senate met, I was in Chicago meeting with the Board of Trustees at their annual retreat. The retreat went really well. Senator Alt, Senator Krejci and Troy Johnson of Enrollment Management were present, as well as Shane McCreery to talk about diversity and sexual assault policies and new legislation. There was discussion of the enrollment issue that drives the budget. The afternoon had a lot of discussion about the budget. Deb Smitley also joined us and talked about the facilities side and the capital side and Senator Alt talked about the general operating side. I gave a presentation on a snapshot of strengths and a snapshot of challenges facing the institution and shared my goals with them.

I leave in the morning with Dean McKean; we are going up to meet with 21 executives in Chicago of major companies. We are going to be telling the Redbird story. If that model is a good model for us to pursue, we are having discussions about creating some Redbird executive roundtables in other major cities. I also attended an alumni event in Denver. It was well attended. It was at the headquarters of Chipotle. The CFO is an alum. I met with a number of alums and current donors and got some additional commitments for paid internships for students.

I went from there on to Los Angeles with Former President Bowman on a donor visit. You will be reading about that probably in another month. We had a multiple seven-figure gift that will be coming into the College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Bowman was delighted to be involved with that activity.

I have also have been to China with a delegation. We signed an agreement with Wuhan University, and the College of Education in particular, that has implications well beyond COE. We visited two other universities and the Embassy of Beijing. One of the universities was called the Central China Normal University and they really focused on the normal aspect of that and our history. I think we will do some business with them as well. One of the deans is a graduate of ISU.

We are working on some important reports, including the Institutional Priorities Report. Two of the vice presidents have turned those in and we have others that are coming. I have received a good review of housing and dining. We are looking at some space allocation issues. I met this week with Judy Kirk, a consultant for the Foundation, who is working with University Advancement making suggestions about a potential campaign in our future.

Senator Cox: Can you speak about the dialogue between our group and the Chinese and the partnership that is hoped to be established?

President Dietz: The exchange agreement was the main reason that we went over. We have a faculty member from Wuhan University who wanted us to explore some arrangements with Wuhan. We are not sure whether that is going to be short-term exchanges or 2+1+1 kind of programs. Most of the exchanges are written very broadly and most are permissive allowing the institutions to do whatever is feasible. The difficulty with exchange agreements is that it honors a professor and it honors a relationship and sometimes those are relatively narrow. It is sometimes difficult to get our folks to go there because of the language issue. My goal is not only to have exchange agreements, but also some formal agreements where we are getting students for longer stays.

I want to add to my comments. Thank you, Senator Kalter, for your comments about the young man that passed away. I want to remind everybody that everybody feels a little pressure packed this time of year and I want to

wish everybody safe travels, happy Thanksgiving, some restful time and when we come back to remember that it is everyone's responsibility to take care of ourselves, but also to take care of each other.

Senator Stewart: I think that there was some communication about what's going on at Chicago State.

Senator Kalter: We received a very brief email from the chair of their Faculty Senate who said a number of pieces of pressure worked and their board has re-recognized them. He wanted to thank us for that probably state-wide pressure points.

President Dietz: Congratulations on that. I would be remiss if I did not mention the passing of the Interim Chancellor of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, a gentleman by the name of Paul Sarvela, whom I knew really well. He passed very quickly and surprisingly, succumbing to cancer. Thoughts to the Sarvela family if possible.

- ***Provost Janet Krejci***

Provost Krejci: I echo President Dietz' remarks about sympathies to the family. Lynn Nottage, a Pulitzer Prize winner, was here on campus and did some terrific work with our College of Fine Arts students who produced her play and was available for questions and answers. She also did a keynote. We have had a group of 106 students from Mexico here for the last three weeks and they will be leaving in about a week and we will get another group for the ELI. They will be here for five weeks. This is one of our efforts to focus on international students. Many of them are teachers and they have shown up at just about every event we have had on campus.

The Veterans Day event was well attended. It was a wonderful to see the turnout of our veterans in the community. I met with a group of University Professors and Distinguished Professors to talk about some of their ideas about all of that and those policies that are now for review. I look forward to continue meeting with them and look at some of the input from the Academic Senate on those designations.

The College of Fine Arts Dean Search Committee has been formed, the contract has been signed and we had our first phone meeting with the chair of the committee and we will have the first meeting with the whole committee and the search firm on December 1. The chair of the committee is Dan Elkins from the Panel of Ten. The AP rep is Vita Rives. Kendra Pates from University Galleries will serve. Kyle Nevills, a student Teacher Ed major will serve. Megan Kapala, a student from Marketing, Julie Johnson, Aaron Paolucci, Martin Seggelke, and Lea Cline will serve as CFA faculty. Roy Magnuson will be the NTT faculty. Yojanna Cuenca-Carlino will be the one faculty at large. Aslihan Spaulding will be the second faculty at large. Steven Parsons, MUS, will be the representative where you fill a current or past chair from the college. Greta Janis from the Office of the Provost will provide support and Dr. Catanzaro will be the Office of the Provost liaison.

The Director of the Graduate School Search Committee has been formed and is moving forward, thanks to Dr. John Baur. Cindy Kerber from Nursing will be the Panel of Ten Chair of that committee. Diane Zosky of SWK will serve as the secretary or provost administrative liaison. Aaron Smith, ENG, Ann Haugo, Theatre and Dance, Wendy Troxel, EAF, Todd McLoda, CAST, Catherine O'Reilly, GEO, John Lust, MQM, David Giovagnoli, English grad student, Lucas Raab, IT grad student, and Judy Keenan will provide support.

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

Senator Paterson: I wanted to add to Dr. Dietz' comments about the unfortunate student passing. It has been a difficult week for students and RAs working on the floor. Student Counseling Services have been working with friends of the student and others in the residence hall. I want to thank them for all of their efforts.

University Housing Services is working with the School of Social Work to create an internship program using Master's Degree students in Social Work to work with staff and students in the residence halls, especially for

case management after we have incidents involving students. We hope to get that started by next summer. Another partnership that is being developed is between the Town of Normal Police, Fraternity and Sorority Life and the Dean of Students Office and Health Promotion and Wellness for sexual assault prevention in a program called Greek 101. That will be for new members of fraternities and sororities to help them learn about various issues and being good citizens of our community.

President Dietz also mentioned the Housing and Dining Plan for 2015. Provost Krejci and I have not had a chance to go through that in great detail, but it has been helpful to have various parts of the university working together looking at how we can best provide housing for our students. In the spring semester, we will be kicking off a taskforce to look at long-range housing and dining needs. We just in the past five years completed our 15-year plan, which means by the time we get another plan started, it will be 20 years since we started the renovations to our residence halls.

Provost Krejci and I have appointed a taskforce to look at career development and services. That is an area that is changing very quickly. Our bread and butter have been the large career fairs. That's not the future of career services, so we need to make sure we are making changes now to help students find gainful employment, internships and students who are early in their careers to determine what they want to do with their lives. We hope to have a report from that taskforce by the end of the spring semester.

At our last meeting, there was a question about the Code of Student Conduct. We had a meeting on Friday with Senators Joyce and Powers about that and we reviewed some recommended changes. It will go back to Student Government to make a decision on those and bring it forth.

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

Senator Alt: Our appropriation payments from the state, we have received 15% for the year so far, which brings our total to \$11.4 million out of our total \$73.9 million appropriation. The state is consistently slow to pay, but at least it is predictable. The next step in the FY16 budget process is the Big Picture Meeting that will take place with the IBHE on December 4. The purpose of that meeting is to discuss the university's FY16 appropriation request of the \$81.8 million in operating funds and the \$279 million in capital project funds. This meeting is also to provide the bigger picture of the state's budget environment. We may learn more about efforts to extend the temporary tax increase beyond December 31 or of any talk of a capital funding bill, but most likely, we will not receive much new information until the new administration takes office in January.

A facility related note is the historical documentation of Rambo House and the south campus residence halls, both of which are scheduled for demolition in the summer, was completed by our architect and has been submitted to the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency on November 4. Once the agency has reviewed and approved this documentation, then the university may proceed with the demolition.

Committee Reports:

Academic Affairs Committee

Senator Crowley: Our first order of business was to welcome our new senator on our committee, Senator Paul Dennhardt. We proceeded to talk about the reports from the various committees that report to the Academic Affairs Committee. We discussed course management software and are currently in the process of developing a survey. That will be distributed in January. We continue to work on edTPA questions. We had a report from the Student Government Association on Success Week.

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee

Senator Lessoff: We had as guests Senator Krejci and Charles McGuire from the Provost's Office. We talked about two issues. One was the proposal from the Provost's Office to allow students to receive two B.A. degrees. That matter was referred to our committee for due diligence concerning budget implications. The committee voted to send that on to the Senate and it has already been approved by the Academic Affairs Committee. We

began discussing reformulating the way in which the Academic Impact Fund is discussed and reported. We decided to give another full hour at our next meeting to extend the discussion.

Faculty Affairs Committee

Senator Horst: The committee discussed policy 3.3.9, which is currently titled Proceedings in Faculty Academic Freedom, Dismissal and Non-Reappointment Cases. We also began discussing the draft about ASPT sections on minor sanctions, suspension and dismissal/termination of appointment. We developed strategies about how to discuss that draft.

Planning and Finance Committee

Senator Rich: Our guests tonight were Vice President of Student Affairs Brent Paterson and Director of Fiscal Management and Planning for Student Affairs Wendy Bates. We had an information session on Student Affairs. We received information on revenue composition in contrast to the university as a whole, a very small percent that is general revenue and income fund, detailed revenue and expenditures for each of a dozen functional categories. We received a glimpse of the planning process, including some unique elements such as the Student Fee Review Committee. We received information on several future funding issues: resource challenges looking forward for the University Police Department, Student Counseling Services, Student Health Services and a couple of areas noted already by Vice President Paterson.

Rules Committee

Senator Bushell: The committee did not meet. We have two intricate policies that we are beginning to review, Academic Senate Bylaws and the AFEGC Policy. We have an invitation out to the current and former chairs of AFEGC and they can meet with us during our next meeting. The Senate bylaws would not work tonight because we did not have full attendance, so we decided not to meet.

Senator Kalter: I believe we sent the CAST Bylaws to your committee this year.

Senator Bushell: Yes.

Senator Kalter: So that's later in the year?

Senator Bushell: Correct.

Information Items:

11.06.14.02 Planning and Finance Committee Membership – Blue Book Addition (Rules Committee)

Senator Bushell: The Vice President for Student Affairs, Brent Paterson, suggested this in an Exec meeting to see if an additional member can be placed on the membership of the Planning and Finance Committee. The suggestion was for the Assistant Vice President to be that member. The Rules Committee in general agrees but decided to keep the language consistent, so you see “Vice President for Student Affairs or designee” as the suggested language.

11.06.14.03 CFA Council Bylaws – Revised (Rules Committee)

05.09.13.01 CFA Council Bylaws – Original Markup for Comparison

Senator Bushell: Document 11.06.14.03 is the revised document; it is the cleaner of the two. Document 05.09.13.01 is the original one that we received when we began our work and it has many changes in it. Studying both documents, you will see that there are many changes in most sections. The most significant ones are in membership and that would be articles 3 and 4. The college council for CFA is articulating the exact membership to specify the number of each constituent as well as the length of terms. They wanted to make sure that Arts Technology was represented well, as well as NTT and tenure-track faculty, AP and civil service staff. The previous language was vague and left a lot of decisions open for interpretation. Also, several appendices have been included. One defines the roles of the committees more clearly. Another one is providing clearer

language and the reporting form of the annual committee report. Also, per the University Constitution, the council is adding a requirement for each school or program to have bylaws.

Senator Horst: Last time when you brought this up at the Senate meeting that this was going to be coming before the Senate and we talked about the common sense principle that although it says that the bylaws have to be reviewed every five years, that common sense dictates that five years after it has been passed. I mentioned that at the college council meeting. I was wondering if you would consider a friendly amendment around lines 304 or 305. There is still language that says “A subcommittee from the membership of the council will be established every five years to review these bylaws”. Can we say will be established five years past the approval by the Senate? It took so long to get through the Senate that it is really five years past the approval date. The college council was very much in favor of that.

Senator Bushell: I would say yes to that friendly amendment.

Senator Kalter: Only two questions came up in Exec. One had to do with petitioning and referendums and I believe it was clarified. The other one I wanted to ask a question of Senator Holland, because he is the one who has been on the Rules Committee for the longest. The college has decided that the person who is going to be the chair of the college council can be faculty, AP or civil service. Is this the norm for colleges around campus to have that chairperson be somebody other than a faculty member? Is it something that you would advise?

Senator Holland: My recollection is that that would be unique to the college and as a general rule, probably not advisable.

Senator Kalter: Can you say a little more about why it would not be advisable?

Senator Holland: Probably more than anything else getting faculty to buy in and pay attention to what the college council is actually saying. We have very talented AP and civil service staff, but as a general rule to get faculty to do anything, they kind of follow other faculty a little bit better.

Senator Horst: I believe Janet Tulley is AP. She tells us what to do in the School of Music. If I envisioned Janet Tulley in front of the college council, it would be running like clockwork. Roy Magnuson is an NTT and he was vice chair at one point. So perhaps they are thinking of the constituency they are dealing with. Janet Tulley would be fabulous as the chair.

Senator Bushell: I agree. I think there is a sense of collegiality and there is good respect amongst the faculty to the AP to the civil service and seeing the membership of college council, I think a lot of times there is potential for that, so leaving it open to the potential.

Senator Stewart: In CFA, we are a little different. I don't think rank matters as much as talent, skill and ability. I think that is recognized.

10.29.14.01 Honors of Distinction (Academic Affairs Committee)

Senator Crowley: Some weeks ago, Jonathan Rosenthal brought to our attention a policy change regarding honors of distinction. Some of you might know it as Latin honors like cum laude. The change is that students would be eligible for honors of distinction with a reduction from 50 to 30 credit hours, which means that students who would have transferred to ISU three semesters prior to graduation would be eligible for honors of distinction.

Senator Cassata: Would this be for the 2014-2016 catalog year or is it only from this point on with new students?

Senator Crowley: From this point on. Our committee approved this policy change unanimously.

Senator Kalter: From this point on means the 2016-18 catalog or the 2014-16 catalog?

Dr. Jonathan Rosenthal: It would go in the 2015 supplement.

Senator Kalter: And would be retroactive for people coming under 2014?

Dr. Rosenthal: Yes.

Communications

Senator Cox: I would like to announce an upcoming deadline for the Team Excellence Award. That deadline is December 15 and we have faculty, staff, AP and civil service eligible. I encourage you to look on line for the criteria. It is to recognize group efforts and accomplishments for promoting university values and goals.

Senator Soeldner: You may see some collection boxes around campus for Toys for Tots and that is something that the Civil Service Council does with the Marine Corps Reserve, which sponsors Toys for Tots. There are boxes in various buildings for you to drop off toys that will be distributed to McLean County children.

Senator Brauer: On December 12, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., the Administrative Professional and Civil Service Councils will host the children's holiday party at Horton Fieldhouse. We invite you all to bring your children to that. You can register at University Events.

Senator Dennhardt: I would like to thank you for the warm welcome to the Senate and to invite you all to come over to the School of Theatre and Dance fall dance concert held in Westoff Theatre. It will be Thursday and Friday nights at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion XLV-116: By Senator Hoelscher, seconded by Senator Thurman, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.