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Senate Meeting, March 29, 2017

Academic Senate
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Academic Senate Minutes
Wednesday, March 29, 2017
Approved

Call to Order

Senator Kalter called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Senator Horst called the roll and declared a quorum.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Kalter: All right. The secretary has declared a quorum. There are no chairperson's remarks tonight except that I'd like to repeat our request to the state government to agree upon a budget for the State of Illinois, with both adequate funding for MAP grants and the universities, and that's all I have to say. So, let's move on to Student Body President remarks. Oh, I guess I should ask if you have any questions.

Senator Glascock: Is there any update on the insurance premiums you were talking about before?

Senator Kalter: I'm going to pitch that to Senator Alt to discuss.

Senator Alt: In my comments I was going to provide an update. I could do that now. I was going to do that with my comments.

Senator Kalter: Do you want to hear that now, Senator Glascock? We might as well.

Senator Alt: Okay. Well, I'm glad I prepared for that tonight. I did want to give you an update on the health insurance premiums and Benefit Choice; there really, unfortunately, has not been a change as far as a settlement between the governor and the union. That's still, ah, at an impasse in the courts. However, Central Management Services, which manages the insurance program, is proceeding to make the change in April in our benefit choice period on the assumption that the plans will be in effect, and we'll have to use the new system. And so Human Resources is actually putting out a communication tomorrow or Friday advising the campus of that and making them aware that their premiums, when that plan does go through, can double. And giving information regarding that that's coming up and also advising them to...everybody...to sign up on the MyBenefits account, because if you do have to enroll, you have to go through the CMS system. So it's unlikely that this all will happen by May...this is just CMS's position right now because there's so much that has to occur, but we at least wanted to advise the campus that it could happen. So what does it mean that the premiums could double? Well, going from the plans that we have now, we are considered a platinum plan and I think Janice Bonneville gave a little bit of explanation maybe before, but I can just review it, and the plans that would be implemented would be called metal plans. They would be bronze, silver, gold and platinum. If you want to retain your current platinum plan like you do now, depending on your salary range, but in most cases your premium would double. If you wanted to pay the same premium, you'd be able to do that at a bronze plan, but the benefits would be different. There would be a much higher deductible and things such as that. So that's where that's at. I was going to offer that here in April that possibly inviting Human Resources, Assistant Vice President Tammy Carlson, as well as Janice Bonneville to Senate if they wanted to ask more detailed questions. Janice Bonneville, of course, is representing the University as well as the other state universities in discussing this with CMS, but at this point I think the plan is still for the Governor to implement his rates, but we don't believe that that will be settled by May.

Senator Kalter: What was that last part? You don't believe...

Senator Alt: We don't believe that it will be put in place by May because it's held up in the courts. And so, ah...and so the concern there would be if it's not put in by May and it goes on, is then the retroactivity potentially back to July 1.

Senator Kalter: Yeah, I was going to ask about that. Given that the May period could come and go before its resolved, are they, and then if they did decide to double them, they would be able to apply those retroactively? Or not?

Senator Alt: Well, the...the discussion at least...I don't know how formal it is... would be that if it did go past May 1 and go past July 1 of this year, not back a year prior, they would make them retroactive back to July 1 of 2017. Because I believe that if I had to bet on it, although who knows how this will turn out, that this won't be settled before the summer. It's in the courts.

Senator Kalter: Alright.

Senator McHale: Yeah, I have two questions. The first one is, is this proposal for the insurance of the governor and the legislators as well? this reform?

Senator Alt: No, it's a negotiation that the Executive Branch, the Governor, has with the union as to what benefits are.

Senator McHale: Okay.

Senator Alt: And they're at an impasse.

Senator McHale: That leads to my second question. What is the only reason that the Governor hasn't just plowed through?

Senator Alt: Well, he's attempting to save the state money. The cost of benefits, I think, is the primary motivation, as well as get everything converted to the Affordable Care Act, which is what these plans represent generally. So he's trying to get the state system onto those plans.

Senator McHale: Okay, I guess my question is, I don't under...could you explain to us what the union did. You mentioned the union.

Senator Alt: Yes. So for benefits in the State of Illinois, there are negotiating with ASFME. And so whatever is worked out with ASFME applies to other employees of the state. So we don't negotiate those benefits at the university. Whatever is settled with ASFME for insurance benefits are applied to all employees. So in their negotiations, which they negotiate every year, they reached impasse, because the Governor gave a last, best and final offer and ASFME rejected that. It went through the Labor Board and has now gotten to the point where the governor is trying to enact it, but now it's injunction because it's in the courts. And that's the next step. The governor would like...

Senator McHale: Why is it in the courts?

Senator Alt: Pardon me?

Senator McHale: Why is it in the courts?

Senator Alt: Well, because they are...ASFME has gone to the courts asking for an injunction saying that this isn't fair and that they still should be able to negotiate.

Senator McHale: Okay, so your point is that the union took legal action that stopped him from just shoving it through, and I guess I want to ask is are we part of that union?

Senator Alt: Well, we have that representation on campus in our building service workers and some of our food service workers, and some of our administrative support personnel are part of that union.

Senator McHale: But not faculty?

Senator Alt: Faculty, no. But I just want to comment about the courts is that the governor wants it to skip appellate court or whatever court it's in, circuit court perhaps, and go to the supreme court of the state in order to get a quick resolution in hopes of implementing it soon.

Senator McHale: Thank you very much, Greg.

Senator Horst: Ah, I'm just still hoping you can clarify this situation. When we sign up for insurance, we're going to be offered these different plans, with the bronze and the platinum. What if the court's ruling comes back that the governor can't impose his last and best final offer? Will we then have different insurance than we could have if we had waited? I'm a little confused as to why we don't wait for it to go through the courts.

Senator Alt: Well, that's a good clarification, I think, to make. So currently we are on the old plans which we have signed up through the University and basically you have the HMO's and some of those Preferred Providers and you have the Quality Care, and it's considered a platinum plan. So those continue on until this change is made. If the courts favor the union and tell the governor that he cannot impose his last final offer, then they will be forced to negotiate down to something different. And so, at least the plans will still probably be the bronze, the metal plans, but the portion that the employee pays would probably be negotiated lower.

Senator Horst: I see.

Senator Alt: If the union is successful with the courts.

Senator Horst: So then we would get that money back?

Senator Alt: Well, at this point that'll be settled before we have to do the plans, I would hope. I would hope that CMS would not go ahead and force these plans. In fact, I don't think they can because of the court injunction.

Senator Horst: I see.

Senator Alt: I think that the state is restricted from imposing the change because it is in court. And that's why the old plans apply. Now where this is really difficult is, is this is our benefit choice period. This is when people make these decisions. Ah, we sure don't want to have this happen this last minute in May and everybody having to learn this kind of information and get out there and choose a plan, but CMS is working as if this is going to happen. It's just our best assessment is that this won't be settled by May 31.

Senator Horst: So, Greg, is that one of those kinds of circumstances that would imply another benefit choice plan in the year? In other words, we usually have them every May, but there are certain circumstances where you can have them mid-year. Is this one of those circumstances where if certain things were to happen, we might have like an October or November benefit choice period?

Senator Alt: Yes, actually this was first trying to be imposed for last July, and it didn't get done because of the impasse in the negotiations, so they were going to do a September benefits choice period, it got pushed to

January, and then they suspended it until now. So, yes, if we don't have the May benefit choice period, they will probably take it a time later in the fall or later for that actual selection of the plans.

Senator Kalter: Thank you. And thanks to Senator Glascock for that question. Oh, sorry, Senator Dyck.

Senator Dyck: So I believe you indicated that even if the courts didn't approve it like say 'til November or January, point of clarification, that it would be retroactive to July 1. Is that correct?

Senator Alt: That's the Governor's position which it was last year...was whenever this was done during last year, the plan was retroactively back to July 1. Now that we're so far down the road in this year, it appears that that position now has shifted to January 1, of 2017 rather than January 1 of 2016 - July 1, I'm sorry. Did I say January earlier? I meant July 1. July 1 of 2017 rather than July 1 of 2016.

Senator Dyck: So I guess my question is that if its six months down the road and the insurance already is an amount...I mean you could have like a \$5,000 premium bill in like six months that would wipe out the salary, I think. You know, that's kind of where my question is.

Senator Alt: Yeah, that's one reason that HR is concerned about staff knowing and putting this first communication out to make people aware. Ah, to give you an idea where the plans would be; so, for example, if you were to do the premium plan, it depends on your salary range, so a salary of \$60,000 a year, ah, currently for Quality Care you pay \$127 a month - your contribution; the state, of course, pays nine times that. Ah, the new rate would be \$270 a month. And if you're in an HMO, ah, the same salary level, currently you pay \$103 per month, your contribution. Your contribution would go up under the platinum plan to \$227. If you did choose the bronze plan, your premium would not change.

Senator Hoelscher: I think what Senator Dyck was asking is, is HR considering going ahead and charging the extra premium so we don't end up paying three, four, five months retroactive in one month.

Senator Alt: Well, unfortunately that has been taken out of our hands because it has to be enrolled through CMS. And so, what this is, they ultimately went an online system, enrollment system through CMS, and they contracted that out. They are the ones who will contract and bill the University for it according to the plans that people are signed up for. The University doesn't bill. We just take care of the payroll. So we don't even have that information to do that with.

Senator Hoelscher: So it sounds like it might be wise for us to set a little money aside in case we don't get this taken care of until December or January and then they try to retroactive.

Senator Alt: That would definitely be my advice, is to save what people can on the assumption that after July 1 that you'll pay the higher premium amount. So, yeah, these are great questions. These are important questions because we do want the campus to know, and so this notification is going to go out this week, mostly to say that this is still being debated but it could happen. Be sure to be aware about that, and then HR will continue to follow up with information. And again at a future meeting, whether it be the next Senate meeting at another time, glad to bring somebody that knows more about it than I do, particularly Janice Bonneville who is right in the middle of this work with CMS to better address your questions.

Senator McHale: Yeah, just to recap. What percentage generally...how much on average will we be paying more or making less next year...if the government plan goes through?

Senator Alt: In most cases you'll be paying...if you're going to keep the same plan, again it's a choice of plans...if you keep the same coverage, apples to apples, and you'll be paying double. In some cases up to 120% more.

Senator McHale: Great. Thank you very much.

Multiple People: (Laughter)

Senator Kalter: Further questions. Senator Horst just said “and with children it doubles, too.” So in other words, if you have dependents, it compounds that. Are there any further questions? This is the best chairperson’s comments I have ever, you know, Q & A, I have ever been through. I don’t have to answer anything.

Senator Blum: Can we get information about ...like I’ve got the average numbers here, but I think people are going to need information at some point, of like exactly how much, is it going to be 120%, is it going to be 100%, that...people need to...because particularly if you’re talking about retroactive stuff, right? So that we...at some point that...I don’t know when that information can be disseminated, but it seems like that clarity that, so people don’t get screwed quite honestly, okay. So that they have some understanding, alright? So people at least...because I...talking about it, well maybe it’s going to go up, this is how much it’s going to be...people have got to know.

Senator Alt: Sure.

Senator Kalter: I think we’re past the point of people potentially getting screwed there. But Senator Alt might be able to address whether or not we will be able to plan and how well.

Senator Alt: Yeah, actually this information is posted on the Commission on Government Forecasting Accountability’s website. We’re happy to make that website available because that’s where a table is which shows the governor’s proposal compared to current rates. So, yeah, that information is available.

Senator Kalter: Would you mind sending that to us after the meeting so we can send it around, that website link?

Senator Alt: Sure.

Senator Kalter: That would be helpful.

Senator Alt: Yeah.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. Alright, any other questions? Any questions for me? Alright, we’ll move on to Student Body President Remarks. Thanks, everyone.

Student Body President's Remarks

Senator Walsh: Hello, everyone. Before I even get into my report, I know this is not your last meeting, Senator Alt, but I just wanted to take a minute to just kind of thank you for your in-depth knowledge, and we really appreciate all that you do and your ability to kind of explain very complex situations for the rest of us. So thank you.

Since the last time we met, the Student Government Association has been very active in helping students register to vote and informing them on how they can vote on April 4th Municipal Elections next Tuesday, so please remind your students to vote next Tuesday. We plan an event on April 19th along with the Criminal Justice Department at 6:00 p.m. in Capen Auditorium. We’ll actually host James Duane, a Law Professor at Regent University who will be covering the rights of individuals on the Fifth and Sixth Amendments. Furthermore, our It’s On Us Committee will be hosting our It’s On Us Week to combat sexual assault on campus from April 10th through 13th. Please encourage students to participate. I’ll have more information on specifics at the next meeting. The weekend of the 7th and 8th, Gamma Phi Circus will be performing at Redbird

Arena, and SGA has purchased 200 tickets for their 7 p.m. show on April 8th. So please inform your students if they are interested to come to the Student Government Association Office on the third floor of the Student Services Building to pick up their free ticket. And lastly, next Wednesday myself, alongside other student leaders will be taking a trip to Springfield to do just what Senator Kalter wants us to do: meet with the ranking members of the House and Senate, and advocate for higher education funding and MAP grant funding. And we'll also be meeting with people, I believe, from the Governor's office and possibly Speaker Madigan as well. With that I yield for questions.

Senator McHale: Will faculty members be going with you on that day?

Senator Walsh: They will not be accompanying myself.

Senator McHale: Is there like an organization of like faculty that participate in Lobby Day?

Senator Walsh: This was actually organized through the Illinois Board of Higher Ed Student Advisory Committee.

Senator McHale: I got you.

Senator Walsh: So we'll be going with Director Lackland.

Senator McHale: Thank you for your work.

Senator Walsh: Yeah.

Senator Kalter: Other questions? It's extraordinarily rare when people do what I want them to do, so thank you very much for doing that. We'll move on to Administrator Remarks with Senator Dietz.

Administrators' Remarks

• President Larry Dietz

President Dietz: Thank you very much. I also want to say how much I appreciate the student involvement in this advocacy process. I, too, will be going to Springfield, but it will be tomorrow for me. I have a meeting set up with several legislators and also the Speaker, and so we'll see how that goes. Not much new in that area other than we're continuing to work on trying to get a budget. The projection is that there may not be a budget again for this fiscal year, but there may very well may be stopgap measures as early as next month and another one potentially in June. So if you're an optimist, you think there will be a budget, and if you are a realist I think you'll believe that the way the business is going to be done perhaps this year again is through stopgap measures. We're in the 21st month of having no budget at all, unheard of in higher education through the United States. I will be talking to the speaker about that tomorrow.

In addition to that comment, kind of a general advocacy issue... There are several bills that we're tracking that have various levels of support. One in particular that we're concerned about and that we're in opposition to is the bill that would allow community colleges to offer four-year degrees in Nursing. All of the Presidents are opposed to that bill for a whole variety of reasons. The biggest reason is that we think it's mission creep. There is not a need, a statewide need, for a program such as this and also if community colleges were allowed to offer four-year degrees, there is a concern about where they would get the faculty to teach in these programs and the quality of those faculty, and then if they got quality faculty to teach in these programs, then the question is where are you going to get the clinical sites for these students to be involved with their required clinics. So there are lots of issues around all of this. It is getting some legs in the Senate, and there is a possibility that it will pass out of the Senate. We are not sure about the House side, but it involves basically only about four community colleges really pushing for this, but it involves all the rest of the presidents of community colleges in the state being supportive of this initiative. So we are working on that.

There's another bill that we're working with that would require us to admit any student who is in the top ten percent of their high school graduating class and that's all public universities. On the surface it sounds like it would be an interesting idea. In practicality it could be a terrific disservice for some students that are graduating from high schools that are in the top ten percent might have an ACT score so low that they wouldn't meet our general criteria. The other part of that I think is a bit of a concern that the assumption would be that they would get into any particular program, while a lot of institutions have admission criteria for the university and then sometimes different criteria into specific programs. So our concern is how all this might play out. I'm meeting in the morning at 10:00 with the sponsor of that bill to talk about that.

Several other bills. There's a free speech bill that just got introduced this week. The co-sponsor of Representative Dan Brady from our district. I've talked to Representative Brady about that. We do practically all the things that are in the free speech bill that he is suggesting. It would add some additional administrative burdens for us, and our legal counsel is suggesting against that, as are several other legal counsels at other institutions. So it should be an interesting day tomorrow, and we'll see what happens with all that.

I want to say congratulations to the Big Red Marching Machine who brought home the hardware from their trip to Ireland. Did a great job over there. Won the best band performance in the Dublin Parade in Dublin on St. Patrick's Day. About a half a million people got to view our Redbirds in full regalia and marching in the band and really performing well. And then they went to Limerick, Ireland right after that and did the same thing in Limerick, Ireland with 17 bands from all over the world, and so they really distinguished themselves. They played well, performed well and behaved well. So it was a good trip for all those folks, and they brought distinction back to the institution.

I also want to say congratulations to the men's basketball team upon their NIT birth. It was a great year for the team. Missouri Valley Coach of the Year in Dan Mueller, Missouri Valley Player of the Year in Paris Lee, and the future looks bright for the team.

A couple of other announcements. Today I have been interviewed by a number of media outlets, and you may have heard this already. We've done a lot of work in looking at tuition and fee and room and board costs for this next year. This is the time of year when we do a lot of studying of that and go through a variety of financial simulations and so forth. Our average increase over the last many years has been about a 2 percent increase. As you are all aware, we've had significant increases in our freshman class for the last three years. Therefore, we have three large classes kind of in the system now, if you will. The tuition and fee and room and board money is some of the biggest money that comes into the institution, but at the same time we want to make sure that we remain affordable for students that are interested in attending. So I'm going to be making the recommendation in May, but I am announcing the recommendation today. The Board makes the approval. I don't make the approval, and they will rule on this in May, but I'm making the recommendation that the tuition, fee, room and board rates for this next academic year be held at the rate for the current year. This is the first time that we have done that. It may be the last time that we've done that, but I think it's an important sign to say that we're strong and steady, and hopefully it will also have a positive impact on some of those students who are anticipating enrolling here in this fall semester.

The last thing that I'll mention is that after a lot of conversation about the Provost search, I've decided that, in talking to a lot of folks, have decided that we're not going to be using a search firm for the Provost search; which will mean it's going to be incumbent upon all of us around this table to make sure that we're contacting colleagues at other institutions so whenever that announcement comes out, which will be in the fall, that we use our networks and get a good and strong pool for that, but we'll save a good deal of money by not having a search firm. And we didn't have a search firm for the VP for Finance and Planning position, and I think we got a terrific pool and a good candidate in that. And having said that, Dan Stevens, the new VP for Finance and Planning will start his career here on Monday, and he will be working with Senator Alt. I couldn't agree more with Senator Walsh about what a great job Senator Alt has done, and they will be attending these Academic

Senate Meetings during the month of April and working in tandem as Greg retires at the end of the month. So that concludes my comments today. If you have any questions, I will be happy to try to answer them.

- ***Interim Provost Jan Murphy***

Provost Murphy: Good evening. Today in the Division of Academic Affairs, I guess this morning and yesterday morning, we had our Annual Budget and Planning presentations. I almost want to say our non-budget and planning presentations. You know we've been doing these for over 20 years, and in good times and bad times I think it's important to still plan, and so I think it's particularly important at a time when we're a bit worried about budgets, that we always planful and we are always thinking about the future. You know, a big part of those presentations are the accomplishments. The deans all present their accomplishments from the year before, and it's just amazing to see all of that this institution, all of our faculty and all of our students have accomplished over this last year. So thank you to all who attended those and who participated in developing and presenting all of the department and the school and the budget documents, and also thank you to the Vice Presidents who all attended yesterday and this morning. So we appreciate their time and they each made a presentation for us, too.

So an update on faculty searches. As of Monday we've completed 38 faculty searches, so these will be new colleagues that will be joining us in the fall. Fifteen searches are still in progress and three searches have been failed and we say failed, we did not either get a pool that was a strong enough pool or didn't get the candidate that we were hoping for. In general, I would say, though, that some of our chairs are feeling that the state budget is starting to affect faculty searches and affecting pools of faculty. So I think is something that is a little new. I don't think we've seen that quite as much in previous years, but I think our chairs and directors are starting to see that a little bit this year.

A reminder that the University Research Symposium is scheduled for this Friday, March 31st, on the concourse of Redbird Arena. I got a little note from Dean Miller to let me know that the School of Music faculty member Carl Schimmel has received an American Academy of Arts and Letters Award, so I think that's an extraordinary accomplishment from one of our colleagues in the School of Music.

I'm sad to say and many of you know that we are going to be losing our good colleague Dane Ward who is the Dean of Milner Library. He will be moving to Appalachian State University where he will serve as a named dean of their library, and so he is anticipating being gone as soon as early June. So I've met with Milner Library faculty and staff and asked them just over the course of the next three weeks or so to email me, write me, call me, meet with me. You know, I'll take any and all input into the selection of an Interim Dean who will serve when we lose Dane starting in June.

I'm also sorry to report that our colleague Susan Gibson passed away after a lengthy illness this past Friday. Susan was an instructional assistant professor with the School of Communication with close to two decades of service to the University, and she taught a number of, taught Comm 110 for many, many years for the University, so we're very sorry and send our condolences to our colleagues in the School of Communication. So that's my report.

Senator Shurhay: Has there been a new chair named for the Department of Politics and Government yet?

Provost Murphy: There has been, so Dr. T. Y Wang will be serving as the new Chair of the Department of Politics and Government starting in the summer.

Senator Shurhay: Sounds great.

Provost Murphy: Uh, uh.

Senator Kalter: Other questions? I was counting up the number of searches that we did, and it's an impressive exemplification of our planning that we ran 56 searches this year when other people are either, you know, doing other things with their faculty.

Provost Murphy: Absolutely. You know, and I think it's our focus on our mission and that our mission is first and foremost our students and instruction, and so the minute you start to lose that I think we're going to be in trouble. So I really do thank you, and I think that's true that it's the people sitting at this table that we have to thank for that.

Senator Kalter: Absolutely.

Senator Day: To put that in perspective, how many retirements and resignations do we have?

Provost Murphy: Ooh, you know and they're still coming in. I would be...

Senator Day: In other words, how much progress are we making with the TT count that has to be balanced against retirements and resignations?

Provost Murphy: It absolutely does, and it varies by department. So you know, the thing to remember is that the tenure-track to non-tenure-track ratio, there are extraordinary variances throughout the University, so we have at least one department that has no non-tenure-track faculty at all, and then we have departments that have up to almost 60% of their courses taught by non-tenure-track. It just depends, so I hear what you're saying, but I think Dr. Lacy and I have talked a little bit about that, and I think Susan, you and I have talked that, really we need to start to think about that on a department or school by school basis to see what is the right ratio because there is so much variation at the department or school level. But it is a valid point and we are, we really do think very closely about how many tenured/tenure-track faculty and how many non-tenure-track faculty we can fund. But thank you for that.

Senator Day: More interested in [inaudible]

Senator Kalter: So, Senator Day, I have the AIF report from a couple of weeks ago and as of October of this past year, so 2016, there have been 41 resignations.

Senator Day: Right. I was more interested in the current number relative to the number of searches that were in progress or completed.

Senator Kalter: Those are on sort of jogged calendars.

Provost Murphy: Right. So 41 for this fiscal year.

Senator Kalter: Yes.

Provost Murphy: Which then, impacts how many searches we'll do for next year. There's always that little lag. Good point.

Senator Kalter: Yeah, I think it was actually 41 for the calendar year 2016, and I think there were a couple more before the year ended between October and December.

Provost Murphy: Uh, uh. And they're still coming in.

- ***Vice President of Student Affairs Levester Johnson***

Senator Johnson: Alright. Thank you. My report is really just a series of updates. I'll start off back with the Greek community and our Greek Task Force. We are currently in the stage and phase of making recommendations. We have done our homework and have done a lot of background information so that we're all on the same page. We have collected data in order to help inform our decision-making. At our last meeting actually started, we broke off into groups and actually started the process of making recommendations based on facility needs, leadership development in the area of marketing appropriately the Greek system, as well as engagement of both undergraduate and graduate alumni members of that community. So we are very hopeful and excited that maybe after our next gathering next week we will be able to have our first draft of those recommendations and then bring in a focus group maybe of students, maybe some alumni, and kind of run it by those individuals to get some additional feedback and then hope to roll those recommendations out first to the President of the University, Cabinet, other members, and this group as well for feedback as well. So we are very excited about the work and the engagement of the many, I think there are maybe close to 20 members on that group, faculty, staff, administration, alumni, and community members. So we are very excited about the work taking place with that group.

Second, again update on the Climate Task Force as well. You all may be aware again that there was an implementation team that was formed that is being chaired by Provost Murphy and I and that group and that implementation team met earlier and then went through the process of identifying champions as well as areas on campus by which each one of the initial recommendations from the Climate Task Force would be processed and hopefully within the next series of months and into the first part of next year get a number of those short term type of recommendations taken care of. People are out there already rolling their sleeves up and working on these items, so we are encouraged by the work of those individuals and those offices that have been identified as champions for that first series of recommendations. The Climate Task Force is out there now making recommendations and working on the longer term type of thoughts and needs for the campus community, so the implementation team and the President's office will all be waiting on those recommendations as well. I think they hope to have those done by the end of the semester as a matter of fact. Okay?

The third item that I want to talk a little bit about: I mentioned earlier when I first came on about maybe some of the housing needs that we might have on campus. Right now we are about to begin a housing feasibility study for the campus community. We will be looking at and completing a market analysis of the existing housing needs on campus, as well as the community. We are going to do an assessment of the current existing inventory and stock that we have as it relates to facilities and what the current and future needs are for those facilities. We'll do a financial analysis of room/board rates for the campus community as well, comparing those to the market, and then in the end we are going to make recommendations and have a map by which we will address the current physical needs for facilities, as well as any new ongoing facility needs that we have for the campus. We are going to be working with a firm, Brailsford and Dunlavey, who is specialize in these types of facility feasibility studies. This is going to be based on and actually coming from some of the work from a campus group that we have pulled together that did some initial work on this prior to my arrival on campus where we looked at current housing data and made some initial recommendations, but that work needs to be carried on to the next phase of actually figuring out where the campus is going in that sense.

And I'll come right back around with my last item, in fact, with the Greek community and as I have gone around and attended many campus events and activities and leadership type of initiatives that our students have put on, I have to tell you I was literally blown away and amazed by the efforts of I believe it's Chi Omega who put on March Madness this past weekend. The entire Greek Community was showcased as far as their talents on stage with their dance performances but for a worthy cause with the Make A Wish Foundation and what they do in order to help families and those individuals who are struggling and going through hard times in that sense is absolutely phenomenal, and so kudos to the Greek community and to Chi Omega in particular. That's my report, and I will be open for any questions that you may have.

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

Senator Alt: Okay, well first I would ditto Senator Kalter's comments on the budget. You made these comments early on, because we do need the State to pass a budget and we're very fortunate that we're managing it the way we are, but some of our sister institutions are really starting to experience some pressure. I know in a conference call I was on this week with my colleagues around the state that one institution actually shut down over spring break, terminated all student employees and furloughed all staff and then came back after spring break and administrative employees are being furloughed until September 30 one day a week, which is about a 20% reduction in their pay, so it's starting to really get some intense pressure on some of the other campuses, so hopefully the state will start noticing that and start maybe getting some more action going there.

My only other comment since we have already talked about the health insurance is to kind of give an update on the Educating Illinois Task Force. Senator Kalter is a representative on that Task Force, and they have been working very hard throughout the semester. Many, many focus groups and surveys and getting through the constituent groups to where I believe that work is going to be completed sometime at the end April, and then that work will be analyzed, evaluated and developed into a draft that I think the committee hopes to have the first draft of that sometime in the fall when the semester begins and starts up again or probably more towards the middle of fall. So that effort is moving right along. I would be glad to answer any questions.

Senator Kalter: Any questions for Senator Alt? So, yeah, another piece of information that puts Senator Day's question to Senator Murphy in context is that Senator Alt this morning, I think it was yesterday morning, reminded us that we got through fiscal year 2016 with 29% of our state funding and 53% for this year, I think were the two figures. So that puts in context. The fact that we are able to hire 56 tenure track faculty members rather than doing furloughs in mid-year is rather extraordinary in those circumstances.

02.14.17.04 - Proposed edits to Senate bylaws, Art. III Sect. 6 – inline (Rules Committee)

Senator Kalter: Alright, so we'll move on to our only action item. We have from the Rules Committee the proposed edits to Article III, Section 6 of the Senate bylaws.

Senator Horst: Yes, these changes were made to update this section to reflect current practice, and I move that the Senate approve these changes to the Senate bylaws.

Motion: By Martha Horst, on behalf of Rules Committee, to pass changes to the Senate bylaws, Article III Section 6.

Senator Kalter: And given that that's coming from a committee, we do not need a second. Is there any debate? Senator Horst, I just have one clarification on this. And we may or may not have missed this, but we have crossed out a sentence that essentially is saying that people have to give us a week beforehand to add people to certain ballots, right? "The Senate office will mail any such additions," etc. Originally the sentence that then is not crossed out that reads "the Senate may waive this requirement by a two-thirds vote," originally that applied to that sentence, but now it applies to "shall be presented to the Senate no later than 48 hours prior to the election session". In other words, the list of nominees. Do we still want that waiver to appear here, or do we want to cross out the whole thing is what I am wondering there? And I'm sorry that I missed this before. Right, so the way it would read now is that "a list of nominees for elections to committees requiring a ballot shall be presented to the Senate no later than 48 hours prior to the election session, but that, we could waive that requirement by a two-thirds vote". Do we still want to say it that way? And if you can speak in the microphone.

Senator Horst: I think that that reading is correct.

Senator Kalter: So that we did intentionally keep that there.

Senator Horst: Yes, it is in the leftover sentence and applied to the sentence being crossed out.

Senator Kalter: Ok. Thank you. Any debate on any of that?

The motion was unanimously approved.

Information Items:

02.23.17.04 – Policy 2.1.1 Student Records - Mark Up Copy (Academic Affairs Committee)

Senator Kalter: Alright, we'll go to our first information item, Policy 2.1.1., Student Records.

Senator Pancrazio: Yes, this was part of our policy revision cycle. We contacted the unit that was responsible for reviewing this. We reviewed it ourselves, and we believe that we finally have a copy ready here that is ready for the Senate to move to an action item in the next meeting or so.

Senator Kalter: Alright, so this is the information item stage, so this is just the place where we offer questions, comments, observations about the changes or the policy itself.

Senator Dyck: Two items. First of all, it seemed a little confusing to me with the chart with the types and stuff because the colleges are mentioned at least twice, and it's the same information and that did not make sense to me. And I have one other item like that. Can someone explain that to me?

Senator Kalter: Senator Pancrazio, what she's referring to is about nine pages in, it appears that the list simply repeats.

Senator Pancrazio: I think there be, I think there may have been an inadvertent copying of the list. I think when we finally, the original changes that we had to this document only referred to the first six or seven pages, and I think that it was at the Executive board they sent it back. If you like I can look at this again to make sure. In the chart that we put on there of all of these offices, some of these offices no longer existed, and I think that this was one of the issues for policy review that there really isn't a step by step guideline for different offices to do that, so that you, sometimes you get things in markup, sometimes you get X numbers of different edits and this may be an instance in which it can go one more edit.

Senator Kalter: By the way, we can in the Senate office we can be responsible for just taking that out of the draft that comes to action once we do that in action. Senator Dyck, you had a second one.

Senator Dyck: Under Mennonite College of Nursing, it indicates the academic documents are stored in Edwards 312 and the person accountable is the Director. None of that is correct. I checked that this afternoon. Those documents are stored in Edwards 112, and we have a little issue here with the custodian. Because the custodian's current title is Assistant Dean for the Office of Student and Faculty Services, but as of July 1, the title will be Associate Dean for Academic Support, so we were inclined to think we should go with the new title.

Senator Kalter: And is the second column correct, Senator Dyck, where it says Nursing Programs as the...

Senator Dyck: Yes.

Senator Kalter: Office, so-called office? Okay.

Senator Dyck: The other issue is that we do have some health records that aren't kept in Student Health Services, and those are internal health records for use by our clinical agencies, and Student Health Services apparently doesn't want those because they don't need those. Those are stored in that same office under lock and key.

Senator Kalter: I'm not certain about this, Senator Dyck, but under "confidential information or materials not considered to be education records," under what I believe is supposed to be Roman numeral I, Definition of Terms on the first page...

Senator Dyck: Okay.

Senator Kalter: And that's one of the comments that I noted that this is one of the several policies that we have up on the website that has reference within it to Roman numerals inside the policy, but then there's no Roman numeral inside the policy. So one of the things I have noted is we have to add some Roman numerals to these things. But under Definition of Terms, under "confidential information" which is I.E. and then it's 4, "records which are created or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist or other recognized professionals or paraprofessionals": would the health records that you're talking about (and you might want to read that sort of more in full), would they fall under number 4 so that we wouldn't even have to consider them because they are already excluded?

Senator Dyck: They might be created, but they aren't maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, or psychologist. I think we're okay with that. I'll have to think about that and chat with Janeen Mollenhauer about that.

Senator Kalter: Okay. Terrific.

Senator Dyck: And I was reminded of one other comment as I turned that page there. Under item D, item 2, it mentions the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and that was defunct in 1979. There is now the Department of Education, and the Department of Health and Human Services. I think we're referring to the Department of Education here.

Senator Kalter: What a wonderful edit. Thank you. Do we have other observations, comments, questions about this one? I have a couple, and I have to apologize because due to my unexpected spring break schedule, I didn't get to this at the Exec Meeting, but I'll just read a couple of these off. So under I think it's II, 8, number II something 8 on the fourth page in, this is a really tiny one. It says a contractor, consultant, volunteer or other party provided that the part (A) performs, and I think it means party. Right? It's...in other words it says a contractor, consultant, volunteer or other party, provided that the party performs an institutional service or function. I think that is, they accidentally left the 'y' off of that. Very minor. On the next page, right before that list of offices for some reason it goes from an f. to an a., which is a little odd, so we might want to get rid of that type of system or else or else put it as a g. In general, one of my observations is that in a future year we may want to reorganize the order of information in here, because I found it somewhat difficult to follow anyway and that we might want to put the list last. I don't know if we want to do that this year or not, but it seems like a weird thing to have this huge list in the middle of a policy instead of at the end of a policy. On the next page in, I'm not sure if there is such a thing as an ORL Building, under Resident Life.

Senator Pancrazio: Office of Residential Life.

Senator Kalter: That's Office of Residence Life. So there is such a building?

President Dietz: Yes.

Senator Brauer: Yes. It's University Housing Services.

Senator Kalter: Ah, ha, okay. Thank you. So ...and then on the next page in under School of Communication, there is no such title as Executive Director on this campus, so that should become Director. Also, under, I believe that...

Senator Pancrazio: Would it be a better use of time if we just had you forward these to...

Senator Kalter: I can absolutely do that.

Senator Pancrazio: Yeah, I think that would be ...I mean copy editing in a large group, kind of I don't know....

Senator Kalter: Let me see if there's anything...

Senator Pancrazio: I'll also be contacting Senator Dyck for your insights in all of this. This was, I appreciate the comments and things like this, this obviously has not been touched, there are elements here that I believe some of the buildings existed in the 1980's. We haven't seen those again, so it's good to update this.

Senator Kalter: Okay. Let me ask either Senator Brauer or Senator Johnson, do we still have a Director of Student Activities?

Senator Brauer: Coordinator.

Senator Johnson: Coordinator. On one of those it's changed, I saw. It was changed from Director to Coordinator. I believe that's where...

Senator Kalter: This is the second to last page of the policy. I found a reference to a Director of Student Activities.

Senator Johnson: Should be...

Senator Brauer: Can you tell us which line?

Senator Kalter: Yes. It's the second page from the end, right at the top. It's the second line down. So it says for the purposes of communication with the university student organizations, which I'm going to suggest we change to registered student organizations, are required to provide the Director of Student Activities with the names of officers. Coordinator.

Senator Johnson: Coordinator. Yeah, that was changed in the listing of offices and so forth.

Senator Kalter: Okay, great.

Senator Johnson: So it should be Coordinator.

Senator Kalter: To Coordinator, okay. Terrific. So the rest of those I can just forward to Senator Pancrazio with everybody's permission?

Senator Pancrazio: Yes.

Senator Kalter: Terrific.

Senator Pancrazio: Yes, and I have on my list Senator Dyck and also Senator Johnson. Anyone else like to be included so we can get more eyes on this so we can actually get this out of the way? Thank you.

Senator Brauer: Hi, Senator Pancrazio. I don't know if you mentioned this, Senator Kalter, but the School of Kinesiology and Recreation - it notes Horton, but I don't believe any administrative offices are in Horton. Everyone has moved to McCormick in 2010 and 2011.

Senator Pancrazio: Okay. Not surprised at this point. You are on my list.

Senator Brauer: Feel free. I can just run upstairs.

Senator Horst: Should we all verify our department information? It seems that you when you did that, came up with an error. Maybe if we can all do that and if we find an error we can report it to you?

Senator Pancrazio: I'd be happy to get as much feedback as you can. I mean this was... Believe it or not, this was an enormous improvement over the first draft.

Multiple People: (Laughter)

Senator Horst: Why don't we all do take responsibility for our own department.

Senator Kalter: She said, "Why don't we all just take responsibility for our own department." There are a couple of departments not represented, so it might be helpful for vice presidents, also, to take a look at parts of this. Anyone else?

Senator Pancrazio: Any more victim, volunteers for this?

Multiple People: (Laughter)

Senator Kalter: Alright. So that's the information item. We'll bring that back hopefully in two weeks. The next one is from Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee, policy 6.1.2 Lab School Policy.

02.23.17.02 – Policy 6.1.2 Lab Schools Policy (Admin Affairs Committee)

Senator Hoelscher: This is another review policy that just came up during the normal course of review. Our committee, the Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee, took a look at it and then passed it to the Superintendent of the Lab School. His name escapes me at the moment, but I think he's leaving, so...

Senator Kalter: Jeff Hill.

Senator Hoelscher: Jeff. Yeah. And at any rate, he had one change. So we looked at it and did not see any changes that we thought needed to be made. He had one change, and we removed the word Director under the contact information at the very bottom and put Superintendent instead. So now it reads contact Superintendent of Laboratory Schools and that literally is the only change and that really isn't of the policy.

Senator Horst: If you recall we had a discussion in the Executive Committee about how this policy is defining the laboratory schools and whether or not that is best to be done in a different number of policy.

Senator Hoelscher: Oh, that's right.

Senator Horst: Where do we stand in that discussion?

Senator Hoelscher: I do remember that. Do we want to renumber the policy? That was the question. Is 6.1.2 the appropriate number for the policy? And that, my friends, is above my pay grade.

Senator Horst: And the other point was to define more clearly the positions of Superintendent and do they hold a tenured position and who do they report to. It's a little bit confusing. We talked about clarifying that. Do we want to hold off on before we have that information before we...

Senator Kalter: So the first one I can answer easily. The 6 dot policies are all facilities policies, so it actually makes absolutely no sense for this policy to be in the 6 dot policies. I checked with the person who works in the

President's office about how you go about doing that, and it is essentially, you know, like changing a course number. You just ask for an editorial change, and so we'll probably put it in the 4 point policies. Those are the Academic Activities policies. For the second question that you have, Senator Horst, I think we might want to ask Senator Murphy if there is another place where those roles are defined other than... You know, in other words are they defined in bylaws somewhere or are they defined in an administrative document somewhere, or is this the right policy to put the descriptions of the superintendent and the two principals in this policy? In your opinion, would this be the place to put that, or should it be put somewhere else?

Provost Murphy: You know, if you were going to put it somewhere else, I'm going to look at the President to see if that... The only place I can think of is if we do have a policy (and I don't know the policy. Is it 3 point something?) where we define kind of the role of a dean and a chair. I don't know if, you know, we could put it some place, either add it to that section of the policies or add it to that policy. I don't know that it belongs here.

Senator Kalter: Yeah, that makes a lot of sense actually, because that would be more under the 3 point policies which are more about personnel, faculty, staff, employee types of issues as opposed to defining the program, which is what these are doing, essentially defining what the lab schools do and what they are as opposed to what the people in them do.

Provost Murphy: Yeah. If I have a counter argument to that, although I could go either way, you know, I think there are a lot of administrative positions we don't fully define in policy. So I think part of it is this a position we would fully define in a policy. I mean we have...that makes sense, too, so I would probably look for some guidance on that.

Senator Hoelscher: Just a question. Can this just be edited and then come back as an action item with a new number?

Senator Kalter: Senator Horst, your questions were sort of satisfied by...

Senator Horst: Yes, so the number change and then we get over to 3.1.5 or 15 whatever they decide, then we can add that change at that point.

Provost Murphy: I think we need to think a little bit about that. Like I said, I think there are lots of administrative positions on campus that we don't define in policy. I think we'd have to decide. Are these positions that we want to define in policy? I'm not sure they are, but that would be a question to really think through.

Senator Horst: Well, it particularly came up with, when we were looking at the College of Ed bylaws, and it was a little bit confusing whether or not the Administrator Search policy applied to those positions. And so that's why if it could be clarified in that policy that they are administrators that are direct reports to the dean, and the search committee for them does fall under this policy. That would clarify the question I had when we reviewed their bylaws.

Senator Hoelscher: So second logistics issue. I would gently lobby for the definitions not to be in this particular policy. I guess that's up for discussion. Is it a separate issue? And can we move this policy forward without it?

Senator Kalter: It seems to me that we, maybe I should just ask for any objections to that. Because I think that Senator Horst is saying, "Yes, that's right, that we can define those elsewhere." I would say that's right. Ah, it looks like Senator Dietz and Senator Murphy are saying that. Does anybody have any objections to keeping those definitions of the people out of this policy and moving forward with the policy? And, Senator Hoelscher, are you asking to have it converted to an action item tonight or just to move forward with it in general?

Senator Hoelscher: No. I'm a realist here. I'm just trying to get the logistics of what I need to do before the next two weeks. That'll be soon enough for it to be an action item. So we'll do an editorial change on the number and it'll move forward then.

Senator Kalter: Sounds good. Great.

Senator Cox: Just a minor editorial issue. Is there significance for the italicized words. Are you trying to underscore particular portions of the... There are some portions of the policy that are italicized, and I wonder if there is some significance to that. It's a minor editorial issue.

Senator Hoelscher: Who would know that?

Senator Cox: Is there a reason to underscore that particular...

Senator Hoelscher: I see no reason. Should we just change that to all the same font?

Provost Murphy: It almost makes it look like it was a previous edit that didn't get changed.

Senator Hoelscher: Okay. I'll have that done, and I'll send it back to Exec.

Senator Kalter: Anything else on this one? Alright. Great. Thank you.

02.23.17.03 – Policy 3.3.1 Tenure Track Position Authorization - Mark Up (Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee)

Senator Kalter: And then we also move to one from Senator Hoelscher's committee. This is the policy 3.3.1 Tenure Track Position Authorizations. Tell us about this one.

Senator Hoelscher: This one also was part of our review cycle, and it was a little bit more complicated. We took a look at it as a committee and then forwarded it to Dr. Alan Lacy and his group and asked for help, and there were some changes made to clarify the policy, to simplify the policy, and to have it better reflect what we actually do. I think there were some issues with this particular policy that, the policy had sort of outlived and some pieces of it, its usefulness in terms of it didn't fully describe how the process went and so we cleaned it up and did a better job clarifying that and when I say we, I mean Dr. Alan Lacy has been very gracious, because his team really did the heavy lifting on this. So the policy you see in front of us better reflects the process and how it actually works.

Senator Glascock: I was just curious at the end of the second paragraph it mentions "program integrity," and I was just curious as to what exactly that might entail.

Senator Hoelscher: Dr. Lacy, would you have a little clearer answer for that?

Provost Murphy: I was going to say I think to me "program integrity" is simply looking, it's when a department chair and school director makes a case for a rationale for the need for a position. Part of that rationale is the integrity of the program. It's the need for a faculty member to maintain the viability of a program or it's a unique expertise that a faculty has. You know, I think to me it's a phrase that we're just trying to... As we make a judgment call on where we can allocate search positions, you know, we'll get... I think we've got 75 position requests, and we won't have 75 positions out of AIF. So, we're trying to make our best judgment, and I suppose to me that integrity of the program is we're trying to do the right thing for all of the departments as we make those allocations.

Associate Vice President Alan Lacy: That wording did not particularly catch my eye when I reviewed this. That wording was in the original policy. I guess it could be argued "program need" and "program integrity" is a

little redundant, but I don't have any, I hadn't really given it any thought because it wasn't an editorial change that I had suggested.

Senator Hoelscher: So I would ask Senator Glascock what his recommendation would be. Do you think we need to? is it redundant in your mind, or did Senator Murphy make a clear enough argument for it to leave them both in there? I see a little bit of difference between the two.

Senator Glascock: Yeah, I was just looking for like a definition of what that was. What do you mean by "program integrity"? I'm not sure I really understand.

Senator Hoelscher: I would equate the word quality with integrity.

Senator Glascock: Okay.

Senator Hoelscher: I would make only a mild argument for that though if it's the wish of the group that we remove the word integrity, we could, but I think it does add a little bit.

Senator Day: I think "program integrity" might refer to essential faculty that have to teach essential parts of the curriculum without which a program, you can't graduate students from a small program like ours without, let's say a petrologist. If we don't have one, that course isn't taught, for instance, and it's a requirement, so...

Senator Kalter: I would agree with that, and I would say that then "program need," you know, sometimes you need, you know, I mean this is sort of counterintuitive to "need," but you know, without, "program integrity" means the program cannot exist without this.

Senator Day: Exactly.

Senator Kalter: Whereas the need is, you know, we really need more people to do this if we're going to have more students, so to speak, right? So it's not an absolute, you know, do or die. It's a need if certain conditions apply, so to speak. That's how, I mean I would argue against getting rid of one or the other.

Senator Haugo: I guess when I read it the wordage...it seems a little slippery to me because I read "program integrity" as meaning the Provost's office is making a judgment call about the integrity of the program now, whether that program deserves more faculty, not necessarily whether the integrity of the program is going to require more faculty. That to me is need. Right? So it feels to me like the language is a little slippery.

Senator Horst: It makes sense to me in my field because we have requirements from NASM, and that's the integrity of the program. We have a need right now for a jazz pianist, but that's not vital to the program, to use his words, so the integrity of the program is based on faculty that satisfy the national requirements. The needs have to do with the sort of trends we see with the majors. It makes sense to me because of that.

Senator Haugo: And to that, then, why is that a subjective measure and not an objective measure? Why is objectively and subjectively in this?

Senator Kalter: I'm going to pitch that to Senator Murphy or Dr. Lacy.

Associate Vice President Alan Lacy: Again that is language that was in the previous policy. We didn't write that. I think, my view of it is I think of objective as metrics like credit hours, numbers of students, number of faculty, things that are quantifiable, and then when you look at things like accreditation demands, particular types of fields that have expertise that they need. Those are more professional judgments. They are not quantifiable, and some might consider that to be subjective, but we try to make the best holistic professional judgment we can when we do these tenure track authorizations.

Senator Haugo: So if the policy is under review now, we can question whether we keep objective and subjective in the language, too.

Senator Kalter: So, maybe you could put forth an argument for getting rid of them if you want them gone. Are you saying that we should eliminate those two adverbs?

Senator Haugo: I guess I would ask whether it would be feasible to do that. If program need and program integrity are important measures, does it color them to regard them as subjective? Does it privilege what we might call an objective measure?

Senator Hoelscher: Would it change the meaning to get rid of that and just say that the positions are reviewed using agreed upon productivity measures regarding program need and program integrity?

Senator Kalter: My sense, and I'm not going to necessarily answer your question directly, but my sense, Senator Haugo, is that is in the policy as written, in order to make sure that objective measures are not the only thing that is looked at, so that if you have a tuba player who you need to replace, you know, you may not see that under an agreed upon productivity measure, but it sure is going to come out when it comes to program need and program integrity, right? So that there is a narrative piece that needs to accompany the numbers piece in order for anybody to interpret the information that they're being given.

Senator Haugo: Right. And I'm not arguing that we take out program need or program integrity.

Senator Kalter: And Senator Horst, you were saying you didn't think that Senator Hoelscher's rewording would work because he took out the second review? Is that what you were thinking?

Senator Horst: I just, the way he read it, I didn't agree with it, and I like the language as it stands.

Senator Kalter: Okay.

Senator Hoelscher: So I, again, being the logistics kind of guy I am, I am hearing that we leave that alone, just like it is.

09.09.15.05 – Policy 4.1.7 Organizational Change (Planning and Finance Committee)

09.09.15.04 – Policy 4.1.19 CreditHourPolicy2015-09-09 (Academic Affairs Committee)

09.09.15.02 – Policy 3.2.18 OralEnglishProficiency2015-09-09 (Academic Affairs Committee)

03.09.17.01 – Policy 1.1 Equal Opportunity Mark Up (Lisa Huson)

11.17.16.02 – Policy 3.5.1 Faculty Associate Hiring Policy (Faculty Affairs Committee)

11.17.16.03 – Policy 3.5.3 Faculty Associate Non Accumulative Personal Leave (Faculty Affairs Committee)

Senator Kalter: The next set of six. So you may remember that a couple of weeks ago, maybe before spring break, we tabled the possibility of an Exec Consent Agenda pending some other changes, and so during the course of fall semester a bunch of things piled up that we were going to put on that Consent Agenda, so we are putting these forward and you see that they are sort of grouped, because most of them are either no change whatsoever, or simply changing a typo or what have you. So we have from Planning and Finance Committee the Organizational Change policy, from Academic Affairs two policies, the Credit Hour Policy and the Oral English Proficiency Policy which has a very slight typo correction. We have 1.1; this is actually coming from a conversation between myself and our University Counsel. I happened to notice that Shane McCreery's name was still on our policy and that it needed to be removed. Since then, they also, by the way, took off the word "ethics" from the office because the name of the office has changed. So that's the Equal Opportunity Policy, and then there were two coming out of Faculty Affairs Committee; one was a hiring procedure for lab school, faculty associates, and one was something about their non-accumulative leave. These last two have since been determined that from now on they will be non-Senate policies. In other words, they won't ever need to come

back here unless somebody makes a really strong argument for them to come back. So does anybody have anything that they need to ask about or observe about any of those policies?

Senator Horst: I think I have a question for the Provost about the Credit Hour policy. Could you talk about how that's audited and how the Provost's office makes sure that departments are complying with that policy?

Provost Murphy: That would fall under Jonathan Rosenthal's purview to audit the Credit Hour policy, and also I believe under the Registrar's purview. And then also under Jim Jawahar because he is our ALO liaison. So I think those three would work together and then the Credit Hour Policy in the end is done through, there is a component of our 10-year and our 4-year reaccreditation called the Federal Compliance, and those credit hours then are reported to the federal government. So they do sections of course...they do...anything that's an unusual credit hour course – we have very few of those. Anything that's a unique course length. Again, we don't have very many of those. And so they are really just doing a sampling of our credit hours, so we really mostly report anything that is unusual, but through that Federal Compliance it is reviewed fourth year and tenth year through accreditation. So the federal government gives the Higher Learning Commission the power to review that.

Senator Horst: But does the University Curriculum Committee audit this information when they are reviewing a course? Do they consider the credit hour policy?

Provost Murphy: Oh, I would guess, yes I would assume so, that when they're developing, or when we're approving a brand new course, yes. It would have to follow the standard credit hour policy.

Senator Kalter: Any other questions about any of these or comments? I am wondering if, for these, we want to move them from information to action item on a single night. Does somebody from Exec want to make that motion?

Motion: By Senator Hoelscher, on behalf of the Executive Committee, to move the six items from information to action.

Senator Kalter: We have debate about whether to move it from information to action, is that correct?

Senator Horst: Two-thirds vote.

Senator Kalter: But we have debate before that, right?

Senator Horst: Right.

Senator Kalter: Okay, so let's debate. Should we move this whole group of policies from information to action tonight? Alright, seeing no debate.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Senator Kalter: Would somebody from Exec also like to put these on the floor for action?

Motion: By Senator Hoelscher, on behalf of the Executive Committee to approve Policy 4.1.7; 4.1.19; 3.2.18; 1.1; 3.5.1; 3.5.3

Senator Kalter: So any debate about either making these changes or making no changes to this group of policies?

The motion was unanimously approved.

Academic Affairs Committee: Senator Pancrazio

Senator Pancrazio: This evening we met and we finished up our policy review cycle. I thought. Anyway. (Laughter) With the exception of a few edits and I'll be counting on you all for quick responses. We also talked about the AAUP memo that we all received in Faculty Caucus earlier on. We had some very, a very good and helpful discussion with that, and we hope to be sending forward to the Exec board some specific directions. Illinois State is doing a lot of things that are very supportive of academic freedom, and we have some, the AAUP memo had some certain, some issues that it brought up about surreptitious recordings in classrooms and also professors that are on watch lists, and I think that we're in a good place to be able to build on some of the policies we have and just by minor, very minor tweaks we've got a lot in place that's very good and very supportive of faculty and academic freedom. And we received the annual report from the Library.

Senator Kalter: Thank you for your work on that AAUP memo. Senator Pancrazio did a ton of work on that. Thank you for that, for reaching out. And you've been doing a yeoman's job on cutting through the policy pile. Thank you.

Senator Pancrazio: We can take more edits, too, so...

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee: Senator Hoelscher

Senator Hoelscher: The Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee did meet tonight, and I would like to give a shout out to our student members, because we would not have made quorum without them, so yeah them. We got hit a little bit with illness. We began our review of our Presidential Commentary. It is now closed, and we had 336 student respondents and 361 faculty, marginally better than last year, not near as good as we wished it could be, and we're just beginning that review process.

Faculty Affairs Committee: Senator Cox

Senator Cox: This evening Faculty Affairs met and picked up our review of policy 1.8 Integrity in Research and made good progress.

Planning and Finance Committee: Senator Marx

Senator Marx: Alright, Planning and Finance has spent the last several weeks working on the Institutional Priorities Report. I am very pleased to say that we approved the Priorities Report to be sent to Exec tomorrow, and you'll be seeing that as an information item coming up soon. I really need to thank the whole committee for their contributions to the discussion and the really great ideas that we had presented by particularly the students this time around as well as faculty and staff representatives. It's really been a great process this year.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. Do we any questions for Senator Marx?

Senator Brauer: Senator Marx, I'd just like to thank you for your leadership and for succinctly pulling all of our ideas together. So, really great work.

Senator Marx: Thank you.

Rules Committee: Senator Horst

Senator Horst: This evening the Rules Committee was joined by Kevin Crouse and Mark Walbert of Administrative Technologies, and with them we reviewed policy 9.1 which is the policy on Review, Approval and Compliance with Information Technology Policies, Procedures and Guidelines. And I will forward some suggestions to the Executive Committee. We also started a Review of Policy 9.5.

Communications

Senator Picciola: Hello, everyone. So with April quickly approaching, April is designated as Sexual Assault Awareness Month, so Student Government along with Health and Wellness, YWCA and various RSOs across

campus have compiled a wide range of events throughout April, so there will be information across campus on social media, so we also have these flyers if you want to take some. Nikki has them, and you could distribute them to students and encourage them to come to our events. So thank you.

Senator Pancrazio: Yes, I just wanted to make a quick announcement about some of the activities that are going on in regard to the internationalization of the campus. The Office of International Studies and Programs held its International Fair last week. They have held the International Fair every year since 1971. They are now in their 46th year. This is one of, I-House and the activities that go on are one of the real treasures that we have at Illinois State. Also, there are a series of grants that are being announced by the Office of International Studies. One of these, they are looking for recommendations about speaker series. They have the Wednesday Seminar Series every year. Let me see, there are grants available for internationalizing the curriculum of a particular major. These are ways to try to build different types of international components in the major. Faculty international travel grants, and Going Global with your courses, a joint project that OISP does with the Center for Teaching and Learning. I participated myself in that over the summer I got a lot of, a lot of good things came out of it. Finally, there is one global engagement learning grant available as well. These are small grants through CTLT as well. There are a number of different activities, and they are also looking for opportunities in which we can get our classes involved with speaking with foreign students in very informal ways to talk about just culture as a lived experience. If anyone is interested, please let me know.

Adjournment

Motion: By Senator Haugo, seconded by Senator Hoelscher to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.