MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE
January 21, 2010

Members Present: 48

Members Absent: 19

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson of the University Senate, Brien Smith, at 4:00 p.m.

   Roll Call was taken by initializing the roster located at the entrance to TC 102.


   Substitutes: Irene Livshits for R. Bremigan, Joshua Coggeshall, for O. Dotson, Charles Haynes for C. Munchel, David Pearson for M. Harber, John McKillip for D. LeBlanc, Andrea Ingle for S. Woosley


2. A motion was made and seconded (Crawley/Umansky) to approve the minutes of December 3, 2009.

   The motion carried.

3. Announcements

   Agenda Items III. A. and B., were reviewed.

   C. Dr. Randy Howard, Vice President for Business Affairs and Treasurer, reported on the budget cuts that are necessary because of loss of funds from the State. The financial report of the University is available on the Ball State website: www.bsu.edu/cbs/. The University community has been invited to submit recommendations and feedback concerning the cuts. It is also the administration’s desire to have open forums for discussing the issues, as soon as dates are confirmed.

4. Item IV. on the senate agenda was reviewed.

5. Committee Reports

   A. Governance and Elections Committee – John Ledbetter, Chairperson

      John reported that the committee met through the fall and amendments are on today’s agenda for a second reading. The committee worked on cleanup of the handbook and the procedures for asynchronous meetings.

   B. Faculty Council – Barry Umansky, Chairperson

      Barry reported that the Faculty Council will meet on January 28 and have the revision of the academic calendar as a new item of business. There will also be further discussion on the university budget.

   C. University Council – Larry Markle, University Council member

      Larry reported that the University Council does not meet until February 4.
D. Campus Council – Matthew Whitlock, Chairperson

Matthew reported that the Campus Council does not meet until February 11 and will have the first of two reports concerning the issue of Cardinal Cash in the Village.

6. Report by Chairperson of Senate – Brien Smith (University Senate Agenda 1/21/10, Enclosure #2)

The GANTT chart was reviewed by the membership of the Senate.

7. Questions Directed to the President

The President reported the following:

- Good start to the spring semester, an increase of 1233 students with an FTE of 1026 from last spring
- The Capital Campaign has reached 93.5% of its goal, currently at $186M
- The geothermal project is on schedule and on budget. Phase I will be completed by Fall, 2011 and this will close down two of the coal boilers. Along with the stimulus funding, the university will be pursuing other grant opportunities for funding the other phases of the project.
- A goal of the administration is to improve customer service so that students, faculty, and staff feel better served. To date, 2,179 employees attended 61 training sessions and are very close to 100% participation in the training sessions
- The President met with every dean and department chair this past fall regarding the state funding model, and other issues that have come up over the last few years.
- Honorary degree for May, 2010 commencement will be bestowed on Angela Ahrendts, a graduate of Ball State University who is now the CEO of Burberry in New York.

A. A senator was interested in the option of a three-year baccalaureate degree for students. The President responded that there are 30 different departments offering “a degree in three” option and that we now have approximately 50 students participating in this option, with the majority of these students in Nursing.

B. A senator inquired about the possibility of reducing credit hours for undergraduate degrees. The Provost responded that the Undergraduate Education Committee will consider this issue at their next meeting. The goal is to reduce the required 126 credit hours to 120. They will also work on reducing majors with more than 126 credits to 126. There are approximately 30 programs that require more than 126 credits at present.

C. A senator inquired about student concern in taking classes during the summer instead of somewhere else because of the cost at Ball State. The President responded that they are working on adjusting the situation.

8. Question and Answer Period

There were no questions.

9. Unfinished Business

A. Proposed Amendments to the Constitution – Second Reading (University Senate Agenda, 1/21/10, Enclosure #3)

1. A motion was made and seconded to approve Item 1. of the proposed amendments.

   The motion carried.
2. A motion was made and seconded to approve Item 2. of the proposed amendments.

   A friendly amendment was requested to revise “tenure line” to “tenure track” in 1.103. The friendly amendment was accepted.

   The motion to approve carried, with abstentions.

3. A motion was made and seconded to approve Item 3. of the proposed amendments.

   The motion carried.

4. A motion was made and seconded to approve Item 4. of the proposed amendments.

   The motion carried.

10. New Business

   There was no new business.

11. Other Items

   There were no other items.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

February 18, 2010

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Brien Smith, Chairperson                          Carolyn Kapinus, Secretary

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