1. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m., by the Chairperson of the University Senate, David Pearson. Roll Call was taken by initialing the roster located at the entrance to LB 125.


**Substitutes:**  Cindi Marini for M. Holtzman, Brian Meekin for C. Munchel, David Roof for T. Richardson

**Members Absent:**  S. Byrum, B. Canada, C. Corbin, J. Dowden, J. Gruver, M. Hamil, B. Hannon, J. Kluth, M. Myring (for J. Ledbetter), E. Levitt, T. Mahfouz, R. Purviance, R. Fluegeman (for S. Rice-Snow)

2. A motion was made and seconded (Shawger/Thurman) to approve the minutes of September 27, 2012. The motion carried.

3. **Announcements**

   A. **Special Guest** – The chair introduced Phil Repp, Vice President for Information Technology

   Vice President Repp updated the senate on the progress of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP). The super administrators (super admins) are all in place and operating effectively. The super admins are a community of users who act as trainers on campus and are knowledgeable about what is happening on campus. There are 17 on the student/academic side and 17 on the business affairs side. These people gain information and work within a community within their own buildings or combination of buildings. Information Technology meets daily and gathers all things happening and then share with the super admins. They have gleaned excellent feedback from these people and the feedback is both good ideas and complaints.

   The next step is the business processes, which includes purchasing, travel, and budgeting. As the system grows, there will be changing and alterations for what we do. This can all be conveyed through the super admins.

   We are about two-thirds of the way through the entire process. We have implemented the finance module, HR, payroll, financial aid and we are probably two-thirds of the way through the student module. This is the largest module, which includes admissions, schedules, etc. They are currently working on DegreeWorks. Training starts the week of October 29 and through November. Down time has been reduced since transitioning from Florida to the IUPUI-Campus.

   On the systems side, the main thing ongoing is the reporting structure and getting information out to everyone. Argos has been implemented and is tied to the system. It will grow over the many months. The last element, and it will it take some time to implement is the partnership project, “customer relations management.” It is the last piece of the entire enterprise.

   Other items are a work in progress: EPAF’s, applicant tracking, and other tools.
The following questions were directed to Vice President Repp:

*With the savings proposed on this new software, will there be a reduction in personnel? What benefits will we accrue and what will we save once everything is in place?*

Vice President Repp responded that the area of Information Technology has not replaced seven retirements in the last 30 months. There is direct savings and ongoing costs because of the efficiencies.

He added that Information Technology will be looking at the number of software packages we utilize for what we simply do around campus. We currently have 50-60 software packages. License costs will shrink as we drop them off. Hosting, moving things offsite, and not rehiring are all things that will reduce the cost. There is an annual savings of $1.2M just with the reduction of personnel in Information Technology. This will be significant across campus once everything is up and running.

*Are these costs offset somewhat by the increased work that’s been imposed by the super admins?*

Vice President Repp responded that currently we’re pushing work around. He hopes there won’t be as much to push around once the system is more familiar with everyone.

The chair thanked Vice President Repp for attending today’s meeting. He added that Vice President Randy Howard will be attending the next meeting and it was the consensus of the senate that he speak on healthcare at this particular meeting.

4. **Agenda Items**

4.1. **B. (Next scheduled meetings)**, and **C. (Graduation Policy)** were reviewed.

5. **There was a moment of silence to recognize the death of Jack Kovell.**

6. **Committee Reports**

   A. **Governance and Elections Committee** – Ralph Bremigan, Chairperson. Ralph reported the committee met this morning and discussed starting and ending dates of terms in the governance system. The terms normally start the first day of fall semester for faculty. However, some things arise in the summer for senate officers. The Governance and Elections Committee drafted language which will be a constitutional change. It will affect only the senate officers.

   Another non-action item discussed was the responsibilities and membership of the Professional Education Committee (PEC). The PEC is in agreement in some areas and is continuing their discussion with the other areas. Because of the procedure involved with constitutional amendments, this constitutional change would not take effect any sooner than fall, 2014.

   B. **Faculty Council** – Kip Shawger, Chairperson. Kip reported the council met on October 4. Laura Helms spoke about DegreeWorks and Yasemin Tunc spoke about Blackboard. Keith Kothman, chair of the University Promotion and Tenure Committee, attended the meeting to get a sense of faculty agreement/disagreement with regard to proposed language revisions to the Promotion and Tenure document. The faculty representatives were requested to take this information back to their departments and discuss it. He will return to the November 1 meeting of the faculty council to receive feedback from council members who have discussed it with their departments. They also approved the constitutional amendment concerning term limits for council/committee members.

   C. **University Council** – Katie Slabaugh, Chairperson. Katie reported the council met on October 11 and had a presentation by Bill Knight, Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness, regarding the Workplace Satisfaction/Diversity Climate survey sent out via e-mail. He was very pleased with almost 60% return rate
on the surveys. The council also approved the constitutional amendment concerning term limits for council/committee members. Their next meeting is November 8.

D. Campus Council – Kevin Thurman, Chairperson. Kevin reported the council met last week and approved the new diversity statement to be added to course syllabi. They also heard updates on Cardinal Cash and the Smoking Task Force.

E. Student Senate - Chris Wilkey, President, Student Government Association. Chris reported the SGA meets every week and invited anyone to attend. He was pleased to inform the senate that all committee/subcommittee student seats have been filled. He requested he be contacted should students not show up for their appointed meetings. The SGA has also submitted legislation to move their appointment dates to be in line with university governance. Lastly, they are working with IUPUI to make textbook purchases tax free.

7. Report by Chairperson of Senate – Dave Pearson (University Senate Agenda 10/25/12, Enclosure #1)

The chair reported the senate agenda committee received a very good presentation on revising contract faculty titles. They will be working one last time with the Provost to see if an agreement can be reached.

A member of the senate inquired about the Task Force on Academic Rigor and where they were with their work. The chair of the senate hopes to have a report from the task force either at the November meeting or the first meeting of 2013. They are moving forward and working on language with which to submit recommendations.

He reminded the senate members that amendment voting results from departments and areas are due in the senate office by 5:00pm on Monday, December 10.

8. Questions Directed to the President

The President had no report, but responded to the following questions:

- Regarding ICHE and the new metrics. Where do they come from? Do Universities get together and suggest these?

The President replied that ICHE (Indiana Commission for Higher Education) is comprised of 14 commissioners and a staff, all of whom are divided into subcommittees. The metrics are determined by the Commissioners based on recommendations of their staff. There is opportunity for input by the universities. This year ICHE agreed to meet with the institutions and hear their input. All of the universities had an opportunity to provide input. ICHE looks at other state-wide funding models across the country. At our presentation at the ICHE meeting in West Lafayette, we provided documentation that Ball State’s Strategic Plan is aligned with the ICHE Strategic Plan, even though our funding would be cut for the third biennium. There was a discussion to find a way to “fix” the formula.

She went on further to say that for the last several years, she and other colleagues have fought against the four-year graduation rate, as a primary factor in funding. Nevertheless, there is a general movement across the country for “on-time” graduation rates to drive funding. The conversation can be vigorous, dynamic, and ongoing, but it does not mean anything changes in the funding formula.

- Speaking of four-year graduation, could you speak to UCC-21 requirements, in that every student has to have a writing intensive course. There are fewer than 50 and many with prerequisites; there really are only 15 that don’t have limitations to taking the class. Will adjustments be made if we simply cannot get the course?
The President responded that we should have available the courses students are required to take. Writing well and writing intensive courses are very important. The Provost’s Office will work with departments to ensure the availability of courses. The new DegreeWorks map is going to be important in facilitating course scheduling. She rarely, however, hears a story from a student where they couldn’t get the course they needed to graduate. The new “APP” we’re developing will include notices to students who are deviating from a 4 year degree path.

- Another question about performance metrics. This senate member is teaching an introductory class. It is difficult to predict as to who is going to succeed and who is going to fail. He assumes that’s in some sense how admissions is dealt with?

The President responded that there is a science to the art of admissions. The higher the GPA, the more willing the student is to work hard; the SAT gives the indication of a student’s learning potential and general aptitude. For many freshmen, it is difficult to transition from high school to college. There is a difficult social element in the adjustment of the freshman student. It all involves students being able to make friends, find staff/faculty member they can be comfortable with, becoming excited about course work etc. We produce reams of data on factors influencing freshmen to sophomore retention. We are trying to retain at least 80% of the freshman class. There is actually a relatively small percentage of students flunking out. Students give up for other reasons; they haven’t really committed intellectually to the challenge, etc. We take a high interest in the undeclared students because they make up the larger group of those who are not retained.

Provost King added there are a number of groups looking at the on-time graduation rate, particularly in the area of early intervention with the use of social media and focusing on students not performing well but do have the capacity to succeed if we can catch them early enough. There will be more in the next few months. Advising plays a tremendous role in the first year of school. Transfer students count in the funding formula and have higher attrition rates because they are assumed to know what they’re doing, don’t make friends as easily, etc.

9. Question and Answer Period

There were no questions.

10. Unfinished Business

A. Salary and Benefits Revisions in Handbook (Enclosure provided at 9/27/12 University Senate meeting)

A motion was made and seconded (Shawger/Steib) to return to the Salary and Benefits Committee for work by the committee and Associate Provost Robert Morris. It will then be sent back through the senate system.

The motion carried.

11. New Business

A. Term Limits for Councils/Committee membership – Constitutional Amendment
   (First reading, University Senate agenda, 10/25/12, Enclosure #2)

A motion was made and seconded (Wilkey/Steib) to approve, with no discussion. A motion was made and seconded (Thurman/Griewank) to table until the next meeting of the Senate.

The motion carried.

12. Other Items

There were no other items.
13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

November 29, 2012

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David Pearson, Chairperson                      Amy Harden, Secretary

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