MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE 2013-14 UNIVERSITY SENATE
Thursday, October 24, 2013

Members Present: 57

Members Absent: 7

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 BB 109.


Substitutes: Jennifer Erickson for M. Hill, Jennifer Pierce for J. Jones-Hall, Marilyn Buck for T. King, Brian Meekin for C. Munchel, Darrion Colbert for K. Pierce, Shannon Staton for G. Slater, Constance McIntosh for C. Thomas, Barry Wagner for C. Updike


2. A motion was made and seconded (France/Shawger) to approve the University Senate minutes of August 29, 2013. The motion carried.

3. Announcements
   A. Mind Mixer
      Laurie Mullen, Associate Dean, Teachers College and Acting Associate Provost, presented information from the Academic Planning Steering Committee. Some of the questions discussed by this committee include what academics will look like in twenty years. She invited and encouraged the campus community to log on to academicplan.bsu.edu, to review the five questions and add their thoughts and opinions.

   B. Update on Higher Learning Commission (HLC) accreditation visit
      Marilyn Buck, Associate Provost and Dean of University College, and co-chair of the (HLC) Steering Committee, updated the members on the accreditation visit. Their preliminary report will be coming in two to three weeks. It will be a draft report of their initial thoughts. We will have the opportunity to clarify or correct this report. There were a few of things that came out of the visit: 1) there is a good buy-in for assessment from the faculty, 2) in looking for federal compliance, the Office of Financial Aid stated that faculty think they don’t have to keep track of attendance for their students, and 3) they suggested adding another point to the Credit Hour Policy. This is making its way through the Senate system. She thanked all who participated and felt the visit went very well.

      The chair of the senate thanked Marilyn and co-chair Michael Maggiotto, for their leadership through this continuing accreditation visit. He also encouraged other faculty members to participate in being a peer reviewer for the HLC.

   C. Item C. (Next scheduled meetings), D., (Notice of Change in Office/Department Name), E., (Senate/Council/Committee membership-Enclosure #1), F. (Program Information-Enclosure #2), G. (Revision of University Core Curriculum Subcommittee-Enclosure #3), and H. (Resolution of SR-16-12/13-Enclosure #4) were reviewed by the members of the Senate.
4. The Senate had a moment of silence to recognize the deaths of Frances (Lem) Anderson, Linda Arndt, Walter Baker, Mildred (Mim) Ballou, David C. Caucci, John F. Clause, Scott Hinkley, John Huffer, Victor B. Lawhead, Rolf Legbandt, Kenneth Poucher, T.K. Puttaswamy, Charles Sappenfield, and Darrel Wible (University Senate Agenda, 10/24/13, Enclosure #5)

5. Council/Committee/Student Senate Reports
   A. Governance and Elections Committee – Ralph Bremigan, Chairperson. Ralph reported the committee has met twice since the last senate meeting. They approved an amendment to the constitution as well as a large number of editorial revisions. They will be presented to the appropriate council prior to coming to the senate in one group.
   B. Faculty Council – Kip Shawger, Chairperson. Kip reported the Faculty Council met on October 3 and approved three items on their agenda. Yasemin Tunc, Assistant Vice President for Academic Technology Solutions, was present to discuss E-texts.
   C. University Council – Michael Gillilan, Chairperson. Michael reported the University Council has met twice since the last Senate meeting and are working on presentations from various offices on campus. Chris Munchel reported on the recruitment and admissions process, and Jim Lowe will be reporting on facilities in November.
   D. Campus Council – Kevin Thurman, Chairperson. Kevin reported the Campus Council has met twice since the last Senate meeting, including last week. They approved a senate resolution regarding ponding of water between Bracken Library, Pruis Hall, and Emens Auditorium.
   E. Student Senate – Alyssa France, Vice President, Student Government Association (SGA). Alyssa reported the SGA is working on legislation and fulfilling resolutions on the slate’s platform. The student government is sponsoring a state-wide student government and leadership development conference.

7. David Pearson, Chairperson of the University Senate, reviewed the GANTT Chart (Enclosure #6) with the membership of the Senate.

8. President’s Remarks
   The President and the Provost were at a Board of Trustees retreat and unable to attend today’s meeting. There were no remarks.

9. Question and Answer Period
   There were no questions.

10. Unfinished Business
    There was no unfinished business.

11. New Business
    A. Guest Student Policy (University Senate Agenda, 10/24/13, Enclosure #7)
        A motion was made and seconded (Shawger/Thurman) to place on the floor for discussion.
        Deborah Mix, Chair of the Graduate Education Committee, was present at today’s meeting to review the suggested revisions to the document.
The vote to approve the revisions to the Guest Student Policy carried.

B. Probationary Admission to Master’s Degree Program (University Senate Agenda, 10/24/13, Enclosure #8)
   A motion was made and seconded (Thurman/France) to place on the floor for discussion.
   Deborah Mix also spoke to this revision as it was approved by the Graduate Education Committee. The members were reminded that departments may still have higher standards than what is written in the document.

   The vote to approve the revisions to the Probationary Admission to Master’s Degree Programs carried.

12. Other Items
   There were no other items.

13. Adjournment
   The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

November 14, 2013

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David Pearson, Chairperson          Amy Harden, Secretary

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