MINUTES OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE 2013-14 UNIVERSITY SENATE
Thursday, January 16, 2014

Members Present: 52

Members Absent: 14

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 initializing the roster located at the entrance to LB 125.


   Substitutes: Frank Groom for R. Bellaver, Dale Umbach for R. Bremigan, Robin Blom for M. Hanley, Matt Stephenson for L. Julian, Shannon Staton for G. Slater


2. A motion was made and seconded (Shawger/Thurman) to approve the University Senate minutes of November 14, 2013.

   The motion carried.

3. Announcements

   A. Presidential Search Update – R. Wayne Estopinal, AIA
      Trustee and Committee Chair
      Ball State University Board of Trustees

      The chair of the senate introduced today’s speaker. Mr. Estopinal welcomed those attending from the Presidential Search Committee. The search committee has been meeting with Students, Staff, and Faculty this past week. They will meet with the Alumni Council on Saturday, January 18. University Marketing and Communications is documenting comments made at each of these group meetings, as well as the Staff Council meeting held earlier today and today’s senate meeting. These comments, concerns and suggestions will be handed to the candidates to review prior to their interview. All stakeholders are invited to forward any other comments to Mr. Jerry Baker from the search firm that has been hired to field applicants. His email address is jabaker@baasearch.com. He has a group of candidates (approximately 200) to send the position opening. It will also be advertised in major higher education publications.

      His questions to the senate were 1) What do you like or don’t like about the present administration, and 2) after two years or so, what do you consider a success or what grade would you like to give the new president.

      - Regarding academic credentials, do you think the new president needs to hold a Ph.D.? Does an Ed.D. or a terminal degree in their area qualify?

      … Very uncomfortable with president without a Ph.D.; however, this is a professional position.
      … One or two publications would be necessary
      … Agree with what has been said, but would argue that book authorship is not a requirement in all disciplines. An appropriate publication record should be necessary, however.
1. Should the new president come from a private or public institution?

... Public or private is okay
... Should have a good grasp on public institutions and all that entails
... Should have extensive experience with a public institution...agree but on the other hand, if someone was coming from a private institution but has experience in relationship building and funding.
... Would like to see a president with a deep understanding and commitment to public higher education

- A common theme from other groups was that they wanted someone to continue the good work in forming relationships in Indianapolis and managing a $339M corporation.

Other comments from senate:

... Would like to see in the next 5-10 years, more autonomy with departments
... Hierarchy needs to be less rigid
... President should both hear and understand what we say
... The president should have a thorough financial background and be able to financially run the university and acquire money from legislature and students as well
... Experience and commitment to international/global world. Needs to be affordable to students. Our reach is very much global
... Rigorously recruiting underrepresented faculty and students to campus
... Maintain sustainability – we have over a thirty year history, not just the geothermal project

- Point came out that this is not really a stepping stone position, but a destination recruitment for the new president. A lot of conversation came out about where we are with the community and the percentage of faculty and staff who do not live near the university. Thoughts about connection with the community? How important is that?

... Immersive learning has been a very good step in the efforts of improving town and gown. Local politicians are probably more understanding of there being no work other than the university. May need to think of long-term strategic direction. We need to keep it going and push it even further. Community connection has certainly gotten better, but it could easily go the other way. We do not need an isolated attitude about the campus and what the university means to the community.
... Someone interested in faculty research
... Retention of students
... Encouraging technology – needs to continue to grow

- How are we going to evaluate at the end of two years?

... Tied to strategic plan. We need someone to buy into our strategic plan. This would be the evaluating piece
... There have been comments that we’re not looking for someone to be a revolutionary change agent. The strategic plan does lay out a vision.
... Major criteria would be improving conditions of faculty. We need to make money for our teachers. After that, we will have a very good condition for our students.
... The first year or two, the new president would build good relationships with departments/programs/colleges, and make those connections in a manner where there is a good feeling of going forward with confidence.
- Absorb, listen, see, understand our vision through the strategic plan, and changes would be inclusive, openly discussed and be contextual changes. This position should not necessarily be their legacy, but shared with others on campus.

… Keeping the relationships with students
… Visibility and accessibility

Questions from senate

… Regarding process – will there be any other opportunities to have more input, meet candidates, see vitaes, prior to the announcement of a new president?

The person we’re looking for is doing an incredible job where they are right now. So the real answer is, probably not. We’ll be reviewing hundreds of pages of vitaes, and we’ve been told to plan on 30 hours of that week reviewing documentation. The next meeting of the search committee is January 30. This will not be a public meeting; the committee will be working on an evaluation form for interviewing candidates. There will probably be no more public meetings; however, we will be as transparent as we possibly can be. All members of the search committee have signed a confidentiality agreement.

If you have names of candidates or educational institutions that should be contacted, please send them to Jerry Baker at the email address I gave earlier. Early March will be the major blitz on evaluating applications.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the chair of the senate introduced Rick Hall, the newly elected President of the Board of Trustees and a Ball State alum.

Items I. B. (Next meetings), C. Revised Programs, and D. Editorial Revisions to the Constitution (Enclosure #1) were reviewed by the senate.

4. The Senate had a moment of silence to recognize the deaths of David Frances Foley and Paul A. Magro

5. Council/Committee/Student Senate Reports

A. Governance and Elections Committee – Lisa Pellerin, Secretary, reported the committee met on January 9 and discussed and approved the amendments to the handbook that are on today’s agenda for a first reading. They also discussed the preference polls and suggestions for receiving more of them back after they are mailed electronically.

B. Faculty Council – Kip Shawger, Chairperson. Kip reported the Faculty Council met in November and discussed several items on today’s agenda. The next meeting of the council will be Thursday, January 23, in this location. They will be reviewing incomplete grades submitted by the GEC and the Admissions and Credits Committee.

C. University Council – Michael Gillilan, Chairperson. Michael reported the University Council met the first week of December and had Associate Provost Bob Morris as a guest to discuss the policy on Conflict of Interest/Conflict of Commitment. The next meeting of the council is January 30, in this location.

D. Campus Council – Kevin Thurman, Chairperson. Kevin reported the Campus Council did not meet January 9 because there were no new items of business. The next meeting is February 6.
E. Student Senate – Chloe Anagnos, President, Student Government Association (SGA). Chloe introduced herself and reported the SGA meets on Wednesdays and met yesterday (January 15). Their upcoming conference on leadership development is at the end of the month. This is the first conference for state-wide student government associations.

7. David Pearson, Chairperson of the University Senate, reviewed the GANTT Chart (University Senate Agenda, 1/16/14, Enclosure #2) with the membership of the Senate.

   Kip Shawger, member of the Salary and Benefits Committee, reported the Family Leave policy and the issue of Technology should have some kind of action and report from Business Affairs very shortly.

8. President’s Remarks

   The President reported that the semester has begun and we have two days that we missed and will more than likely have to make up. This was mentioned in the President’s Perspective sent out this week. We have a commitment to supply a certain amount of time for instruction. The chair of the senate and faculty council both have informally spoken with the Provost and offered guidance with this issue.

   The Provost reported it is a complicated situation in which we are obligated to fulfill. There will possibly be some Saturdays, or online classes. Classes meeting once a week will also be taken into consideration.

9. Question and Answer Period

   There were no questions.

10. Unfinished Business

   A. Constitutional Amendments (University Senate Agenda, 1/16/14, Enclosure #3)
       
       Tabbed from 11/14/13 meeting
       
       A motion was made and seconded (Shawger/Thurman) to take off the table for discussion and vote.

       Lisa Pellerin, spokesperson for the Governance and Elections Committee, reported the committee felt these revisions to the constitution were substantive and could not be revised without an amendment. Both amendments affect each other.

       The vote on the amendments were conducted separately.

       Amendment #1 carried.
       Amendment #2 carried.

11. New Business

   A. Constitutional Amendments (University Senate Agenda, 1/16/14, Enclosure #4)

       This is the first reading and no discussion may take place. There are five amendments.

       A motion was made and seconded (Thurman/Shawger) to table until the next meeting.

       The motion to table the constitutional amendments carried.

12. Other Items

   A. A question was asked regarding the construction around Cooper Science Building. They are missing several parking spaces and there are several unoccupied service spaces behind the smokestacks. The faculty member wondered if some of those spaces could be allocated to the missing spaces in the R11 lot by the building. The
President will pursue the request and report back to the senate.

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

February 13, 2014

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David Pearson, Chairperson                   Amy Harden, Secretary

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