MINUTES OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE 2011-12 UNIVERSITY SENATE

Thursday, January 19, 2012

Members Present: 54 Members Absent: 14

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

Roll Call was taken by initialing the roster located at the entrance to LB 125.

Members Present: S. Aegisdottir, E. Agnew, R. Bellaver, O. Benkato, E. Bowers, R. Bremigan, B. Brey, S. Byrum, J. Cassady, B. Canada, C. Corbin, G. Crawley, J. Ellery, J. Forbey, A. Gary, M. Gerhard, J. Green, D. Grosnick, M. Guntsche, K. Hall, M. Harvey, T. Hendricks, M. Holtzman, J. Huff, J. Jemiolo, E. Kelly, T. King, J. Kluth, K. Kreamelmeyer, A. Leahy, J. Ledbetter, T. Mahfouz, M. McGrew, S. Pattison, D. Pearson, J. Popovicova, S. Rice-Snow, T. Richardson, C. Seni, D. Shawger, G. Slater, K. Stanton, G. Stamp, M. Steib, K. Subler, K. Thurman, A. Wieseke, L. Wiley, B. Wills

<u>Substitutes</u>: Donna Gray for M. Hanley, Brian Meekin for C. Munchel, Jonathan Becker for S. Parkinson, Sushil Sharma for J. Zhao, Anthony Edmonds for S. Zhuk

Members Absent: S. Amato, J. Chapman, J. Gora, C. Griewank, M. Hamil, B. Hannon, T. Hardin, D. LeBlanc, M. Maggiotto, P. Magro, D. Middleton, L. Pellerin, W. Sharp, B. Wagner

2. A motion was made and seconded (Shawger/Crawley) to approve the minutes of December 1, 2011.

The motion <u>carried</u>.

- 3. Items I. A., B., C., and D., (including Enclosures 1 and 2) under Announcements were reviewed.
- 4. There was a moment of silence in recognition of the deaths of Lloyd Nelson, Kathleen (Kay) Wagoner, and Rosemary Williams.
- 5. Richard Edwards, Lead Instructional Designer in the Center for Media Design, spoke briefly about ILearn and the Integrated Learning Institute. Their main responsibility is to work with faculty to comprise online and blended courses. They are in collaboration with Extended Education. The official open house launch is February 20, from 3-5pm in BC 220.
- 6. The Chairperson of the Senate announced the Unified Technology Support Open House in their new area on the first floor of Bracken Library on February 2, 11am-2pm.
- 7. Committee Reports
 - A. Governance and Elections Committee Richard Bellaver, Chairperson

Richard reported the committee met today and reviewed and approved 1) the addition of "other titles" for research faculty, 2) the revision of the membership of the Undergraduate Education Committee, 3) the revision of the Salary and Benefits Committee, and 4) sent the issue of senate representation for the Intensive English Institute (IEI) to the Contract Faculty Committee for review.

B. Faculty Council – John Ledbetter, Chairperson

John reported the council met on December 8 and passed the Course Repetition Policy. The next meeting is January 26.

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C. University Council – Barbara Wills, Chairperson

Barb reported the council will meet on February 2.

D. Campus Council – Kevin Thurman, Chairperson

Kevin reported the council has not met this semester. Their next meeting in February 9.

6. Report by Chairperson of Senate – Eric Kelly (University Senate Agenda 1/19/12, Enclosure #1)

The chairperson discussed the following with the membership of the Senate:

- A. It is not too early to be thinking of running for a seat on the executive committee of the Senate. Please feel free to contact any member of the current executive committee if you have questions or would like to be nominated.
- B. He has received a letter regarding submitting anonymous questions to the President or Provost. Anonymous questions can be directed to a senate member or him directly.
- C. Spoke with the Board of Trustees regarding the issue of communication, in particular, the Strategic Planning Task Force website. Additional channels of communication might be necessary and a feedback loop should be implemented in the Strategic Plan.
- D. Asked for a hand vote regarding the new core curriculum. He asked two questions: 1)how many of you have great confidence that you are fully knowledgeable about the new core, and 2) how many of you have a course that you might want to add to the core? More conversations will continue.
- 7. Questions Directed to the President

The President was scheduled to be in Indianapolis today and unable to attend today's meeting. Provost King was available to answer questions.

1. A senate member brought two questions from their department: 1) Reckless driving on campus streets, and 2) students who text when they J-walk.

The Student Government Association (SGA) could bring these issues up in their committees. It is an issue of safety, and one that is not solely on the shoulders of the students. It is a broader issue of safety for everyone on campus. Gene Burton, Director of Public Safety, will be contacted regarding the driving issues. The President of SGA, Kayla Stanton, reports it has been discussed at their meetings. They are working on a campaign, but will move it to the top of their agenda for further discussion.

- 2. The Provost reported there is a new task force working on the future of online education and how we can improve on what we're doing right now. Another task force is looking at the long-range future of higher education. Both have been meeting together because of the similar subject matter.
- 3. There have been concerns internally and externally regarding the concept of academic rigor. There will be a task force formed of faculty member as well as students. It will be short-term, this semester only. They will be charged to do three things: 1) Assemble appropriate data for Ball State, 2) assess our performance in maintaining academic rigor, and 3) provide recommendations to the administration to help ensure

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academic rigor. Invitations are being issued right now. They will receive their charge and then will be on their own for the duration.

9. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

10. New Business

A. Standardization of titles for research faculty

This has not had Faculty Council review. It will be placed on the Faculty Council agenda for their next meeting on January 26.

B. Course Repetition Policy (Senate Agenda, 1/19/12, Enclosure #4)

Discussion ensued. A motion was made and seconded (Steib/Shawger) to approve, pending approval by the Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC). The UEC meets on Monday, 1/23.

The motion carried.

If amended by the UEC, it will need to go through the entire approval process prior to coming to the senate for final approval.

C. Constitutional Amendment – First Reading (Senate Agenda 1/19/12, Enclosure #5)

No discussion takes place at the first reading of a constitutional amendment. Discussion and vote will take place at the next meeting of the Senate: February 16.

11. Other Items

A. David Pearson reported that text messaging to students in your class is available now through Blackboard. This can prove helpful if you are moving the location of a class, for instance. Students have taken the initiative to opt in to this feature. He gave a brief presentation regarding the procedure on Blackboard.

A motion was made and seconded (Pearson/C	Crawley) to adjourn.	The meeting adjourned at 4:58p.m.	
February 16, 2012			
Eric Kelly, Chairperson		Amy Leahy, Secretary	

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