

MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE 2009-10 UNIVERSITY SENATE

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Members Present: 45

Members Absent: 17

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 initialing the roster located at the entrance to LB 125.

Members Present: B. Adams, N. Ahmed, C. Ball, R. Bellaver, R. Bremigan, B. Cahill, G. Crawley, L. Deckers, J. Fry, J. Green, D. Grosnick, M. Guntsche, M. Harber, M. Harvey, L. Helms, R. Hicks, J. Huff, M. Johnson, R. Kanu, C. Kapinus, T. King, J. Ledbetter, M. Maggiotto, L. Markle, C. Marlow, W. McCune, M. Mills, P. Parkison, R. Rarick, T. Richardson, J. Rybarczyk, B. Smith, G. Stamp, M. Steib, D. Supa, B. Umansky, D. Waechter, K. Warren-Gordon, M. Whitlock, A. Wieseke, B. Wills, S. Woosley, J. Yang

Substitutes: Jeff Clark for D. Marini, Harold Mortimer for K. Shawger

Members Absent: N. Akey, K. Brophy, P. Chandler, O. Dotson, A. Edmonds, R. Fluegeman, J. Gora, D. Haber, E. Kelly, D. LeBlanc, C. Munchel, W. Sharp, G. Slater, P. Spengler, F. Sun, C. Walker, T. Zivney

2. A motion was made and seconded (Supa/Crawley) to approve the minutes of September 3, 2009. The following revisions will be made to the minutes: 1) Add M. Harvey to "members present," who was not substituting for C. Walker.

3. Agenda Items III. and IV., were reviewed.

4. Committee Reports

- A. Governance and Elections Committee – John Ledbetter, Chairperson

John reported that the committee met every month this fall and worked on several matters including the constitutional amendments on the agenda today for the first reading.

- B. Faculty Council – Barry Umansky, Chairperson

Barry reported that the Faculty Council conducted its first asynchronous meeting. There are a few glitches that may need to be worked out pertaining to the "reply to all" procedure.

- C. University Council – Laura Helms, Chairperson

Laura reported that the University Council received the final report from the Task Force on Professional Personnel issues. The Task Force recommended increasing or changing the professional personnel representation on several committees. The council requested further information for the next meeting, at which time they will be ready to vote.

- D. Campus Council – Matthew Whitlock, Chairperson

Matthew reported that the Campus Council created a task force to work on the issue of Cardinal Cash in the Village. They will be researching the issues with other Indiana colleges and universities prior to taking it to the Vice President and ultimately to the council for review. The issue of dining services reimbursement for students on field trips is under discussion.

Matthew added that he was one of 16 students who went to Purdue to observe their student government association and reported that student involvement is high on our campus as compared to Purdue.

5. Report by Chairperson of Senate – Brien Smith (University Senate Agenda 12/3/09, Enclosure #3)

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

A. Recommendation from SafeAssign Task Force  
Safe Assign Task Force 11/6/09

SafeAssign is a text-matching tool available on Blackboard that checks student assignments against an institutional database (a collection of papers submitted on campus) and against a global database (a collection of papers submitted on other campuses or that exist electronically on the web). However, in doing so it does not discriminate between properly and improperly cited materials. Therefore, this tool has its greatest value as a learning moment between student and faculty on how to properly cite and paraphrase material borrowed from previously written text. To this end, it is important for the faculty who choose to use SafeAssign to be properly trained in how to use and interpret submitted outcomes. The outcome reports from submitted work must not be used directly by faculty for grading purposes, since the report only indicates the percentage of text-matched material which may in fact be properly cited. The best use of SafeAssign would allow students to submit work prior to turning it in and to then meet with faculty to go over the report. For faculty who wish to use properly interpreted SafeAssign outcomes as part of the grading process, SafeAssign training from the University is mandatory.

David Pearson, a member of the task force, gave a brief report on findings of the task force.

B. Report from Teaching Evaluation Committee on Grade Inflation

“The Teaching Evaluation Committee reviewed Dr. McClure’s motion, e-mail, and the other document he provided. Although grade inflation may play a role in student ratings of instructors, the motion presented by Dr. McClure recommends implementing a 2.5 GPA standard for non-PE core undergraduate courses. The committee does not feel that the issue of assigning student course grades is within its current charge as delineated in the Faculty and Professional Staff Handbook. We suggest that perhaps the University Core Curriculum Committee might be a better group to examine this issue.”

Carrie Ball, a member of the Teaching Evaluation Committee, was present to answer questions.

A question was raised as to whom would have jurisdiction over this issue. The Chairperson of the Senate replied that there really would not be any committee. Dr. McClure’s motion went beyond the Core, but that the Undergraduate Education Committee or the University Core Curriculum Subcommittee might be possibilities.

6. Questions Directed to the President

The President received a call from the Governor’s Office which prevented her from attending today’s meeting.

7. Question and Answer Period

- A. The Provost reported the following academic programs that have either been approved or are awaiting approval from the Indiana Commission on Higher Education (ICHE):
1. Masters in Applied Behavioral Analysis (awaiting ICHE approval)
  2. Bachelor of Arts in Sales (implementing Fall, 2010)
  3. Masters of Fine Arts, Visual Arts, with emphasis in animation and glass
- B. A question was asked regarding the parking situation by Christy Woods because of the new building construction. The Provost reported that an allbsu was sent regarding parking, but he would look further into the situation.

8. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

9. New Business

- A. Proposed amendments to the Constitution – First Reading (University Senate Agenda, 12/3/09, Enclosure #4)

This is the first reading of the amendments. No discussion takes place at this meeting. Discussion and vote will take place at the January 21, 2010, meeting of the University Senate.

The Chairperson explained the procedure for amendments. The second reading will take place at the January meeting, at which time there can be debate and discussion. The vote will take place at this time. If the amendments pass, the departments will have 60 days to vote and respond to the Senate Office with their results.

10. Other Items

- A. A senate member asked for an update on the UCC-21. Laura Helms, ex officio member of the Undergraduate Education Committee, reported their progress.

Provost King reported that nearly 100 tier 1 courses have been approved, with 10 in the pipeline.

- B. A senate member inquired as to whether the Senate can revise the amendments. The chairperson replied that the senate has no power to revise, only to pass or fail the amendment(s).

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

January 21, 2010

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Brien Smith, Chairperson

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Carolyn Kapinus, Secretary