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

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Members Present: 53 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, B. Canada, J. Cassady, J. Chapman, C. Corbin, G. Crawley, J. Forbey, M. Gerhard, J. Gora, J. Green,
- C. Griewank, D. Grosnick, M. Guntsche, K. Hall, A. Harden, T. Hendricks, M. Holtzman, J. Huff, J. Jemiolo,
- E. Kelly, T. King, J. Kluth, J. Ledbetter, P. Magro, T. Mahfouz, S. Pattison, D. Pearson, L. Pellerin,
- S. Rice-Snow, T. Richardson, K. Stanton, G. Stamp, M. Steib, K. Thurman, B. Wagner, A. Wieseke, L. Wiley, B. Wills

<u>Substitutes</u>: Janelle Lemish for A. Gary, Donna Gray for M. Hanley, Kourtland Koch for M. Harvey, Paul Buis for M. McGrew, Jonathan Becker for S. Parkinson, Joshua Gruver for J. Popovicova, Sushil Sharma for J. Zhao, Anthony Edmonds for S. Zhuk

<u>Members Absent</u>: S. Amato, J. Ellery, M. Hamil, B. Hannon, T. Hardin, K. Kreamelmeyer, D. LeBlanc, M. Maggiotto, D. Middleton, C. Munchel, C. Seni, W. Sharp, K. Shawger, G. Slater, K. Subler

2. A motion was made and seconded (Crawley/Pearson) to approve the minutes of March 22, 2012.

The motion carried.

- 3. Items I. B. (Program Information, Enclosure #1), under Announcements was reviewed.
- 4. Report on Task Force on Academic Rigor Malcolm Cairns, Chairperson

Professor Cairns reported there are thirteen members and two students on the task force. They are working on defining the term "academic rigor." They believe their job is to determine the health of the institution. Many departments have goals because of their accrediting agencies. The book <u>Academically Adrift</u>, has determined that today's student is not involved in a level that would give them a clean bill of health and they strive to find if this is true for a Ball State student. Ball State ranks slightly higher in all levels over peer institutions in terms of engagement.

It was suggested the task force contact David Perkins regarding departmental program goals as this is being collected for the accreditation self-study.

A senate member wondered if there was any thought given to individuals who are working full-time jobs in addition to their studies? Professor Cairns reported they were not splitting out students, but reviewing students as a whole.

Catherine Chen is the representative on the task force who is actively reviewing this data.

- 5. There was a moment of silence in recognition of the death of Robert (Bob) McGinnis.
- 6. Committee Reports
 - A. Governance and Elections Committee Richard Bellaver, Chairperson

Richard reported the committee met on April 5 and discussed 1) the progress of the Professional Education Committee with its chair, Richard Seymour. They have established a subcommittee to review all revisions submitted. Their recommendation will be forwarded by the end of the semester to the Governance and Elections Committee; 2) The Intensive English Institute issue was sent to the Contract Faculty Committee and there have been no real solutions to solve the issue. More questions came up to carry over to the fall, 2012, semester; 3) term limits for councils/committees under the senate system. The senate has term limits, but it does not state anywhere in the handbook what the term limits are for council and committee membership.

University Senate Minutes April 19, 2012 Page Two

Richard asked for a hand vote as to whether they believed there should be term limits. The majority believe it was a good idea to have term limits. A constitutional amendment will come forward in the fall; 4) The constitutional amendments relating to the Salary and Benefits Committee as well as the merger of the two technology committees will not be enacted until the departments have voted on them. It is likely they will be formed to start the spring semester as new committees.

B. Faculty Council – John Ledbetter, Chairperson

John reported the council met and 1) approved the merger of the two technology committees; 2) considered revisions to the teaching evaluation policy; and 3) held elections at the second meeting of the council. Kip Shawger, Mike Hanley, and Ann Wieseke, were elected chair, vice chair, and secretary, respectively.

C. University Council – Barbara Wills, Chairperson

Barb reported the council held two meeting on April 5: The council approved the merger of the two technology committees at the first meeting, and elected officers at the second meeting. Katie Slabaugh, Lynda Wiley, and Cindi Marini, were elected chair, vice chair, and secretary, respectively.

D. Campus Council – Kevin Thurman, Chairperson

Kevin reported the council met on April 12 and approved the merge of the two technology committees and held elections of officers. Kevin Thurman, Chad Griewank, and Janelle Lemish were elected chair, vice chair, and secretary, respectively.

7. Report by Chairperson of Senate – Eric Kelly (University Senate Agenda 2/16/12, Enclosure #2)

Amy Harden, chair of the salary and benefits committee, reported the Financial and Budgetary Affairs Committee has addressed the issues with insurance and the pharmacy carrier. The contact person on campus is Brandi McGlothin, manager of employee benefits. You may contact Brandi if you have an issue with a claim or the pharmacy carrier, MEDCO. She also mentioned MEDCO was a state-chosen company. The university did not get to choose who the pharmacy provider would be. There will also be a survey sent out next year regarding our benefits package.

It was requested Brandi's contact information be forwarded to the members of the senate.

8. Questions Directed to the President

The President received the following question from the senate:

1. There was an article in the StarPress regarding faculty compensation at Ball State. It is really a bad situation and the response from a university spokesperson was not adequate. The president was requested to give a clearer response to the article.

The president responded that faculty salaries are the administration's highest budget priority. 80% of our budget is personnel. There have been budget cuts over the last two biennia, and yet we have tried to give salary increases every year.

We do not rest our argument on the fact we're losing faculty because of compensation levels. Legislators are not as sympathetic as one would expect them to be because they want tuition levels kept low and they have constituents who are unemployed and do not have tenure. To that end, the legislators will be on campus this summer, and we will use this article to further the discussion with them.

University Senate Minutes April 19, 2012 Page Three

> Administration is taking a closer look at compensation data by department and rank. The aggregate data could be misleading because we lack professional schools (law and engineering) and employ many full time contract faculty.

The President reported on the following:

- Budget Proposals for 2013-2015 will be developed this summer for the legislative session in January;
- A new athletic director was announced on Monday;
- There will be a football spring scrimmage game at Scheumann Stadium at 3:00 on Saturday, April 21;
- There will be a faculty-staff survey distributed this fall focusing on two issues: Diversity (climate) and work place satisfaction. The 2012-2017 Strategic Plan will include new initiatives on workplace satisfaction and economic development;
- Final issue is our status as a smoke-free campus. We have eleven places, on the periphery of campus, where people can smoke. The question remains, are we really a smoke-free campus or should we eliminate some or all of these places where people can smoke? Vice President Bales will convene a University-wide committee to make a recommendation on this issue by September.

9. Question and Answer Period

There was a question to Provost whether the strategic planning task force would be having follow-up meetings on the strategic plan. The Provost responded that open forums would probably be the best, given the timeframe prior to the end of the semester.

10.	Unfinished Business
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There was no unfinished business.

11. New Business

There was no new business.

12. Other Items

There were no other items.

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Prior to adjournment, congratulations on behalf of t chairperson these past two years.	the senate were bestowed on Chairperson Eric Kelly, for his	WOI
The meeting adjourned at 4:45p.m.		
University Senate Minutes		
Eric Kelly, Chairperson	Amy Harden, Secretary	
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