

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

Thursday, September 29, 2011

Members Present: 56

Members Absent: 9

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 TC 101.

Members Present: E. Agnew, R. Bellaver, O. Benkato, E. Bowers, R. Bremigan, B. Brey, S. Byrum, J. Cassady, J. Chapman, C. Corbin, G. Crawley, J. Ellery, J. Forbey, A. Gary, M. Gerhard, J. Green, C. Griewank, D. Grosnick, M. Guntsche, M. Hanley, M. Harvey, T. Hendricks, M. Holtzman, J. Jemiolo, E. Kelly, T. King, J. Kluth, K. Kreamelmeyer, D. LeBlanc, A. Leahy, J. Ledbetter, M. Maggiotto, P. Magro, T. Mahfouz, M. McGrew, D. Middleton, S. Parkinson, S. Pattison, D. Pearson, L. Pellerin, T. Richardson, D. Shawger, K. Stanton, G. Stamp, M. Steib, K. Thurman, B. Wagner, L. Wiley, B. Wills, J. Zhao, S. Zhuk

Substitutes: Corby Roberson for B. Canada, Mark Neely for J. Huff, Brian Meekin for C. Munchel, Juan Carlos Ramirez-Dorransoro for J. Popovicova, Shannon Staton for G. Slater

Members Absent: S. Amato, J. Gora, M. Hamil, B. Hannon, T. Hardin, J. Kim, S. Rice-Snow, W. Sharp, A. Wieseke

2. A motion was made and seconded (Crawley, Pearson) to approve the minutes of September 1, 2011.

The motion carried.

3. Items I. A., B., C., D., under Announcements were reviewed.

4. Committee Reports

A. Governance and Elections Committee – Richard Bellaver, Chairperson (No report)

B. Faculty Council – John Ledbetter, Chairperson

John reported the council met on September 8 and approved the promotion and tenure document on today's agenda.

C. University Council – Barbara Wills, Chairperson

Barb reported the council met on September 15. Most committees under their purview had not met but several are scheduled.

D. Campus Council – Kevin Thurman, Chairperson

Kevin reported the council met on September 22 and approved the Cardinal Cash proposal as well as the revisions to the Gender Identity statement for the university.

In addition to the above reports, Kayla Stanton, President of the Student Government Association, provided an update on filling the student positions in the university governance system. There are a total of 86 positions for students and 19 remain unfilled. A senator asked if there was room for Burris students on university governance? There have also been questions regarding Academy students. At the present time, these positions are only open to Ball State students; however, the chairperson of the senate would like to speak with Shon Byrum (Burris representative) and Kayla regarding these two high-school level institutions and how the Student Government Association can take an active role in training high school students in preparation for college student governance.

5. Report by Chairperson of Senate – Eric Kelly (University Senate Agenda 9/29/11, Enclosure #1)

Eric believes the issues on the GANTT chart will make their way to the senate next spring or by the end of the academic year.

He mentioned the issue of titles for contract faculty is in the Contract Faculty Committee. The Provost reported receiving a proposal from the committee and he will be meeting with them soon.

6. Questions Directed to the President

The President sends her regrets in not being present at today's meeting.

The Provost reported on the following:

- The Strategic Planning Task Force has been meeting since last spring. They are wrapping up data-gathering sessions which have proven to be lively discussions. The next step is reviewing the information and crafting themes for the next strategic plan.
- The accreditation visit is in 700 days. This is not a long time to prepare the self-study. Marilyn Buck and Michael Maggiotto are co-chairing the steering committee for the accreditation.
- The Indiana Commission for Higher Education (ICHE) met on Monday of this week and the concept was discussed of accountability and assessment. These are parallel issues, but still very similar.

The Provost answered the following questions from the members of the senate:

- ***Can the Faculty Council consider the problems of salary compression and make recommendations in time to be included in the new five-year strategic plan at Ball State?***

The Provost responded this is an item on the GANTT chart and the Salary and Benefits Committee at the present time. The last strategic plan had a specific recommendation to create a salary pool to retain outstanding faculty members. He went on to say that the causes of compression need to be explored. A major problem is the manner in which increments are given out as a dollar amount rather than percentage. He knows the seriousness of the issue and they are reviewing it.

7. Question and Answer Period

There were no questions.

8. Unfinished Business

A. Proposed amendments to the Constitution – Second Reading (University Senate Agenda, 9/29/11, Enclosure #2)

Item 1: Contract Faculty and Senate membership

Patty Parkison (last year's Contract Faculty Committee chairperson) was present at today's meeting to answer questions.

A motion was made and seconded (Crawley/Shawger) to approve this amendment.

The motion carried.

Item 2: Membership of Professional Personnel on the Salary and Benefits Committee

Barb Wills, University Council chairperson, was present at today's meeting and reviewed the current membership of the Salary and Benefits Committee. Currently there is one member of the committee. The amendment would divide the current Salary and Benefits Committee into two separate subcommittees where faculty would discuss faculty issues and professional personnel would review professional personnel issues. Both subcommittees would come together to discuss issues that pertained to both entities. Each subcommittee would have a non-voting representative from the other constituency.

Discussion surrounded around the fact that the professional personnel member on the current committee could report back to the University Council concerning issues pertaining to them.

A motion was made and seconded (Ledbetter/Thurman) to approve. The vote was taken by a show of hands.

Approve: 20 Oppose: 23

The motion to approve the amendment failed.

A motion was made and seconded (Pearson/Crawley) to return the amendment to the Governance and Elections Committee to redefine a Salary and Benefits Committee under the University Council with both committees coming together to discuss issues that pertained to both sets of employees, such as health benefits. Gary Crawley is willing to be involved with the drafting of the document.

The motion carried.

Item 1. of the constitutional amendments presented today will be sent forward to the departments for vote. They will have sixty (60) instructional days in which to submit their voting results to the University Senate Office.

B. Clarification of Reconsideration/Appeal pertaining to deliberations of Promotion and/or Tenure (University Senate Agenda, 9/29/11, Enclosure #3)

Marilyn Buck, advisor to the University Promotion and Tenure Committee, was present at today's meeting to answer questions from the senate membership.

A motion was made and seconded (Pearson/Crawley) to approve the document.

The motion carried.

Since this has been approved early enough in the academic year, these changes will be made for next year (Fall, 2012).

Marilyn confirmed that the process of appeal goes automatically to the college level and bypasses the department.

9. New Business

There was no new business.

10. Other Items

There were no other items.

A motion was made and seconded (Gary/Thurman) to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 4:35p.m.

October 27, 2011

Eric Kelly, Chairperson

Amy Leahy, Secretary

/mt