

Indiana University Southeast
Faculty Senate Minutes
September 18, 2008 09-3 2:45 p.m. UC 127

Members present: Joe Wert, President, Leigh Viner, Angela Salas, Bryan Hall, Rebecca Carlton, Liam Felsen, Vijay Krishna, Chris Bjornson, Ken Taurman, William Jamski, Walter Ryan, Fran Squires, Robin Fankhauser, Melanie Hughes, Doug Darnowski, Elaine Haub, John Doyle, David Taylor, Michele Zimmerman, Pam Connerly, Jacquelyn Reid, James Beeby, Kelly Ryan, Donna Dahlgren, Jean Abshire

Absent with Alternate: Yan He, Doug Barney (Jay White), David Eplion (Arun Srinivasan)

Absent without Alternate: Laura McIlvoy

Administration, Ex Officio Faculty, Professional Staff Council present: Gil Atnip, Ruth Garvey-Nix, Marty Rosen, Jay White, Greg Roberts, Bill McGuire, Sandra Gordon, Flo Gonya

Joe Wert, president, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone back to this first meeting of the academic year. The roll was passed with instructions to sign for yourself or indicate if you were attending for someone else. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved as read.

The first report was from VC Atnip.

Atnip stated that the Chancellor sends her regrets that she could not be here. She was attending the Board of Trustees meeting. Atnip had several handouts and while those were being passed he called on Ruth Garvey-Nix to give an update on housing.

Garvey-Nix said there are currently 381 students living here, which is above the budgeted number that was set in the pro forma for year one. The profile of the populations is: 80% are freshman, 61% female, 96% are full-time, with the contract for the first year giving priority to full-time students. The resident population is far more diverse than the general student population with 17% of the residential population characterized as minority students compared to 7% of the general campus population. 68% of the resident population is from Indiana and the campus population is 74% from Indiana. There are 20-30 different counties represented (12% Floyd, 9% Clark, 6% Harrison) with the remainder from other counties living on campus.

She said the landscaping is going in and there are 270 trees being delivered along with the planting of various shrubs and flowers. A fence will also run the length of the property along the railroad tracks from the north end all the way down to Hausfeldt past the baseball field. There have been no complaints about the train noise.

The emergency phones are not completed yet but should be in the next week or so. The student newspaper is keeping everyone apprised of the student incident reports. Garvey-Nix said she had not been surprised by the incidents and behaviors. They have been largely initiated by non residents.

The dedication of the residence halls is scheduled for October 15. More information will be forth coming. She thanked those who helped with move in day and said parents were very impressed with the faculty and staff who came out to help.

She was asked about the rumor of an age restriction for the residence halls. She said there is not an age requirement. There were no other questions for Garvey-Nix.

Atnip commended Garvey-Nix and her staff for all the hard work that has gone into the housing project. He said it was no accident that it has been successful since there had been a lot of hard work and planning. He also thanked everyone in Student and Administrative Affairs for all of their work.

Atnip referred to the handouts regarding fall enrollment. IUS showed a 3.9% increase in overall enrollment, which is second highest among all the campuses. We have a 21% increase in new students which is very significant with a large increase in freshman represented in this number. He said that this increase is attributed in part to the work of the marketing and admissions folks and the fact that IUS is becoming better known in the region as a quality institution. Atnip also gave data by academic unit, residency and reciprocity.

He said that it is troubling to see the drop in average SAT scores; these scores tend to fluctuate and are hard to interpret. High school class rank is about the same and IUS had a big increase in new minority students this year. Transfer numbers overall look good but he noted that the university is now breaking these down by students from Ivy Tech and they actually saw a decline. He said this is somewhat troublesome since Ivy Tech keeps reporting big enrollment increases.

Atnip was asked if anything was being done to target Hispanics since that is a growing portion of our population. Garvey-Nix responded that several promotional materials were published in Spanish and letters in English and Spanish were sent to parents. The question was asked if an ESL class could be used as a recruitment tool. Atnip said that we do not have a systematic ESL program and it was mentioned that since education has a certification in ESL new students need to be made aware of this. He agreed that was a possibility and with the opening of housing that will give us the chance of recruiting international students more aggressively. You pretty much have to have some kind of ESL when you do that, stated Atnip and this is probably in the future.

Salas mentioned that she had observed that some of the new students seemed quite fragile with family responsibilities and one who is a 17 year old mom. She wanted to know if there was some plan to coordinate efforts to retain these students. She said she was doing her thing but she only knew what she was doing. Atnip said there were a lot of things going on regarding retention but not a lot of coordination. She is willing to coordinate if anyone wants to give it a try.

Atnip gave an update on the salary minimum program. Twenty-three faculty members received salary minimum adjustments. This group included 4 faculty members promoted before 2008 whose salaries had not yet reached their minimum. There were four faculty members promoted in 2008 and 15 faculty members whose salaries had once been at or above their minimum but had subsequently fallen below the minimum. This was the first year since the implementation of the salary minimum policy that there was a retrospective assessment of salaries that had once been at or above the minimum. In keeping with the recommendation of the Senate last spring, salary minimum adjustments were calculated before adding annual raises into the individuals' salaries. A total of \$44,408 dollars in salary and benefits were allocated to these adjustments. The result of the adjustments was that only three of the 23 faculty members remain below the minimum for their rank and discipline as of the date of this report. All three are full professors promoted in 2008. Atnip said they would be doing retro adjustments on a regular basis but he does not think it would be every year.

Atnip's last handout was from the Higher Education Commission related to their Reaching Higher project. Atnip had pulled out the summary of the recommendations from six reports and highlighted some of them. He did a brief overview of the reports and invited the Senate members to go the Commission's website and read the reports in their entirety.

Gonya, president of SGA, said she had a lot of complaints from students regarding the storm of Sept. 14; the difficulty of getting to class and questions regarding a policy and procedure that says students should not be penalized if they can't get to class. Some students seemed to think that if the county, city and surrounding

county schools are closed then IUS should be also. Atnip asked her to convey to the students with whom she has conversations that IUS is not connected in any shape or form to the local schools in terms of those types of decisions. He also asked Gonya to refer students to the appropriate channels when there are complaints of this sort, starting with the faculty and then to the dean if they are not satisfied. He also asked the faculty to be flexible and work with the students when they are in a bad spot.

Bjornson reported that the UFC had not met yet but would be having a meeting on September 23, so he did not have anything to report at this time. President Wert had attended the agenda meeting of the UFC. He said there would not be any action items to come before the UFC but there would be some reports, among them a report on promotion and tenure. He said there is a working document on Oncourse and you can join the site and look at that. There is a December deadline for completion of the P & T document.

The Nominating Committee placed into nomination the names of Ron Dunlop and Larry Miles to fill two vacancies on the General Studies Committee. There were no nominations from the floor and Dunlop and Miles were elected by acclamation.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned.