

Indiana University Southeast
Faculty Senate Minutes
February 19, 2009 09-7 2:45 p.m. KV 230-236

Members present: Leigh Viner, Angela Salas, Bryan Hall, Liam Felsen, Debra Clem, Chris Bjornson, David Eplion, Doug Barney, Ken Taurman, William Jamski, Walter Ryan, Fran Squires, Melanie Hughes, Doug Darnowski, Elaine Haub, John Doyle, David Taylor, Michele Zimmerman, Pam Connerly, Laura McIlvoy, Jacqueline Reid, James Beeby, Kelly Ryan, Donna Dahlgren, Jean Abshire

Absent with Alternate:

Absent without Alternate: John Finnegan, Rebecca Carlton, Yan He, Robin Fankhauser

Administration, Ex Officio Faculty, Professional Staff Council present: Gil Atnip, Ruth Garvey-Nix, Dana Wavle, Ben Nassim, Kathleen Norvell, Greg Roberts, Sandra Gordon, Bill McGuire

Guests: Anne Allen, Emmanuel Otu

President Wert called the meeting to order. 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.

Chancellor Patterson-Randles was absent due to the Trustees Meeting which was on our campus. She was represented by VC Gil Atnip. Atnip introduced Dana Wavle, VC for Administration and Finance, who is new to the campus.

Atnip's Report: 1) The House Ways & Means Committee has passed a budget proposal on to the full House with a 1% increase for higher education. He said the Governor has earlier recommended a 4 ½ % decrease for this campus. Apparently, the House is recommending a one year budget as opposed to the two year biennial budget which is typical for Indiana, because of the uncertain financial climate. Atnip said they continue to plan as best they can but will probably not have any budget numbers before the end of April and possibly the first of June. 2) Atnip said in regards to the buzz about summer school there is no plan to cut faculty summer pay. The concern that he had expressed to the deans was the increase in the number of classes scheduled for Summer II this year and there wasn't an increase to Summer I relative to last year. He went on to explain how the budget works for Summer I & II with Summer I coming out of the current fiscal year budget and Summer II coming out of next year's budget. He will be working with administration and finance to come up with a process which more closely aligns planning and budgeting for summer school.

Bjornson-UFC Report: The UFC president mentioned the four ways that IU gets its funding: research funding, IU Foundation, State appropriations and tuition and gave a brief overview of each. Bjornson said the UFC co-chair encouraged faculty leadership to meet with financial officers and take part in the discussion of priorities so that if we do have a poor budget our voices will be heard. Bjornson thinks IUS does this through our Budgetary Affairs Committee.

There was a discussion on promotion and tenure recommendations which all have seen. The UFC co-secretaries will put together a consensus document and this will come back to the Faculty Senates to have an opportunity to review and vote on. Then it will go back to the UFC for a decision. Bjornson was not sure when this would happen.

Bjornson referred to the memorandum from President McRobbie which was a part of the packet. He said if you read it carefully it takes out the Chancellor's letter in the promotion and tenure process. The way this was presented to the UFC is this is the way it has always been but two regional campuses raised the issue that this is not the way it has always been and they were told yes this is the way it has been and the meeting proceeded. Bjornson commented that the Executive Committee will present a resolution later on in this agenda to submit a resolution in opposition to this new procedure. He thinks it is important that the chancellors have an opportunity to make a recommendation and not just be a part of this executive review.

President Wert's Report: President Wert thanked Chris Bjornson for filling in for him at last month's senate meeting. He said in regard to promotion and tenure that the two UFC co-secretaries and John Applegate, an assistant to President McRobbie, are working on a document that they hope everyone can live with. This document should be received either Feb. 27, or March 2. Wert said he would send the document to all faculty and then set up one or two Town Hall meetings so those interested could come together and talk about the issue. What Wert and Bjornson are looking for is how the faculty feels about the document so the faculty can give some instructions on how they should be voting on the document. Wert said they will be collecting chancellor letters to send to the UFC in evidence of the past process.

Wert reported that Media Services is updating the Faculty Senate webpage and it should be finished soon.

Wert invited anyone interested in serving on the Faculty Senate in any capacity to let him know. Elections will be coming up in April.

The March meeting of the University Faculty Council will be on this campus March 31.

Circular 09-7A a request for a New Art History Concentration in the Fine Arts Dept. was moved. The motion was seconded. There was no discussion and the vote was taken. The motion passed.

Circular 09-7B Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry: B.A. Biochemistry Option was placed in motion and seconded. There was one minor change which was accepted as a friendly amendment: L102 should now be L101 in the degree requirements. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

The last item was Circular 09-7C an action item from the Executive Committee to approve a resolution on promotion and tenure. The resolution requests President McRobbie to reconsider the new promotion and tenure procedures he describes in his memo dated December 5, 2008 and to continue the policy of having campus chancellors write tenure and promotion letters. After some discussion the vote was taken and the motion passed.

President Wert asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and the meeting adjourned.