Indiana University Southeast
Faculty Senate Minutes
March 20, 2008  08-8    2:45 p.m. MP 127

Members present: Joe Wert, President, Leigh Viner, Jamie Kauffman, Bryan Hall, Chris Bjornson, Doug Barney, Tom Keefe, Uric Dufrene, William Jamski, Fran Squires, Walter Ryan, Robin Fankhauser, Doug Darnowski, Jim Woeppel, David Taylor, Chris Lang, Michele Zimmerman, Laura McIlvoy, James Beeby, Beth Eckerd, Jean Abshire

Absent with Alternate: Nancy Totten (Melanie Hughes), John Doyle (Ghansham Manwani) Flo Gonya, SGA (Richard Young)

Absent without Alternate: Judy Myers, John Finnegan, Angela Salas, Tim Ambrose, Donna Dahlgren

Administration, Ex Officio Faculty, Professional Staff Council present: Chancellor Patterson-Randles, Gil Atnip, Steve Taksar, Ruth Garvey-Nix, Marty Rosen, Kathleen Norvell, Saundra Gordon

Guest: Jerod Clapp, The Horizon Newspaper, Jan Williamson, Registrar, Ratone Harr, USA Today Readership Program, Kim Clemens, Campus Life and Debbie Finkel

The roll was passed with instructions to sign for yourself or indicate if you were attending for someone else. There weren’t minutes to approve for February. The Senate did not meet because of inclement weather and campus closing. The minutes for January were approved.

Chancellor’s period: The Chancellor called on Ann Lee, HR Director, to explain the new program that has gone live in Bloomington and has been introduced to three departments on this campus. It is a component in Peoplesoft called Time, which is a program to electronically report time for staff employees. The impetus for this program came from the Board of Trustees who want better accountability since we are funded with public funds.

Other items the Chancellor addresses: 1) Budget…full details of the budget were e-mailed to everyone earlier. The Budget Committee with the help of the CBAG chair has just finished three days of budget hearings. There were requests for $3 million dollars; she commented that since we don’t have a lot of money it was a very interesting exercise. She appreciated the thoughtfulness with which people presented their needs.

2) The Blue Ribbon Committee…the Chancellor and Joe Wert sent an e-mail with a link to the committee’s report which was completed March 15. She said they had not looked at the report in detail but they would soon to determine how feasible the recommendations are.

3) Housing…an open house was recently held with 400-500 people in attendance. There are over 120 submitted and paid applications for student housing so things are going well. She called on Ruth Garvey-Nix for an update. Garvey-Nix presented a detailed update of the building progress, programs in the works to benefit all students, and how they are working with Campus Life to coordinate the campus calendar. Both the Chancellor and Garvey-Nix are very pleased with the progress of this project.

4) Recycling…she checked into the recycling of plastic bottles on campus and found that the Physical Plant had looked into this earlier and determined that it is not feasible for the campus to pursue.

5) Annual Report…she said she has been getting tremendous feedback from the local community about this report. She encouraged the group to give appropriate information to questions or comments that may be heard out in the community or direct the questions to the appropriate office so these concerns can be addressed. This concluded the Chancellor’s report.
VC Atnip’s period: Last fall the Board of Trustees approved a resolution and plan under which the current university schools would essentially be dissolved by July 1, 2008. Part of that plan directed that the current university schools work with the campuses that have university school programs to determine the nature of future relationships between the campus programs and the core campus i.e. Bloomington and Indianapolis. On this campus the resolution affects SPEA, Criminal Justice Program in Social Sciences and Nursing. The resolution between SPEA and our local criminal justice program that Dean Staten and Dr. Bill Farrell worked on appears to be acceptable. Atnip said the major consequence of the agreement will be that we will no longer use SPEA’s course numbers or names in criminal justice. A different set of code numbers have already been approved. After July 1, the only university wide school at Indiana University will be the School of Social Work.

President Wert’s period: He passed a thank you note from Grace Gullett. Secondly, he said at the request of Faculty Affairs an ad hoc committee is being put together to take a look at the Faculty Manual, particularly the wording dealing with promotion and tenure. The committee will consist of VC Atnip, Carolyn Babione and Jackie Johnson from Faculty Affairs, and Chris Bjornson from the Faculty Leadership Committee. Probably next fall the changes in the reading will come before the Senate.

Wert introduced Ratona Harr from the USA Readership Program. A motion was made to allow her to speak. The motion was seconded and passed. She gave a detailed overview of the program explaining how it came into existence and the resources that are available.

Wert introduced Kim Clemens from Campus Life who shared information about some upcoming programs and events they are sponsoring.

Bjornson’s UFC Report: 1) The Family Leave Policy…is still sitting with the President. He is evaluating the actual financial implications of it. The current policy expires this summer so we have to have a new policy in place by then. 2) Intellectual Properties… UFC passed the policy and central administration decided it was too long, complicated and difficult to read. The policy has been rewritten and evaluated by the President and some of the VPs and apparently they are having some issues with it. They are going to work with the committee that wrote it and try to work something out. 3) Promotion and Tenure…discussed at both of the most recent meetings and right now the President has stopped the movement to try and get promotion and tenure rewritten by the end of this semester. He is putting together a committee which Bjornson believes is going to be comprised of the UFC Faculty Affairs committee and some others and charging that committee to evaluate the policy and have something to bring back to him by December of this year and then it will come back to the UFC in the spring 2009. 4) Course Transfer…UFC passed the course transfer limits. We now have a maximum of 64 credit hours that can be transferred from a two year college and count toward a degree in any program at Indiana University.

President Wert commented that right now the Faculty Affairs committee of UFC is meeting via video conferencing and working on creating a policy which will then feed into the larger committee being created by the President. There is some movement on that but the policy which was handed down by Bantz is being worked with to try and make it more palatable to the rest of the regional campuses.

Wert asked for a motion to approve the February agenda. Motion was seconded. Wert pointed out that the intent was to pass the agenda without looking at all the individual documents with the exception of the by-law change for WGS, and the UFC representative election. These were taken separately. The vote was called and the February agenda was approved. Circular 08-7G, Revised Business Concentration Structures was placed into the record being an information item.

A motion was made to accept as written Circular 08-7A, by-law change regarding the elimination of the WGS committee. The motion was seconded. A long discussion followed. Viner expressed her concerns regarding the
elimination of WGS. Eckerd, the chair of the committee, was called on to explain what precipitated this decision. Some of the deciding factors were: the gender studies track in sociology would do the same thing and the gender studies track would supersede what we have in terms of the gender studies certificate; lack of student interest; inability to find someone who could get a strong WGS program going because they would have to donate their time since there is no form of course release. Viner asked the Chancellor to respond to this issue. The Chancellor said she would answer very practically. She stated that we have a charge to be very responsible to community needs and part of that is to take leadership in terms of diversity. She said she had been heavily involved in developing women’s studies programs on other campuses and she believes that such programs should be very interdisciplinary in nature and not focused primarily in one field. She has found that the programs have functioned best if they were called gender studies rather than specifically women’s studies. She said with limited resources we need to support programs which are going to meet the needs of the most students and help with enrollment.

Wert said there would be time for further discussion on this at our next meeting in April when we will formally vote.

Next was the election of the UFC representative. Bjornson was reelected with a vote of 20 to 4.

Ryan, on behalf of APC moved Circular 08-8A, Circular 08-8B and Circular 08-8C. In each instance, the motion was seconded and passed with no discussion or opposition.

Ryan, on behalf of APC moved Circular 08-8D and 08-8E together since the numbers represent the same course with the difference being Q450 is for undergraduates and Q550 is the graduate number. The motion was seconded and passed with no discussion or comments.

Jamski moved Circular 08-8F on behalf of General Education. Wert explained that this action has to do with procedure. Motion was seconded and passed.

Circular 08-8G was put in motion by Bjornson. Motion was seconded. Taylor had reservations about approving this before Budgetary Affairs had looked at the salary recommendations from the Blue Ribbon Committee. The Chancellor said that the administration had not had the opportunity to study the report and there is probably nothing that can be done about it this year. Dufrene felt that the first bullet point under high priorities was that those kinds of decisions be left to the administration (restructuring of university offices). He felt that there are issues confronting faculty that the committee could devote more time like finding more data bases and curriculum improvement and those kinds of issues that will affect the job done in the classroom. Dufrene then asked to amend this resolution to strike the entire 4th bullet point under high priorities. After a discussion of the amendment the vote was taken and the amendment was defeated.

Lastly, Recruitment & Retention presented an information item which was introduced into the record. Wert asked for questions. There were a few questions regarding the FYS and University 101, 2E set credit hours, #5 who will teach this or is this just a recommendation. Garvey-Nix and Atnip responded to these concerns. Atnip said he would classify these as ideas not even recommendations. Any course changes will have to go through the normal review process.

Wert asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made and seconded and the meeting adjourned.