Indiana University Southeast
Faculty Senate Minutes
October 17, 2013 14-4 2:45 p.m. UC127
James Barry, President

Members Present: James Barry, President, Virginia Anderson, Rebecca Carlton, George Harvey, Brian Jones, Jamie Kauffman, Brian Atwater, Michael Harris, Arun Srinivasan, Alan Wong, Jim Hollenbeck, Shifa Podikunju-Hussain, Susan Ridout, Suranga Hettiarachchi, Randy Hunt, Elizabeth Rueschhoff, Elizabeth Weaver, Jodi Henderson, Laura Mcilvoy, Jean Abshire, Todd Manson, Cliff Staten, Rhonda Wrzenski, Steve Bowman, Ron Endris
Absent with Alternate: Pat Daly (Jeremy Wells), Doug Barney (David Baird), Bradford Griggs (Mary Bradley), Jackie Johnson (Melanie Hughes), Glenn Mason (Clint Franklin)
Absent without Alternate: Peter Galvin, Terrence O’Connor, Andrew Takomi,
Present: Administration, Ex Officio Faculty, Professional Staff Council: Uric Dufrene, Jason Meriwether, Dana Wavle, Samantha Earley, Jay White, Elaine Haub, Stephon Moore

President Barry called the meeting to order. The roll was passed with instructions to sign for yourself or initial if you were attending for someone else. The minutes were approved as written, and the meeting was turned over to Executive VC Uric Dufrene in Chancellor Bichelmeier’s absence.

EVC Dufrene began thanking President Barry for organizing the Town Hall meetings. He was happy to have participated in September, and is looking forward to participating again in the spring, in addition to communicating with the various schools and deans in upcoming meetings.

EVC Dufrene noted that the first annual retreat with deans and program coordinators will take place on October 25. There will be three main objectives of this meeting. The first is to create a sense of awareness and appreciation for the value of each academic unit on campus. The second is to engage in brainstorming to create new programs utilizing existing resources. The final aim is for the deans and coordinators to provide feedback to the EVCAA’s office on how better to communicate with faculty, coordinators, and deans to make informed decisions.

There is a move to resurrect a Long-Range Academic Planning Committee. The goal is to monitor outside trends impacting Higher Ed and our programs and to function as a Think Tank that we can also use to create new programs in response to these trends. This will likely begin shortly after the October 25 retreat.

Great work has been done in the initial stages of developing online education on campus. However, we must also continue to foster a rich environment for on campus classes as well. 42 online classes are scheduled for spring 2014 as well as 26 hybrid classes. Open discussion about how these classes turn out is encouraged, as a variety of responses will certainly result.

Relations with Ivy Tech are gaining ground. We had our first open house with them on July 24, along with another in November, and fostering this relationship continues to be a means to greater ends. Faculty, staff, and deans on both campuses have been working hard to continue to develop this relationship, and it should prove beneficial to IU Southeast, Ivy Tech, and the southern Indiana community.
Discussions are being held by deans and their coordinators about the idea of introducing a Weekend University. Although we have offered weekend classes for a long time, we’ve never had a separate undertaking specifically geared towards offering programs exclusively or primarily on Fridays through Sundays. These discussions have been constructive, and will continue to be held going forward.

EVC Dufrene brought up the point that we need to work towards closing the loop between employers and high schools. As ICHE has highlighted, Higher Ed needs to work hard to ensure that it graduates students who are sufficiently prepared to meet the demands of businesses in the community. EVC Dufrene and President Barry have meetings scheduled with local principals and employers in November and December to address this concern, and to explore ways that we at IU Southeast can optimally address this concern.

Next, VC Jason Meriwether gave an update about his work in Enrollment Management and he sought the aid of the faculty in realizing his goal of raising retention rates, especially among the demographics that have markedly high drop-out ratings. He provided a great deal of data to demonstrate that many students take at least six years to graduate, and many more do not graduate at all. This creates a double-edged problem for those students, given that they leave IU Southeast both with debt and without a degree. This outcome hurts their chances at finding gainful employment and it exacerbates the problem of repaying their loans. VC Meriwether provided a couple of handouts to illustrate this and to support his data (and promised further corroborating evidence to substantiate his facts) – all of this data will be available on the Faculty Senate website shortly. He also spoke about ways that we as a campus can address this challenge, including utilization of the Flag system for faculty as well as a proactive approach to reaching those students who come from high school with lower GPAs. This latter point has proven to be a strong indicator of success or failure at the college level.

President Barry then gave a couple of updates. He reminded the Senate that there are two upcoming Town Hall meetings on part-time faculty to address some of the concerns that they have. He also noted that the Senate website has the dates for these events, as well as the Agenda minutes for each month’s meetings. The RFC has met once this fall, and will continue to do so. This should prove a beneficial avenue for encouraging participation among the regional campuses. More updates about RFC will follow.

President Barry, at Chancellor Bichelmeyer’s request, has joined her in meeting with the Board of Advisors and members of the community, and he has requested input if anyone has suggestions or ideas that they would like him to bring to these leaders. In particular, President Barry noted that we need to do a better job of developing narratives to share with high school principals, counselors, and community leaders about our mission and our goals.

A special APC election was held to replace Jean Abshire as Chair of APC. Anne Allen was voted in unanimously to take over as Chair.

**New Course Requests:**

**Circular 14-4A – PHIL-P 360:** Intro to Philosophy of Mind – Passed without incident.

**Circular 14-4B – BUS-F 151:** Personal Finances of the College Student – Passed without incident.

**Circular 14-4C – INFO-I 356:** Globalization: Where We Fit In – Passed without incident.
Course Change Requests:
Circular 14-4D – AHLT-M 190: Coding 1 – Passed without incident.

Changes to Majors/Programs:
Circular 14-4F – Bachelor of Fine Arts (various majors; from 125 to 120 CR hrs) – Passed without incident.
Circular 14-4G – Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts – Passed without incident.

New Degree Program:
Circular 14-4H – Bachelor of Applied Science – There was a brief discussion concerning courses in the BAS and the prerequisites that some of them require (e.g. Econ E-200 was listed as a requirement, but Econ E-150 is a prerequisite for this course). After several minutes, it was resolved that the BAS should be passed as it stood granted that the areas of concern be corrected in conjunction with the departments (especially Business) that this impacts.

New Minor:

There was one FYI item concerning a change to the English minor. There were no concerns raised about this. There was no other new business, and the meeting was adjourned shortly before 4 o’clock.