

MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE 2014-15 UNIVERSITY SENATE
Thursday, October 23, 2014

Members Present: 58

Members Absent: 8

1. The meeting was called to order by the chairperson of the University Senate, Amy Harden, at 4:00 p.m.

Roll Call was taken by initialing the roster located at the entrance to LB 125.

Members Present: S. Aegisdittor, E. Agnew, A. Beane, J. Bolin, B. Brey, A. Brown, D. Caristi, B. Chang, J. Chapman, M. Chiuini, J. Christman, C. Corbin, R. Davis, P. Ferguson, J. Fitzgerald, J. Forbey, J. Gruver, M. Hanley, A. Harden, J. Hesser, M. Holtzman, A. Hopper, J. Huff, Z. Huffman, J. Jemiolo, T. Jitpaiboon, J. Jones-Hall, K. Kessler, T. King, K. Koch, R. Kovac, K. Kreamelmeyer, B. Kubel, L. Lehman, I. Livshits, C. Luchs, M. Maggiotto, T. Mahfouz, S. McFadden, L. O'Hara, C. Pak, S. Pattison, L. Pellerin, S. Rice-Snow, D. Singh, C. Thomas, K. Thurman, B. Wagner, D. Wheeler, R. Wijesinghe, N. Wilkey, S. Zhuk

Substitutes: Jerome McKean for B. Byers, Keith Kothman for E. Crawford, Ron Hicks for M. Hill, Liz Wanless for J. Johnson, James McClure for E. Nesson, Steve Fulton for J. Stroh

Members Absent: P. Buis, S. Byrum, B. Canada, B. Collins, R. Engle, L. Julian, C. Munchel, N. Perera

A motion was made and seconded (Caristi/Thurman) to approve the minutes of August 28, 2014.

The motion carried.

2. Announcements

Items I. A. (Next Scheduled Meetings), I. B. (Student Senate Resolutions, Enclosure #1), and I. C. (Academic Posting, Enclosure #2) were reviewed by the Senate membership.

3. Recognition of Deaths

There was a moment of silence to remember the following members of the university community:

Richard Hays
Burris Laboratory School
1988-1997
12 years of service

Earl R. Williams
General Manager Emeritus
Emens Auditorium
Retired 1989, 30 years of service

4. Council/Committee/Student Senate Reports

- A. Governance and Elections Committee – Chin-Sook Pak, Chair. No report. The committee will meet on November 6.
- B. Faculty Council – Michael Hanley, Chair. Michael reported the council met on October 2 and approved the statement on the importance on diversity and inclusion and tabled the Professional Education Committee's revisions of the membership and responsibilities. The council meets again on October 30.
- C. University Council – Jennifer Jones-Hall, Chairperson. The council did not meet this month but will meet on November 6.
- D. Campus Council – Kevin Thurman, Chair. The council did not meet this month, but will meet on November 13.
- E. Student Senate – Nicholas Wilkey, President, Student Government Association (SGA). Nick introduced Bryan Kubel as the new Vice President of SGA and Aric Hopper, the new President pro tempore.

5. Report by Chairperson of Senate – Amy Harden (University Senate Agenda, 10/23/14, Enclosure #3)

The GANTT Chart was reviewed by the chair of the senate.

6. Questions Directed to the President

President Ferguson provided general comments on his very positive interactions with students and his ongoing visits with Faculty at departmental meetings and expressed appreciation for the candor and insights he has received for his preparation for the State of the University Address in February. These conversations complement the October Deans Retreat, November Cabinet Retreat and the Board of Trustees Retreat in January.

7. Question and Answer Period

Provost Terry King presented a brief history of the policy on Chronic Unsatisfactory Performance. Examples of similar policies at other institutions were reviewed by UPT and mentioned (available at individual university websites). Discussion ensued. A

faculty member, substituting for a senator, asked the Provost if he had sources to substantiate this statement. The Provost responded that he did not. He also stated that some of these policies were in process and he did not have all the details. The Provost's presentation and the policy under review were shared with Senate membership at a later date.

8. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

9. New Business

A. Policy on Grades and Attendance (University Senate Agenda, 10/23/14, Enclosure #4)

A motion was made and seconded (Jones-Hall/Thurman) to place on the floor for discussion.

John McPherson, Director of Scholarships and Financial Aid, and Cindi Marini, chair of the Admissions and Credits Committee, were in attendance at today's meeting to answer questions.

A member of the senate suggested the average grade on the policy is a B. He believed the description is dishonest. Another member of the senate reminded the faculty member this is not the issue for discussion. This faculty member stated that since the grading policy was on the senate floor for discussion, the entire policy was open for discussion.

John confirmed that Ball State is not required to take attendance; however, for federal student aid purposes, the university is required to document a student's attendance for financial aid.

Regarding the policy on grades, item 1.9, the Miller College of Business faculty do not have authority of issuing a W. After the withdrawal deadline, a student can still withdraw with the instructor and dean's approval. The University policy is different. The advisor acts with the authority of the dean, making the advisor the dean's signatory.

The motion to approve the policy on grades and attendance, carried.

B. Statement on the Importance of Diversity and Inclusion (University Senate Agenda, 10/23/14, Enclosure #5)

A motion was made and seconded (Hanley/Thurman) to place on the table for discussion.

Charlene Alexander, Associate Provost for Diversity, was present at today's meeting to answer questions.

The motion to approve the Statement on the Importance of Diversity and Inclusion, carried.

10. Other Items

There were no other items.

11. Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded (Caristi/Thurman) to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Pellerin, Secretary

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