

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE 2012-13 UNIVERSITY SENATE
Thursday, March 21, 2013

Members Present: 59

Members Absent: 12

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m., by the Chairperson of the University Senate, David Pearson.

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

Members Present: S. Aegisdottir, E. Agnew, A. Beane, R. Bellaver, O. Benkato, E. Bowers, R. Bremigan, B. Brey, P. Buis, S. Byrum, J. Cassady, B. Canada, J. Chapman, M. Chiuini, H. Closson, R. Davis, G. Dodson, J. Ellery, J. Forbey, J. Gora, C. Griewank, D. Grosnick, J. Gruver, J. Hammons, M. Hanley, E. Hashimov, T. Hendricks, M. Holtzman, J. Huff, J. Jemiolo, T. King, K. Koch, K. Kreamelmeyer, J. Ledbetter, L. Lehman, P. Magro, T. Mahfouz, S. Pattison, D. Pearson, L. Pellerin, T. Richardson, D. Shawger, K. Slabaugh, G. Slater, G. Stamp, M. Steib, C. Stone, J. Strauss, K. Thurman, C. Updike, D. Wheeler, A. Wieseke, S. Zhuk

Substitutes: Daqavise Winston for A. France, Nicola Schmerbeck for M. Guntsche, Toni Kontos for Z. Guzeldereli, Carla Earhart for A. Harden, Gloria Pavlik for L. Wiley, Malachi Randolph for C. Wiley

Members Absent: C. Corbin, J. Dowden, M. Gerhard, M. Hamil, B. Hannon, E. Levitt, M. Maggiotto, C. Munchel, N. Perera (Junfeng Jiao), K. Pierce, R. Purviance, S. Rice-Snow

2. A motion was made and seconded (Steib/Closson) to approve the minutes of February 14, 2013.

The motion carried.

3. Announcements

Items A. (Next Scheduled Meetings), B. (Nominee for Doctor of Laws), C. (Board of Trustees Action), and D. (Academic Posting) were reviewed.

4. There was a moment of silence to recognize the deaths of Donald Barnes, Linda Hargrove, William Liston, and James K. MacDougall, Jr.

5. Council/Committee Reports

- A. Governance and Elections Committee – Ralph Bremigan, Chairperson, reported the committee met last week and approved the recommendation for Charlene Alexander to serve as the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR). There was informal discussion regarding committee structure/membership. A note is being sent to all committee chairs to request their committee review these two items. They are working on a slate of officers for the University Senate executive committee as well as members for the senate agenda committee. One must be a member of the Senate to run for executive committee or the senate agenda committee. Lastly, the extended education committee is working on revising their policies/procedures for the Faculty and Professional Personnel Handbook.
- B. Faculty Council – Kip Shawger, Chairperson, reported the council met on February 21 and approved the policies for the evaluation of teaching and the policy for credit hour assignment. The policy for resolving incomplete grades was tabled.
- C. University Council – Katie Slabaugh, Chairperson, reported the council did not meet last month. Their last meeting of the academic year is April 4, at which time they will hold elections of officers.
- D. Campus Council – Kevin Thurman, Chairperson, reported the council will meet on April 11 to elect officers and discuss the possibility of implementing a bicycle share program and bicycle repair stations around campus.
- E. Student Senate – Heather Closson, Vice President of the Student Government Association (SGA), reported SGA is working on a project with other state universities on “Charity miles,” a statewide program to promote healthy lifestyles. There has been \$1,000,000 in grants provided to conduct this initiative. The SGA officers will transition on April 17, at 3:15 p.m. in Cardinal Hall A.

6. Report by Chairperson of Senate – Dave Pearson (University Senate Agenda 3/21/13, Enclosure #3)

Kip Shawger, chair of the faculty council, reported the salary and benefits committee has received and approved the final academic department salary document. This has been a two year process. The Family Leave Proposal which came from the Task Force for Women from the College of Sciences and Humanities, was forwarded to Associate Vice President Marie Williams, and Vice President General Counsel Sali Falling for review. The Telecommuting Proposal was also forwarded to these two individuals.

The final report from the Task Force on Academic Rigor was forwarded by e-mail as well as posted on the Senate website and Blackboard. Provost Terry King added it was a very important topic. It is important for departments to address this issue. It must be a faculty issue. His office receives complaints about grades and we want to support faculty for maintaining high standards. It is important to students. Please forward your opinions to him or to the Deans of their respective college.

7. Questions Directed to the President

President Gora discussed the Administrative Retreat, held about a month ago. This is a yearly event and includes vice presidents, deans, and directors. The focus for this year's retreat was developing an implementation plan for the Strategic Plan, 2012-17. The implementation plan involves the development or identification of the initiatives which will help us accomplish key performance indicators in the plan. There are five goals and 22 objectives to be translated into initiatives. Groups worked on the Key Performance Indicators (KPI) that were appropriate to their area at the university.

The President reported the following:

- Concluded the twelfth campus forum discussing the funding formula and the Workplace Environment Survey. She would like to conduct these types of forums annually with different topics. The forums lasted an hour to 1 1/2 hours and gave people a chance to ask questions and hear information pertaining to what they read or hear about in the paper, etc.

The following question was asked by a member of the Senate:

Could you say a little bit more about the recent article in the paper?

The President reported that the article focused on this particular legislator because his remarks were fairly extensive in the committee. However, after the meeting, she received five text messages from different legislators saying they did not agree with him. Conversations with legislators, generally, indicate support for the University.

She added that our emphasis at Ball State is to provide students with a quality education so they are able to compete in the marketplace. It is a mission that was endorsed by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (ICHE) dating back to 2005. It has won the support of students, parents, and faculty. The legislator's comparison with Harvard and Cornell was countered by her comparison with Miami of Ohio and William and Mary because they are public institutions. They are known for their quality, and why should that not be our mission? The current performance funding formula indicates the only way a university can receive funding is if it is large and growing. Our strategy is to get better not bigger. We maintain this as a valid approach; it serves our students well and has received the endorsement of parents and alumni. I was pleased with the comments that came from The Star Press' positive editorial.

8. Question and Answer Period

There were no questions.

9. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

10. New Business

A. Policy for the Evaluation of Teaching (University Senate Agenda, 3/21/13, Enclosure #4)

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

Jerry McKean, chair of the Teaching Evaluation Committee, was present at today's meeting.

Discussion ensued. Contrary to the comments that were distributed prior to today's meeting, they do not object to the revisions, but question how efficient and organized it will be. The department would be burdened with the work to do.

It is important to note that although the policy says we will gather information for all sections, it does not say we must use all the data. One department representative mentioned that evaluations would come from 50% of the classes that an instructor teaches every semester. Some departments require an evaluation for every class taught. This would eliminate the problem of more work.

Regarding Item 3.4 Electronic Submission. For faculty who teach English 103 and 104. Can this include supervisory people, similar to the department chair? What about a secretary; can a secretary do this? It was confirmed that a secretary can be included as a designee.

A question arose as to whom would select which courses? In the case of promotion and tenure, the faculty member would select, but not necessarily in the merit pay aspect. It would be left up to the departments to decide how many or if all courses would be administered an evaluation.

James Jones, Director of Research and Academic Effectiveness, answered questions raised prior to today's meeting.

The motion to approve the Policy for the Evaluation of Teaching, carried.

The Senate thanked Jerry and the committee for their work.

B. Credit Hour Assignment (University Senate Agenda, 3/21/13, Enclosure #5)

A motion was made and seconded (Shawger/Steib) to place on the floor for discussion.

John Ledbetter was available to answer questions.

The motion to approve the Policy for Credit Hour Assignment, carried.

C. Approval of Charlene Alexander for Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) to the NCAA/MAC (University Senate Agenda, 3/21/13, Enclosure #6)

The chair of the Senate explained that the FAR is the President's ambassador for the NCAA/MAC and serves in her capacity. The current process is under review by the Athletics Committee because of a change in procedures by the Faculty Athletics Representative Association (FARA), which is asking universities to provide a common procedure for electing the FAR. Both the President and the Athletic Director are favorable to this appointment.

A motion was made and seconded (Ledbetter/Bellaver) to accept this nomination for appointment.

The motion carried.

10. Other Items

There were no other items.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

April 18, 2013

David Pearson, Chairperson

Jane Ellery, Secretary

/mt

