

**Minutes of Meeting  
Senate Faculty Meeting  
March 18, 2005  
NS 158**

**Present**

Aghimien, Peter; Allee, Julie; Anderson, Gretchen; Barrau, Oscar; Barton, David; Basolo-Kunzer, Mary; Bender, Eileen; Benion-Turba, Elizabeth; Blodgett, James; Blodgett, Linda; Bushong, John; Chase, Aurora; Chen, Linda; Cheng, Xiaoqiang; Clark, Karen; Colborn, Nancy; Collins, Louise; Dobrzykowski, Teresa; Elliott, Julie; Fenner, E.J.; Fritschner, Linda; Gao, Dengfeng; Grens, Ann; Guan, Zhong; Guillaume, Jr., Alfred; Hakimzadeh, Hossein; Karakatsanis, Neovi; Klein, Jennifer; Knowles, Brenda; Lambert, Larry; Levine, Ilan; Lewis, John; Makielski, Marta; Marmorino, Matthew; Marr, Deborah; McIntosh, John; McMillen, Douglas; Mettetal, Gwen; Meyer, Suzanne; Miller, Thomas; Mooney, Elizabeth; Naffziger, Frederick; Nietch, Patricia; Nilsen, Micheline; Norton, Steven; O'Connor, Isabel; Okrah, Kwadwo; Opasik, Scott; Quinn, Charles; Reck, Una Mae; Regan-Kubinski, Mary Jo; Rios, Kristina; Roth, Elaine; Russo, Michele; Skanlan, Margaret; Schnabel, Andrew; Scott, Henry; Sernau, Scott; Shillingsburg, Miriam; Schrofel, Salina; Thomas, Susan; Torstrick, Rebecca; Vernon, Desrene; Vollrath, David; Williams, Lynn; Yokom, Nanci

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I. The meeting was called to order by the President, Dave Vollrath at 10:00 a.m.

II. Approval of the minutes of the previous meetings

The minutes of February 2005 meeting was presented for approval. The President informed the body that the minutes were posted in the website. The Academic Senate approved the minutes without corrections.

III. Old Business

1. Senate Election Results
  - a. Promotion, Tenure and Review

The following will serve 2-year terms:

Larry Lambert  
Doug McMillen  
Gwen Mettetal

The following will serve 1-year term:

Peter Aghimien  
Monle Lee

- b. Board of Faculty Review

Douglas Agbetsiafa

Gretchen Anderson  
Marta Makielski  
Andrew Schnabel  
Lyle Zynda

## 2. Academic Affairs Committee's Report on Semester Breaks

The committee recommended the following options:

- 1) that IUSB refrain from scheduling a fall break, and
- 2) that IUSB schedule a fall break that would occur on Monday and Tuesday of the eighth week of the fall semester.

The first recommendation was based on the following reasons: a) no campus of IU (with the exception of Fort Wayne) has currently a fall break and b) the President's Office customarily has requested that all campuses have matching calendars. Scheduling a fall break would run counter to that long-standing request. For the second recommendation, the committee believed that it is possible to schedule a fall break but the Senate must be aware of the following advantages and disadvantages.

The potential advantages include:

- a. the break would allow for refreshment and rejuvenation, and
- b. the thanksgiving break would begin on Wednesday rather than Thursday.

The following costs include:

- a. The Study Day would be omitted (classes would end on Tuesday rather than on Saturday)
- b. The Exam Week would start later, moving from Monday to Wednesday
- c. The Exam Week would end later, moving from Saturday to Tuesday. Some instructors might be tempted to forgo exams that occur on Monday or Tuesday. Students might also pressure instructors to do the same. Grades would be due on December 21, thus encroaching further on the winter holiday break.
- d. The overall length of the semester would increase by three actual days, but the number of actual days of instruction would remain the same.

It was agreed that the debate will only center on the second option as the first option will not make effective change in the calendar. The debates on the proposal centered on the benefits and costs of having a fall break. In general, it was recognized that a break is necessary for the rejuvenation of faculty and students. Scott Sernau recognized the need for rejuvenation but the cost of having a two day break would not be beneficial. Second, Kevin Smant believed that a break is necessary mainly from his observations that more students fall on the "wayside" during the fall due to the stress that they experience. A chemistry teacher observed the same phenomenon where students tend to drag themselves towards the middle or end of the semester that she thought a

break is necessary. However, she commented that a two-day break may not serve that purpose of rejuvenation.

On the part of students, the Vice President of the Student Government Association reported that the SGA has not reached a consensus regarding the proposed break. He intimated that they may not be in favor of a proposal that would affect the shortening of the length of the winter break. He noted that non-traditional students would welcome the break especially if it coincides with their children's school breaks. He also suggested that students would welcome an addition day break during Thanksgiving week. Steve Norton suggested that the current calendar be untouched and that the student government should conduct a broad student survey regarding the issue.

A motion was put forth to approve the proposal of having a break. The motion was denied, and the first recommendation of not having a break was automatically adopted.

Brenda Knowles thanked everyone in the Academic Affairs Committee as well as Mike Carroll, Lyn Williams, the faculty and students for their inputs.

#### IV. Administrative Reports

##### 1. Chancellor's Report

a. The Chancellor informed the faculty about the ongoing activity by the Indiana Careers Consortium. She said that there are ten different colleges and universities participating in that career fair and there were 125 employers. She said that there were more employers willing to participate but they could not be accommodated due to lack of space.

b. Last St. Patrick's Day, the Chancellor also met with 7 or 8 state representatives including the House Speaker during a reception tendered by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce. She reminded everyone about the IUSB projects and thanked them for their responses and support. The budget for the project is still in the air but she hopes for a positive outcome.

c. The Chancellor asked for faculty members' continued support of the lobbying efforts. She reminded everyone to keep sending emails and letters to legislators regarding the renovation of the Associates Building. An information sheet of what the letter should contain has been posted on the website. She informed the faculty that IUSB needs to be able to show that the project has grassroots support. She also reminded everyone to participate in a town hall meeting where the Speaker of the House will be conducting that meeting. The affair will be at the Mishawaka Town Hall at 3:00-4:30 on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Other republican representatives will also be in that meeting. For this purpose she appointed Karen White to speak on behalf of IUSB to show that there is grassroots support for the IUSB projects. Ms. White will also ask the audience to stand up if they

support the project so its important to have participants sympathetic to the project and stand up at the designated time.

c. The Chancellor announced the forthcoming Board of Trustees meeting at IUSB. The agenda has not been set but it will be distributed in a week's time. The meetings are open for everyone to attend but she encouraged everyone to attend the presentation by Mary Jo Regan-Kubinski on nursing accreditation. The business meeting is on Friday from 1:30 onwards.

d. Lastly, the Chancellor informed the faculty that the Mission Differentiation project is in its final stage. ISUB is awaiting the comments of President Herbert. In anticipation of these comments, the chancellor directed the Campus Directions committee to meet and become the guiding force to mover for the request and gathering of inputs regarding the process. The committee was also charged to facilitate a campus forum slated for April 6 or 7. These two dates will be announced once IUSB receives the President's comments.

## 2. The Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs' Report

a. General Education. The VCAA expressed his concerns about the revisions on the general education curriculum of IUSB. He found the proposed UFC and Academic Council recommendations as restrictive and may not contribute to the goals that IUSB intends to achieve.

b. Updates on the Dean Searches. The following appointments have been made to fill up vacancies: 1) Dean of School of Business and Economics – Robert Ducoffe, 2) Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences – Lynn Williams, c) Director for Extended Learning Services – Jacqueline Neuman. The search for the Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs is still on-going.

c. School of Education. NCATE is coming in December and David Kinman from IU Bloomington has been appointed as NCATE consultant to guide IUSB in the process. He will be coming twice a week. In the meantime, Miriam Shillingsburg has been appointed interim dean of the School of Education. The search for the Education dean will start in the summer of this year.

d. The VCAA has acted on sabbatical requests and he is currently reviewing his recommendation for the Promotion, Tenure, and Reappointments. He hopes to finish in a few weeks.

e. Higher Learning Commission. The Higher Learning Commission scheduled a meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The VCAA convened a group to talk in that meeting and discuss the efforts being done at IUSB. This will be led by Eileen Bender and Becky Torstrick.

f. Kudos. The VCAA congratulated the following:

1. Michelle Russo and Julie Elliot for their efforts on the One Book, One Campus, activity especially on Chris Hedges' visit.
2. David Barton for his interesting lecture and thought-provoking musical demonstration of improvisation during the Lundquist lecture.
3. Mike Keen for winning the 2005 Lundquist Award
4. Linda Chen, Gretchen Anderson, Betsy Lucal, and Elizabeth Mooney for their awards during the Founder's Day event.
5. Micheline Nilsen was designated to lead the Thematic Year 2005-2006.

g. Everyone was invited to Gail McGuire's research presentation at the Dean's Seminar at noon and the Biology open house from 3-5 pm.

### 3. The Vice Chancellor for Information Technology's Report

a. This is the second time that the VCIT spoke before the faculty. Her objective was to update the faculty on IT activities in relation to the concerns brought up from last meeting. She reported that the IT management discussed the faculty concerns. She stated that IT personnel will assist in areas other than general use classrooms. She also said that in consultation with the Chancellor, there might be some 30,000 to 50,000 IT surplus money due to increase in enrollment that may be other instructional technology projects. She asked the Senate IT committee to develop some process whereby requests for areas of development may be identified.

- a. b. Elizabeth Benion asked the VCIT updates on the improvement of instructional technology involving an interactive response system. She informed the Senate that her office is continually looking into the matter and looking for a system that will be more widely used by students and faculty involving the use of such technology.

### 4. The President's Reports and UFC Issues

a. Issues from the Executive Committee. The executive committee is monitoring the effects of scheduling more Friday classes for the next school year. Some measures that have been discussed included the meetings of some academic departments on alternate months. They are also looking into morning or afternoon meetings. Next April meeting, the calendar for the Academic Senate meetings will be set.

b. General Education Concerns. In response to the VCAA, the President has asked the Academic Affairs committee as well as the Curriculum committee to collect more information about the issue. He said that we need to develop a response to be submitted to the UFC by April 1. He asked Joe Chaney and Linda Chen to assist and perhaps set a forum on campus for the discussion of the issue.

c. The President called on different chairs of the Senate committees to give short information about the committees and their activities. This presentation was a

continuation from previous meeting. The different committees who made a report were the following:

1. Budget committee
2. Curriculum committee
3. Research and Development committee
4. Advising and Admissions committee
5. General Studies Committee
6. Information Technologies committee
7. Campus Directions committee
8. Assessment committee (no one was present to speak)
9. Athletics committee
10. Promotion, Tenure, and Review committee

IX. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am

Prepared by:  
Melchor C. de Guzman  
Secretary