

## INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTH BEND – ACADEMIC SENATE

### MEETING MINUTES

January 27, 2012 - Wiekamp 1001 - 1:30 PM

**Attending:** Adaikkalavan, Balthaser, Barrau, Bennion Turba, Bloom, Blouin, Botkin, Brittenham, Bushnell, Bushong, Cera, Chaney, L. Chen, K. Clark, T. Clark, L. Collins, Cordell, Costea, J. Davis, DeBrule, Ducoffe, Dunn, Economakis, Eggleston, Elliot, Fong-Morgan, Gerencser, Guillaume, Hakimzadeh, He, Heck, Isaacson, James, Karakatsanis, Keen, Kwong, Lambert, Levine, Lidinsky, Lucal, Lynker, Magnan-Park, Makielski, Mattox, Mayrose, McGuire, McIntosh, McMillen, Meisami, Mettetal, Meyer-Lee, Michaels, Mociulski, Nirei, Opasik, Pant, Parker, Pathak, Popescu, Reck, Roth, Rusnock, Saksena, Schult, Shlapentokh, Shrader, J. Smith, K. Smith, R. Smith, Sofhauser, Stankrauff, Tetzlaff, Torstrick, Vollrath, Vrajitoru, L. Walker, Wells, White, Wright, Xu, Zynda

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER, APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Gerencser called to order the November 2011 meeting of the Indiana University South Bend Academic Senate at 1:37 pm in Wiekamp 1001. President Gerencser thanked the Alumni Association for providing snacks.

Approval of minutes from November 18, 2011 Senate Meeting. **Motion to approve minutes—M/S/A** unanimous.

#### 2. CHANCELLOR RECK

- *Final enrollment.* Headcount is at 7500, 5.2% behind last spring; credit hours are at 72,000, 4.8% behind last spring. The good news is that the persistence rate fall-spring is 83.6%, 2.3% ahead of last year. The lower enrollment numbers to some degree reflect steps taken to increase retention and the graduation rate. Following the directives of ICHE and the legislature, we will continue to focus on student success, even though it does affect our enrollment.
- *Budget.* Enrollment obviously affects the budget, which was the subject of the Chancellor's Cabinet retreat this week. The Senate Budget Committee presented the Cabinet a report, and more communication will be forthcoming between the Cabinet and this committee, whose members the Chancellor thanks for their work.
- *Summer tuition discount.* Indiana residents will receive a 25% discount at any IU campus, and non-residents will receive an equivalent discount. This initiative is an effort to reduce cost and time of degree. The details of how it will work here are being worked out. Marketing efforts will be intensified as we approach the summer.
- *EVCAA position.* EVCAA Guillaume's retirement has been postponed one year at the request of the Chancellor, which was approved by Vice President Applegate and President McRobbie. The Chancellor was prompted by the deans' concern over the number of concurrent interims in top administrative positions.
- *The Grille.* The new Grille is a success: there is a 23% increase in food sales at The Grille and a 15% net increase across campus.
- *Education/Arts building.* On schedule for March 2013.

#### Q&A

- Q: Local legislators who visited The Grille for an American Democracy Project event were pleased with the facility.
- A: That's good to hear.
- Q: In regard to the summer discount, has there been any discussion about federal financial aid being extended to a three-semester/year model?
- A: Purdue is going to this model, but I don't know how they will be handling financial aid. (Defers to Cathy Buckman.) There has been discussion of summer financial aid in the past, but not recently, and there's no sense that this is going to happen.
- Q: How are we handling the tuition discount in terms of minimum enrollments in courses?
- A: The EVCAA will address this in his talk.

- Q: Faculty are concerned that we need to ensure quality of instruction in this time of budget deficits; Academic Affairs is crucial to the mission of our campus. Can we use the reserve fund for getting over this deficit? Let's not "turn the ship" too abruptly.
- A: We are considering using the reserve fund. Yes, Academic Affairs is our core, and we must maintain our quality. However, we are short this year, and we not only need to make up that deficit but must budget flat going forward. We do have \$5 million in reserves, and we may use some of it; however, using the reserves draws negative attention from such constituencies as the Board of Trustees. We will use salary savings and one-time money before using reserves. For next year we must construct the budget based on the current financial picture.
- Q: I encourage you to think about resolving the budget over time rather than all at once. Let's not hinder our progress at retention and graduation.
- A: Yes, we will consider that.

### 3. EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR GUILLAUME

- *Academic Leadership Council's discussion on legislation.* The legislative proposal to limit the number of undergraduate programs to 120 hours has been withdrawn, but this limit will likely be pursued by ICHE. Senate Bill 182 addresses common course numbering and mandatory transfer; IU is working with other institutions to come up with an alternative plan with compromise language and provisions.
- *Summer school discount.* In implementing this discount, we must respect the bottom line. The EVCAA is working with the deans to make sure that we have good summer offerings at various levels. We no longer have a limit on the number of courses we can offer, but we must make sure that every course is financially viable. Summer offerings should help time to degree and provide foundational classes. We may need to increase the minimum enrollment. The Academic Leadership Council has begun a discussion about redefining the academic year, e.g., turning the summer into a full semester; they have considered shorter 3-week summer courses and weekend courses. They have talked about rethinking classroom pedagogy to increase summer enrollment, and about offering more graduate courses, especially those targeted at K-12 teachers.
- *Student services initiative report.* The Phase 1 Report on the benchmarking project to enhance administrative services has been circulated. The aim of the benchmarking project is to avoid duplication and proliferation of services and look for the potential for shared services. The EVCAA will post the report on his web site.
- *Budget reduction.* The EVCAA has been talking to the deans, Senate Budget Committee, and Chancellor's Cabinet about budget reduction. The EVCAA will work with the deans on the goal of eliminating 1 million from the Academic Affairs budget. We are trying to do this strategically rather than across-the-board. We do not want to harm our core mission or reduce faculty positions.
- *Salary compression.* We are getting close to making a recommendation to VP Applegate about salary compression. The Chancellor has put aside money this academic year to address compression; we will not be allowed to use it this year, but we look forward to using it in the coming years.
- *Promotion and Tenure letters.* These letters are done; they should be out Monday or Tuesday.

#### Q&A

- Q: In regard to summer enrollment, the unavailability of financial aid in the summer is a problem for many students. Can someone say to the powers-that-be that they should help bear the consequences of the tuition discount decision should it fail?
- A: There has been a lot of discussion about how best to respond to this decision, but no questioning of the decision itself, which is in the best interest of the students.
- Q: I'm not sure that students will really benefit from this, especially at the regional campuses, as they will want to work during the summer, earning more than the discount amount and using their earnings for fall tuition.
- A: We will see.

- Q: If the administration looks at course caps, can departments have some say in regard to which courses are affected, so that decisions can be made taking into account pedagogical implications?
- A: This'll be done in the pedagogical interest of the students and faculty. (John McIntosh) The administration will look at minimum enrollments, not caps.
- Q: Will the faculty have a chance to see the salary compression proposal before it goes to VP Applegate?
- A: We'll consider that.
- Q: Is anything going to happen to the one-time monies that were awarded, given the budget shortfall?
- A: Those commitments will be honored.
- Q: About the ALC discussions regarding classroom pedagogy related to budget savings—what does this mean? How can enrollments be connected to pedagogy?
- A: Pedagogy in terms of thinking about what courses you're offering, how you're delivering the course, what might attract students.
- Q: Does it mean rethinking how we might teach certain courses?
- A: The discussions weren't at that level of detail; pedagogy was considered as a general issue. Pedagogical decisions will be made by the faculty, not administrators.
- A: Is there any legislation addressing the mandatory retirement age?
- A: Haven't heard anything about this.

#### **4. STEVEN GERENCSE, ACADEMIC SENATE PRESIDENT**

- *Legislative issues affecting IU.* These will be discussed at the next UFC meeting.
- *The chancellor search.* The Executive Committee has been in contact with VP Applegate about the process and timeframe for the search for the next chancellor. In his visit on Feb. 24 he will meet with the Executive Committee. Our campus will be involved in the search, but it will be directed from outside the campus, from VP Applegate's office. So we need to ensure that we have a voice in the process.
- *Our campus's relation with IU as a whole.* In regard to our relation with IU, which sometimes feels intrusive or undercutting, we need to make sure that we work together and find ways to communicate what we have achieved on this campus.
- *Health care Senate resolution.* President Gerencser received a 2-sentence email from VP Theobald stating that, contrary to the resolution assertion, discussions were held with faculty. Other campuses are considering passing similar resolutions to ours.
- *Response to current IU climate; campus campaign.* Let's not just turn inward, focusing just on our own classes, but instead keep looking for ways to make ourselves heard. E.g., participating in our campus campaign can communicate effectively externally about our pride in our campus and our sense of our accomplishments. A roast of the EVCAA, on 2/10 in The Grille, kicks off the campaign. Be in touch with Dina Harris in Development, with Communications, or with Steven if there are special projects or initiatives to publicize.
- *Academic Senate.* Another way we can exercise control of our work environment is by participating in the Academic Senate. The Nominating Committee will be asking for people to fill elected committees and Senate offices. Please consider serving. If you've been elected to a 2-year term, but won't be able to serve the 2<sup>nd</sup> year, please let Steven know now.

#### Q&A

- Q: Have you had a response to the letter about health care and salary that you sent to President McRobbie and VPs Theobald and Applegate?
- A: No.
- Q: What's the next action that we should take?

- A: I don't know—we should discuss this in the Executive Committee.
- Q: Should we get the other regional campuses to endorse the resolution and then bring it back to the upper administration?
- Q: We have a big enough voice ourselves; we should make ourselves hard to ignore.
- Q: This would be a good issue to bring up at the UFC.
- A: We will take all this up in the Executive Committee, but simply speaking as a collective body, as we did, is important.

## **5A. NEW BUSINESS—PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A VENDOR REVIEW PANEL AS A SENATE COMMITTEE**

President Gerencser reported that the proposal on the table was developed by a group of faculty members in response to last spring's resolution on campus diversity and its call for such a panel. (The other part of the resolution, calling for a review of Chik-Fil-A as a vendor, was performed by IU Purchasing, which affirmed Chik-Fil-A as a qualified vendor.) These faculty members brought the proposal to the Executive Committee, which supports it and brings it in turn to the floor already moved and seconded. Further, Steven reported that the Executive Committee has accepted a friendly amendment (a small change in wording regarding membership) to the version that was posted on the web. The amended proposed addition to the Constitution, describing the new committee, is as follows:

### **Committee Charge:**

- Support the goal that our campus should work with IU-approved businesses that best align with IU South Bend values statements, in conversation with Purchasing.  
Educate campus community about the campus values statements regarding consumption and production of everyday goods and services on campus, and promote discussion of sustainable and ethically responsible business practices.
- Serve as a venue for concerns and suggestions about the relationship of current vendors to IU South Bend's campus value statements. Seek input from all concerned parties to evaluate concerns and suggest resolution strategies.
- Consult with appropriate administrators at least once annually to make recommendations and propose modifications in purchasing policies as needed.

### **Membership**

- Appointed Senate Committee with representation from staff, the Student Government Association, and faculty representation from across the campus
- Four to six faculty members, with staggered two-year terms
- Each of the following bodies may annually appoint a representative from their membership: the Professional Staff Council, the Bi-weekly Staff Council, and the Student Government Association
- IU Associate Vice President of Procurement (or a representative appointed by that office) will serve as an ex officio consultant on IU procedures and as liaison to the Review Board

President Gerencser invited April Lidinsky to the podium to present the proposal. April mentioned that—although developed by herself, Jake Mattox, Louise Collins, and Benjamin Balthaser—the proposal has received input from many different constituencies on campus, and she thanked the Executive Committee and especially Steven for their help. She then read the first two sentences of the proposal's rationale: "Indiana University South Bend is committed to the principles of sustainability, diversity, and the promotion of a robust community partnership with the civic and business leaders of South Bend. As purchasing is one of the primary ways in which IU South Bend expresses its unique mission as a public university, we believe that IU South Bend can positively affect the South Bend community as well as uphold its values through the purchases it makes." She remarked that the hope is that a proactive approach to thinking about campus consumption as part of the educational life of the university will bring us into growing community of universities dedicated to fulfilling their commitments to the public via leadership in ethically responsible behaviors.

### **The floor was opened for discussion.**

- Q: Would this panel trump IU Purchasing, overruling them?
- A (April): No, it's an advisory body. It will be a concrete venue where people who have concerns can have them considered by the broad range of constituencies represented by the committee. IU Purchasing will have membership on the committee, so concerns will be heard by that office.
- Q: Could this panel review the actions of IU Purchasing?
- A (April): This would be a place to voice those concerns.
- A (Benjamin Balthaser): Jill Schunk from IU Purchasing mentioned that there are system-wide and local purchasing decisions; our campus has some latitude over the latter, including choice among several possible vendors.
- Q: Our purchasing is closely related to many things that we do at IUSB. In particular, we could do a much better job of making commitments to local vendors, since we are asking the local community to support us. This panel can help us tighten our relationship to our community.
- A (April): Yes.
- Q: Although I was opposed to the resolution last spring, I find this proposal to be a positive outcome, reflecting many constituencies on campus and forward-looking in its goals.
- A (April): Yes, that was very much part of the process of developing it.
- Q: Are this panel's concerns intentionally broader than the ones originally envisioned last spring?
- A (April): Yes.
- Q: Has the IU Associate Vice President of Procurement agreed to a role on the committee?
- A (Steven): The idea for Procurement's involvement originally came from that office. In checking with the office again, I haven't heard that they have declined.

### **Motion to end discussion. M/S/C**

- The vote on the proposed change to the Constitution will held through campus mail during February.
- President Gerencser thanked the four authors of the proposal for their work: April Lidinsky, Benjamin Balthaser, Louise Collins, and Jake Mattox.

### **5B. NEW BUSINESS—NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2012 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

- The Executive Committee brought forward three candidates for the Senate Nominating Committee: Larry Lambert, Anurag Pant, and Henry Scott.
- **Floor opened** for nominees. No nominees from the floor.
- **Motion to close nominations—M/S/C**
- **Vote: majority aye; Larry Lambert, Anurag Pant, and Henry Scott elected.**

### **6. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Kelcey Parker: Benjamin Balthaser will be giving a poetry reading this Thursday at 7:00pm on the Wiekamp Bridge.
- Ilan Levine: Ilan has been appointed to a new board created by the IU Vice President for Research to serve as a conduit for informing him about how to improve the process for doing research on all IU campuses. Look for an announcement about this on the Bulletin Board, and let Ilan know about difficulties that you encounter getting research/creative activities started.
- Julie Elliot: The deadline for student submissions for the Library Research Prize is Feb. 24. The award is \$500. From March 3 to April 11 the library will host an exhibit on "Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War."
- April Lidinsky: Notre Dame professor and director of the writing program John Duffy will be giving a talk on "Virtuous Words: Arguments & Ethics in the University" in this room on Feb. 9, 7:00 pm.

- April Lindisnky: The Michiana Monologues performances are Feb. 16, 17, 18 at 7:00 pm in Northside 158; there will also be a performance at the Historic Roosevelt Center in Elkhart on Feb. 25, 7:00 pm. The show this year is very different. We will also be launching the gathering of stories for the monologues, a student-led project; look for a performance in the fall.
- Kevin James: Upcoming events at the Natatorium: Next week the Natatorium will host the All-America City Quilt; on Monday at 5:00 pm there'll be a public reception with Mayor Pete Buttigieg. For Black History month, there will be readings at Barnes and Noble, an event honoring local trailblazers, and screenings of "Divided Waters" (a video production on the history of Natatorium), including a desert theater showing on Feb. 25. Crawfish Boil tickets will go on sale soon; they will \$2 less than last year.
- David Blouin: The undergraduate research conference will be on April 13; the abstract deadline is March 30.

**7 ADJOURNMENT—2:56 PM.**