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FS Minutes 2013-03-27

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
Wednesday, March 27, 2013, 3 p.m.
Holmes Student Center Sky Room

Disclaimer: These minutes should not be taken as a verbatim transcript but rather as a shortened summary that is intended to reflect the essence of statements made at the meeting. Many comments have been omitted and, in some cases, factual and grammatical errors corrected. The full verbatim transcript is available online at the University Council Web site under Faculty Senate / Agendas, Minutes & Transcripts.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Bateni, Calvo-Byrd, Cappell, Carpenter, Chandler, Chen, Chung, Coles, Collins, Creamer, Cripe, Daniel, Deng, Downing, Feurer, Frank, Houze, Kolb, Koren, Kostic, Lenczewski, Lopez, Mackie, Martin, McHone-Chase, Mirman, Naples, Nissen, Novak, Patro, Pitney, Rosenbaum, Sagarin, Siegesmund, Slotsve, Smith, Swanson (for Ryan), Tonks, VandeCreek, Wilson, Zahay-Blatz

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Abdel-Motaleb, Allori, Arado, Azad, Bisplinghoff, Briscoe (on sabbatical), Fang, Farrell, Fredericks, Gaillard, Gupta, Hamayotsu, Henning, Jones, Kapitan, Kowalski (on fellowship), Lee (on sabbatical), Lin, Long, Middleton, Mohabbat, Munroe, Onyuksel, Parker, Plonczynski, Poole, Rheineck, Rollman, Ryan, Sirotkin, Thu, Von Ende, Walker, Ward

OTHERS PRESENT: Armstrong, Bryan, Haliczzer, Klaper, Sunderlin, Tollerud, Zayaned

OTHERS ABSENT: Freedman, Latham, Prawitz, Small, Snow, Streb, Waas

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Rosenbaum: called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A. Rosenbaum: The first order of business is the adoption of our agenda and we have one walk-in item – the walk-in item being my report on Thursday’s Board of Trustees meeting.

M C. Smith: made the motion. **G. Slotsve:** was second.

The agenda was approved with the one walk-in item without dissent or abstention.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 20, 2013 FS MEETING
(distributed electronically)

C. Cappell: made the motion. **C. Nissen:** was second.

The minutes were approved as written without dissent or abstention.

IV. PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Faculty Fund – Michael Kolb

M. Kolb: informed the senate about the Faculty Fund and asked senators to contribute and also to get the word out to their constituents. The Faculty Fund provides scholarships to incoming students with high GPAs and ACT scores and represents a mechanism for attracting the best students and for improving the quality of the incoming class. Scholarships average \$9,000 and are renewable for up to four years. We currently have 16 students on Faculty Fund scholarships. Students must maintain an adequate GPA. Dan Gebo directs the fund which has no overhead expenses. All of the money is distributed to the student recipients. Pledge forms have recently been distributed to faculty and donations can be made through payroll deduction.

A. Rosenbaum: updated the senate on the presidential search. The committee has completed its work and handed over four highly qualified finalists from which the BOT will make its selection. The BOT opted for a hybrid approach to meetings with constituent groups. Ten groups were identified, interviewed the four finalists, and provided feedback to the BOT. This method was chosen in order to protect the identities of the finalists, which is necessary to attract the highest quality candidates.

A. Rosenbaum: criticized the irresponsible and one-sided editorial comments published on the front page of the Northern Star. The Star impugned the BOT for its supposed lack of transparency while failing to fully explain the reasons for the board's decisions and also failing to recognize the BOT for creating a search process that was extremely inclusive of all the constituent groups at NIU, including students.

V. Naples: I do have a question. Even though you are not going to reveal names of individuals, would it be possible to give us just some of the feel of the kinds of backgrounds among the last four candidates? Are they academicians? Were they other university presidents or administrators or faculty, from where did they originally come?

A. Rosenbaum: I can say that all four candidates were at least at the provost level. All four candidates are academicians. We do not have a person who comes to us as what they call a non-traditional candidate. I believe that our final four candidates fulfill all of the requirements that the faculty recommended.

M. Kostic: (a member of the PSAC) supported the Northern Star and suggested that there could have been more transparency regarding the final four.

R. Lopez: (also a member of the PSAC) spoke very positively about the committee and the search process, as well as the quality of the four finalists.

A. Rosenbaum: Again, I can appreciate that people want to know who the candidates are and I can appreciate that the Northern Star wants to know who the candidates are, but I think the board's decision was based on the best advice from the search firm regarding how to get the best person for this job.

A. Rosenbaum: The next meeting is our last meeting of the year, and I have invited President Peters to come and give his farewell address to the senate.

A. Rosenbaum: We have new [policies regarding the syllabus](#). We will post them on the Faculty Senate website [Blackboard site] but you should be aware the reason this was done is in response to the requirements of the Higher Learning Commission and in order to keep us in compliance with HLC so we don't have accreditation issues. This will eventually be placed in the APPM.

V. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

VII. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

A. FAC to IBHE – Sonya Armstrong – [report](#) – Pages 3-4

S. Armstrong: You have the report. One thing I want to call attention to is that on this coming Tuesday, the FAC-to-IBHE meeting is actually a joint meeting with the IBHE. If there are any particular issues, questions, topics that you want me to raise with the FAC, that we can discuss with the IBHE staff, this is a good time to let me know.

B. Student Association – Delonte LeFlore, President, and James Zanayed, Speaker – report

J. Zanayed: Today is the second and final day of voting for our executive board. We are happy to report that just yesterday we already exceeded last year's voter turnout. The University of Illinois Champaign, University Illinois Chicago have both made state-of-the art recreation centers. If we would like to compete with them in enrollment, we must follow. We're looking for your support as we move into the summer months and into the next year and as we try to get on the schedule of the new president to look into a new recreation center.

C. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Kerry Freedman and Andy Small – [report](#) – Pages 5-9

D. BOT Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee – Alan Rosenbaum and Greg Waas – [report](#) – Pages 10-13

E. BOT Legislation, Audit, and External Affairs Committee – Todd Latham and Rosita Lopez – [report](#) – Page 1

F. BOT – Alan Rosenbaum – [report](#) – walk-in

VIII. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities – Brad Cripe, Chair – [report](#) – Pages 15-20

B. Cripe:

- Reported that this has been in the committee for some time and it relied heavily on the work of last year's committee to draft this.
- This item was originally brought to the University Council by Dean McCord from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.
- The objective was to correct a potential loophole in the joint appointment tenure process that might be disadvantageous to faculty on joint appointments.
- The language in this suggested policy change was suggested by Dean McCord.
- The committee has considered this and the majority vote on the committee was to advance these changes to the university bylaws and the Academic Policies and Procedures Manual that you see before you.

There was some discussion in which **G. Slotsve** and **R. Feurer** expressed the concern that departments might end up losing the half position in cases where the other department awarded tenure and took the faculty member on full time. **B. Cripe** suggested that the committee's concern was protecting faculty members and not departments.

B. Pitney: I was on the committee this year, as well as last year. The language that's being suggested is that the memorandum-of-understanding stipulate what the dispositions will be in the event that there is a disagreement between units meaning that the letter has to spell out how it's going to be handled if one unit says to grant tenure or promote and the other one does not. We thought that was more advantageous for the faculty.

The Senate voted and approved the motion by a vote of:

- 1 – YES – 20
- 2 – NO – 11
- 3 – ABSTAIN – 4

The motion will be brought to the University Council for approval.

A. Rosenbaum: Faculty who have issues with this, remember, we didn't just pass this. We just agreed to send it along to the University Council. If people think about this and talk to others in the departments and decide that you have problems with it, those problems can still be raised at the University Council either by you, if you are a University Council member, or by the University Council member from your college. I would be happy to represent those myself if you bring them to me

B. Academic Affairs – Charles Cappell, Chair – no report

- C. Economic Status of the Profession – Debra Zahay-Blatz, Chair – no report
- D. Rules and Governance – Ibrahim Abdel-Motaleb, Chair – no report
- E. Resources, Space and Budgets – Jim Wilson, Liaison/Spokesperson – no report
- F. Elections and Legislative Oversight – Therese Arado, Chair
 - 1. Election of FAC to IBHE representative – 4-year term
See [excerpt](#) from NIU Bylaws, Article 16 – Page 21
See [letter](#) from Sonya Armstrong – Page 22

A. Rosenbaum: Sarah McHone-Chase is substituting for Therese Arado.

S. McHone-Chase: The deadline to receive letters for self-nomination to the position of Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE was March 15. One letter of self-nomination was received. That letter was from Sonya Armstrong and it can be found in the agenda packet. I move that we appoint Sonya Armstrong to a four-year term as NIUs representative to the FAC to IBHE.

M C. Smith: was second.

Sonya Armstrong was elected without dissent or abstention.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

XI. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. [Minutes](#), Academic Planning Council
- B. [Minutes](#), Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee
- C. [Minutes](#), Athletic Board
- D. [Minutes](#), Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee
- E. [Minutes](#), Committee on Advanced Professional Certification in Education
- F. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education
- G. [Minutes](#), Committee on Initial Teacher Certification
- H. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Experience
- I. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum
- J. [Minutes](#), General Education Committee
- K. [Minutes](#), Graduate Council
- L. [Minutes](#), Honors Committee
- M. [Minutes](#), Operating Staff Council
- N. [Minutes](#), Supportive Professional Staff Council
- O. [Minutes](#), Undergraduate Coordinating Council

- P. [Minutes](#), University Assessment Panel
- Q. [Minutes](#), University Benefits Committee
- R. [Letter](#) of acceptance of ES/P nomination – Alan Rosenbaum – Pages 23-24

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.