

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR March 30, 2004 (Vol. XXXII, No. 26)

The 2003-2004 Faculty Senate minutes and other information are available on the Web at www.eiu.edu/~FacSen. The Faculty Senate agenda is posted weekly on the Web, at Coleman Hall 3556, and on the third-level bulletin board in Booth Library. Note: These Minutes are not a complete verbatim transcript of the Senate meeting.

Members of the campus wishing to participate in, donate to, provide food and refreshments for, and/or learn more about Panther Service Day can contact Caleb Judy at 581-7670 or e-mail cucs@eiu.edu.

I. Call to order by Chair David Carpenter at 2:00 p.m. (Booth Library Conference Room):

Present: J. Allison, R. Benedict, D. Carpenter, D. Carwell, L. Comerford, B. Fischer, B. Lawrence, A. Haile Mariam, M. Monipallil, W. Ogbomo, J. Pommier, J. Stimac, J. Wolski. Excused: A. Brownson, S. Scher. Guests: Blair Lord, Mary Anne Hanner, Will Hine, Caleb Judy, Amanda Sartore.

II. Approval of the Minutes of March 23, 2004: Motion (Wolski/Monipallil) to approve. Yes: Wolski, Haile Mariam, Stimac, Pommier, Ogbomo, Monipallil, Lawrence, Fischer, Benedict, Allison, Carpenter. Abstain: Comerford.

III. Announcements:

Senator Fischer urged faculty to attend the following Faculty Development opportunities:

-Dr. John Best's and Dr. Ruth Hoberman's "Focus Group: Keeping Senior Faculty Engaged" (April 6, 12-1:00 p.m. in Lord Dining Room, Pemberton Hall).

-Dr. Todd Zakrajsek's "Maximizing Learning: Creating Positive Learning Environments" (April 12, 1-4:00 p.m. in the Effingham Room of the MLK Union).

IV. Communications:

- A. Caleb Judy, Student Body President (3/24): E-mail expressing his willingness to "inform the faculty about" Panther Service Day (April 24) Judy spoke in person to underscore the purposes of the service -- to assist residents needing assistance with yard work, window cleaning, and exterior painting, as well as to "build bridges" between faculty and staff, Mattoon and Charleston, students and the community. Time permitting, the group will also assist with cleaning up local parks. All members of the campus community and the larger community are invited to participate, and anyone can nominate properties, so long as the properties are occupied. For additional information, contact Caleb Judy at 581-7670 or e-mail cucs@eiu.edu. Senators thanked Judy for his work.
- B. Student Senate Minutes of March 8.
- C. Mary Herrington-Perry (3/25): E-mail stating her commitment to attend an NCA conference on March 30 and expressing her willingness to attend Senate to discuss the Electric Writing Portfolio (EWP) along with CASL members, whom she will invite. She also asked Carpenter to send questions in advance of the group's Senate visit. Carpenter wrote down a number of questions from a variety of senators and agreed to convey the questions to Herrington-Perry.
- D. Senator Wolski (3/25): e-mail reporting the following information:
"According to my records Jeffrey Stowell from Psychology is the other faculty member on the [Radio-TV Advisory Board]. His term expires this spring. Robin Murray is in her first year, so she is the alternate. His term expires Spring 2005."
- E. Rick Sailors (3/29): E-mail concerning "some confusion regarding Robin Murry's role as a member of RTCAB." In actual fact, was a student representative "who came into the office in January and resigned." Sailors apologized for the confusion and looked forward to seeing "everyone next Monday."
- F. Anne Zahlan (3/29): E-mail indicating her interest in "some clarification

From the Senate as to "just what 'Eastern's Constitutional Plan' refers to." She also wondered why the Plan is "being reviewed by CUPB rather than the Faculty Senate" since in the *DEN* "Julia Able is quoted as saying" that the plan is one that "should be guiding the university." In discussion, Carpenter and others noted that the plan grew out of strategic planning. Allison and others stated that, in the past, the Senate has discussed the document and recommended revisions.

- G. Minutes of Council on University Planning and Budget for February 20, 2004.
- H. Chair Carpenter: Copy of Julia Abell's CUPB handout regarding the history The planning process and the *Constitutional Plan* approved by EIU's newly formed Board of Trustees" in January 1998. See discussion under V.A.
- I. Carpenter: Copy of Academic Affairs FY06 Objectives (1/26).
- J. Senator Allison called attention to the recent "Assessment Update" newsletter (April 2004), particularly to the reported remarks of Dr. Trudy Banta, who "was the invited expert at CASL's annual assessment forum." Allison wondered about the extent to which the Provost and members of CASL agree with Banta's views and intend to implement her recommendations. Allison noted Banta's view that "unlike primary trait analysis, grades are not all that well defined." Banta also reported to have stated that "assessing the ineffable such as ethics or professionalism" could be approached by developing "a checklist of behaviors to fill out from student teaching supervisors" or asking students to demonstrate "these skills in a portfolio." Allison expressed reservations about yet more portfolios and checklists and about the apparent privileging of assessment instruments and interviews over grades. He hoped assessment would not consume more and more resources and/or drive academic programs. He wondered "if there would be yet another vast electronic storage operation for more portfolios." Provost Lord noted the emphasis groups like the North Central Association place on assessment. He also responded that assessment seeks to measure overall-program goals, not mastery of specific course material or disciplines. Nor does assessment seek to evaluate individual students and courses. Allison observed that Dr. Banta had stated, "Every assessment begins with the individual student, and then the course, and then the program." Lord said he had not read the newsletter in full and suggested the Senate include discussion of assessment when guests visit to address the EWP.
- K. Carpenter: Copy of "Assessment Update" Newsletter (April 2004).

V. Business:

- A. Committee Reports

Executive Committee: Reporting about discussion at the Presidents **Ad Hoc Budget Committee**, which met Wednesday, March 24, Chair Carpenter stated that both a *DEN* and now a *Times-Courier* report the substance of information about tuition increases and budgeting challenges. Carwell wondered about how tuition increases will affect students who start this summer. Might students enroll in large numbers during summer to avoid larger increases? Lord said it was a "good question" whose answer he will seek to determine. Responding to Fischer, Lord stated that increases do average about 4% annually. Carpenter also reported that the President believes he can accommodate the likely \$800,000 reduction in appropriated dollars by not filling vacant positions. Reporting on the **Council of University Planning and Budget** meeting, Carpenter reported Jill Nilsen's alert concerning three House Bills: HB 1074 to create a Professional Teaching Standards oversight, HB 6843 placing all construction projects under the oversight of the Capital Development Board, and HB 5018 requiring all housing on campuses to have sprinkler systems. At the meeting, CUPB members waited about 10 minutes for a quorum. After the members heard reports, Chair McCormick informed the group it was time to revise the *Constitutional Plan*. She and others proposed that the group consider ways that the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats), which CUPB worked on during spring 2003, should guide revision of the *Plan*. McCormick recommended that CUPB break into subcommittees. Carpenter advised that since CUPB was small at the moment (barely a quorum), the CUPB could work as a whole. Jane Ozier arrived to direct the subgroups, at which point a quorum was lost because Dean Lanham had to attend another meeting. Carpenter asked how the SWOT was to be applied to the *Plan*, and to what extent the *Plan* could only be a "wish list" since Eastern is constrained by budget shortfalls. Carpenter stated that "they had no plan by which to approach this." The idea was to break into groups, then, to come back with themes. Determining that the activity "made no sense," Carpenter concluded that "there were more productive things [he] could do," particularly since no quorum existed. Following this report, Carpenter asked senators about what role they wished to play in addressing the *Constitutional Plan*. Based on suggestions from Senator Benedict, the Senate agreed to discuss the plan once CUPB has completed a draft.

Elections Committee: After Lawrence distributed a schedule indicating times for senators to attend election tables, she explained procedures. Results of elections will be announced at the next Senate meeting.

Retention Committee: Senator Pommier distributed two sheets of statistics, using them to highlight retention of a variety of population groups. EIU's retention of black students is quite high. While retention of on-campus students is high, retention of off-campus students is much lower. There also was some trouble in retaining international students. Carwell suggested that recent historical events might have created an anomaly in retention of international students. Eastern's overall retention rate is high. Carpenter agreed to invite other members of the Retention Committee for further discussion.

Council of Illinois University Senates: Senator Lawrence mentioned the following points:

1. EIU is the only campus without a resolution regarding domestic partners. Eastern's Senate could direct a resolution to the Board; Allison advised getting copies of language from other campuses.
 2. The Council discussed faculty representation on IBHE and Boards, but evidently pending legislation might make the issue "moot" since the legislation would bar state employees from holding such positions;
 3. There was discussion about the implications of proposed legislation ending the practice of exclusive agreements with vendors;
 4. There was not strong interest among the Council members to continue a discussion of Senator Brownson's resolution about publications.
- B. Annual Faculty Forum: Senators agreed to forward the report on Scholarly/Creative Activity to the Council on Faculty Research, as well as to send the Report on EIU and the Charleston Community to Kyle Donash, who chairs the External Relations Committee.
- C. Senator Ogbomo recommended inviting the Dean of International Programs for information about goals and plans. Carpenter will offer an invitation.
- D. Senator Carwell advocated assigning choice parking spaces to students who show academic distinction. He believes such an arrangement is far more appropriate than awarding prime spaces to those who can pay more for them. Monipallil suggested a market approach, say, \$1,000.00 for a prime space. Carwell stressed the appropriateness of rewarding academic achievement. Although Chair Carpenter invited a motion, none was forthcoming.

Adjournment: 3:26 p.m.

Future Agenda Items:

Activities of Enrollment Management, Academic/Faculty Advising, Evaluation of Administrators, Shared Governance for Academic Technologies, Community Service Programs and Opportunities, Faculty Forum Committee, Scholarly Publication, Electronic Writing Portfolio/Assessment Plans.

Respectfully submitted,

John Allison