

MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE
April 22, 2014

Meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. by Terry Clark, President.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Philip Anton, Connie Baker, George Boulukos, Joe Cheatwood, Tsuchin Chu, Terry Clark, Lucian Dervan, Bruce Devantier, Mark Dolan, Ahmad Fakhoury, Anthony Fleege, Edward Gershburg (Springfield), Steven C. Goetz, Edward Heist, Eric Holzmüller, Holly S. Hurlburt, Andrea Imre, Allan Karnes (ex-officio), Carolyn Kingcade, Meera Komarraju, Sajal Lahiri, John T. Legier, James MacLean, Nancy Martin, John McSorley, Rachel Stocking, Brooke Thiebault, Stacy Thompson, Rachel Whaley, Lyle White, Mingqing Xiao

Members absent without Proxy: Qingfeng Ge, Laura Halliday, Howard Motyl, James Phegley, Nicole Roberts, Stacey Sloboda

Visitors and guests: Chancellor Rita Cheng (ex-officio), John Nicklow, Provost (ex-officio), James Allen (Associate Provost for Academic Programs), Shaikh Ahmed, Jordan Forbes, Ruth Anne Rehfeldt, Gray Whaley, David W. Gilbert, John Reeve

MINUTES

Minutes from April 8, 2014 meeting were approved as presented.

REPORTS

1. **Terry Clark** presented and reviewed his final report as Senate President (included as **Attachment A** to the Agenda). Clark remarked that serving on the Senate is significant and privileged and an enjoyable aspect of university life. In closing, T. Clark thanked the senate for choosing him as their Faculty Senate President for the 2013-2014 year.

- 2a. **Chancellor Rita Cheng** reported a) Finance committee voted not to support a tuition increase, the Board also did not take action on any fee increases this month, budgets will need to be redone if we do not get fee increases; b) Harold Bardo was honored at the Board Meeting, along with Linda Sturgis for public service; c) plans are being made to visit community college campuses to follow up on the March 24th meeting on the dual degree programs d) we received partner of the year award with Kaskaskia College; e) Mid Continent University has closed down and we have created a strategy to reach-out to students and community colleges; f) Teresa Farnum was back on campus and has been working with the action plans for the roll-out of the retention plan; g) enrollment is looking very promising for fall, positive signals is freshman enrollment is up, housing contracts are up; h) Saluki ambassadors paid visits to 51 students who were still considering SIU; i) interdisciplinary research event held at McLafferty, the annex will double the research space; j) total research dollars are up nearly \$1 million over last year at this time; k) retirement still a hot issue, there is an error in the bill and universities are working with state to get that changed, if planning to retire make sure to talk to SURS and make appointments to speak to retirement counselors; l) the bandwidth on campus will triple in the fall; m) there will be a great deal of construction on campus this summer, paid for by the \$30 million debt issue from the state; n) Commencement will be next weekend, on the 10th and Forever SIU will be on Friday night; o) Foundation / Alumni Boards in town working with the deans on a comprehensive campaign; p) successful Honors Day was held honoring 2,000 students with a 3.5 GPA or above. Chancellor Cheng echoed President Clark's sentiments – it's been a pleasure to work with the Faculty Senate in the year 2014 and look forward to working with the new Senate for 2015.

Questions for Chancellor:

MacLean asked Chancellor about foundation grants and contracts that have not been executed. Chancellor will check on this issue.

M. Dolan pointed out that the Mid Continent Flyer that is being sent out did not contain contact information. Nicklow replied that it is being sent out with other information that will have the contact information on it.

G. Boulukos followed up on a point from the CPBAC meeting; the 70/30 model and the changes surrounding it will most likely be done over the summer months when the faculty does not meet, is there any new information on this? Chancellor Cheng replied, since the governor had not acted on a budget yet, and we don't know what the state appropriations are, a lot is still up in the air. The budget will have to follow the growth in student enrollment. There is no need to move forward until the fee increases have been decided as well as the appropriations from the state. **G. Boulukos** summed up that the timing of the budget planning is the issue. Seems to always be during summer months while Senate is away, making it hard for the Senate to participate in the discussions.

- 2b. **Provost John Nicklow** provided a little more detail on the enrollment side; Freshman registration right now is up 21%; the goal is 2,700 freshman and solid progress is being made. There are weak areas as well; strong growth in Science and Engineering, but Ag, COLA and MCMA are down significantly. Continuing students continue to be a concern, in part, because registration opened 2 weeks later this year. Some of the highlights are: Off campus is up 39% for fall; International Students are up 32%. Graduate doctoral students are down 17% and flat on Masters, but decisions have not been made in some programs. Students need to be admitted or denied. Positive news: Debate team debated each other on campus to a packed house and was amazing to a packed house, they are the National Champions for the second year in a row. Moon Buggy team has won second and third at their competition.

Questions for Provost:

P. Anton asked the provost about the graduate assistant hours. They can't have more than a 50% appointment without special permission. The students are now being told that if they have any additional assistantship they cannot work any hours. This is affecting the students because a lot of them are at 25% and work at the Rec Center but are being told they cannot work the extra hours. Amount of assistantship doesn't matter, they cannot work the hours. Is this true? The upper management at the Rec Center is telling the students this information. Chancellor Cheng explained the ACA rules and the penalties that come along with them if not followed. All students need to have an average of 30 hours. The timeframe is Oct. 1, 2013 through Oct. 1, 2014. The hours have already gone over so the university's pulling back on hours to get the numbers aligned. She said somebody has misinterpreted the ruling, the information will be clarified.

B. Devantier thanked the Chancellor / Provost for looking into the computer purchase problem that Engineering was having; everything seems to be working fine now.

Additional discussion followed the Provost comments on admissions and applications; some of the hold-ups are incomplete applications and the quantity of applications per employees to work on them. In the case of the graduate school, the number of applications accepted also depends on the number of faculty to supervise the students. Nicklow reminded that we can admit full-pay as well.

L. White asked if there was a sense of how many Sr. Faculty would be lost due to the pension issues? Chancellor replied that the number of total retirees is expected to be around 200 compared to 80 in 2013 and 315 in 2012. Not sure how many are faculty.

3. **Allan Karnes, Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE**

A. Karnes had two things to report – first thing is the temporary tax increase. If this passes, hopefully we would see a flat budget for next year. Republicans are voting no to making the tax increase permanent and the Democrats are starting to peel off. Need to encourage your representatives to vote yes on this bill and let them know the importance of this bill. The second item is the pension reform needs a technical correction. The date says July 1, 2013 and needs to say July 1, 2014. This makes a big difference in the Benefits awarded to retirees for the money purchase plan. Talk to your representatives and encourage them to vote on the revision, it was just a typo.

4. **Graduate Council**

No report

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

No Report.

BUDGET COMMITTEE – *George Boulukos, Chair*

G. Boulukos presented a final report for the Budget committee. One of the main issues is the 70/30 model being changed to a 100% credit hour model. George feels that it is frustrating that timing always works out that the Senate doesn't get in on the discussions. Hopefully the next Budget Committee can keep an eye on this. He added that he owes a big thanks to all the committee members this year, thanked Rhonda for putting up with him and thanked the Faculty Senate as well. The committee's final report (included as [Attachment B](#) to the Agenda).

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES -- *L. White, Chair*

L. White thanked all the members of the Committee on Committees; to all the faculty who volunteered to represent the senate when necessary. The committee's final report (included as [Attachment C](#) to the Agenda).

FACULTY STATUS AND WELFARE COMMITTEES -- *E. Heist/H. Hurlburt, Co-chairs*

H. Hurlburt wanted to be sure that some of the items in the committee's final report roll over into next year. With the big number of retirements expected, Hurlburt suggested to continue the work on the Exit Surveys. The committee's final report was (included as [Attachment D](#) to the Agenda). She thanked committee members for their work this year.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE -- *B. Thibeault, Chair*

B. Thibeault reported that the Governance committee worked on three issues this year. All three of the issues will roll over to next year in one form or another and that is all presented in the final report (included as [Attachment E](#) to the Agenda). She thanked committee members for their work this year.

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION POLICY COMMITTEE -- *B. Devantier, Chair*

B. Devantier wanted to thank all the committee members for their hard work on the various RMEs this year, some were controversial ones. The first part of the report deals with the success of the first half of the year and the second part of the report talks about items that

would be rolled over to the new committee. Devantier read the final paragraph of the report (final report was included as [Attachment F](#) to the Agenda).

OLD BUSINESS - None.

NEW BUSINESS - None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Clark handed out certificates to all Chairs of the standing committees and to all outgoing Senators with thanks for their service.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark J. Dolan, Secretary

MJD:rf