

**MINUTES OF THE 2016-2017 FACULTY SENATE**  
**May 9, 2017**

**ROLL CALL**

Members present: Jon Bean, Alejandro Caceres, Kathleen Chwalisz, Elizabeth Cox, Jon Davey, Judy Davie, Marissa Ellermann, Sandra Ettema, Ahmad Fakhoury, Derek Fisher, Tobin Grant, Constantine Hatziaodoniu, Carolyn Kingcade, Bobbi Knapp, Michael Koehler, Jim MacLean, James Mathias, Michael May, Grant Miller, Howard Motyl, Marcus Odom, Segun Ojewuyi, Kyle Plunkett, Robert Spahr, Saikat Talapatra, April Teske, Melissa Viernow, Jim Wall, Cherie Watson, Kay Zivkovich

Members absent with Proxy: Jason Bond (Matt Rendleman proxy), Shawn Cheng (Ming Yang proxy), Heeyoung Han (Jeanne Koehler proxy)

Members absent without Proxy: Doug Carlson, Sandra Collins, Michael Hoane, Wendi Zea

Ex-Officios and guests: Interim Chancellor Brad Colwell, Susan Ford (Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, ex-officio), Lizette Chevalier (Associate Provost for Academic Programs, APAP)

**MINUTES**

The minutes from February, March, and both April Senate meetings were presented for approval, corrections were noted; K. Zivkovich made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections; seconded by S. Talapatra; minutes approved unanimously by voice vote with three abstentions.

**REPORTS/REMARKS**

1. **Faculty Senate President - K. Chwalisz**  
No report
  
- 2a. **Interim Chancellor Colwell** spoke about upcoming commencement ceremonies; Law School, Friday, May 12 at 3:00 p.m.; Friday evening is the Academic Excellence ceremony, students receive their cords that they will be wearing commencement on Saturday, May 13; there are three commencements on Saturday at the Arena; Cherie Bustos (Gene Callahan's, [former SIU BOT member] daughter and Dan Callahan's [former SIU Saluki baseball head coach] sister) will be keynote speaker at the first two ceremonies; her late father, Gene Callahan will be receiving a distinguished service award posthumously; Larry Spencer, retired U.S. Air Force General and SIUC alumnus, will be speaking at the final ceremony. Colwell continued by providing an update on University Hall flooding; the first floor flooded; no students live on the first floor; the Resident Assistant lives on the first floor and had property damage; Service Master has been contracted to clean up the damage; 123 students were relocated to Schneider. Colwell gave full credit to Plant and Service Operations, the Housing Department, and Department of Public Safety for all of their efforts. The damage cost is an estimated \$1.5 million and will be covered by insurance and supplemental insurance. Colwell stated that the 75 anniversary of The SIU Foundation was this weekend; a \$75 million campaign; it was announced that \$33 million has been raised so far; very little of this campaign is for capital; it is all about students, scholarships, faculty endowments, food pantry. Colwell stated that the Associate Chancellor and Chief Diversity Officer search has been closed and will reopen in the fall. Colwell commented about summer school and noted that there will not be as many students on campus, there are more online students this summer. Colwell announced that Kevin Bame retired at the end of April; Judy Marshall will take over until July 1.
  
- 2b. **Provost Ford** started by providing information about enrollment; at this point, summer is down 300 students; there are three times less male students as compared to female students for the summer; fall is down in applications, admissions, and registered students;

PhD is up and Master students are down slightly; International students are down slightly; the biggest loss is in the hundreds of students who have not registered for fall; numbers are down for sophomore, junior, and senior. Ford stated that the assumption is the uncertainty of the Illinois budget. Ford continued by saying that SIUC will be here in the fall and every student that is here or admitted to a program will be taught through the program regardless of any decisions that might be made long-term about programs. Ford thanked the faculty who participated in the review of the prioritization data; preliminary results are due to the Chancellor that identify programs as top 10%, 80% middle, and bottom 10%; Masters and PhD are figured separately; a website will be constructed to show the history of this process and make it as transparent as possible.

C. Hatziadoniu asked what kind of enrollment reduction we can expect for fall.

Provost Ford responded by saying that Judy Marshall had predicted a drop of approximately 1000 students; that number has been built in to the current budget planning for the next fiscal year; the budget targets that have been given plus the result of the salary sweep are based on both the predicted drop in funding from the state, assuming there is a budget and there is any funding, and the predicted drop in enrollment; the predictions are based on loss of tuition revenue given the loss of enrollment. Ford continued by saying that all colleges are down in enrollment; the College of Agricultural Sciences is down the least; College of Education and Human Services is down the most; of those numbers, Education, Science and Applied Science are down the most; this is of concern because traditionally STEM is strong.

M. May asked if Provost Ford had a preference of the data being generated by the numbers from the prioritization metrics; is it the money makers or efficient faculty.

Provost Ford responded by saying that she has two formulas that she is using; the joint task force provided a weighted formula with nine categories; the deans provided an alternate scheme with five categories; both formulas use the same data, but are distributed differently among the categories. Ford added that data is being ran through both schemes; it is not her personal preference; it is the scheme from the joint task force and from the deans.

M. Odom asked if the salary sweep occurred, was the University able to get \$10 million, and how will those funds be distributed.

Chancellor Colwell responded by saying lines were reviewed to make sure they were truly vacant. Colwell added that moving forward, any additional separations (retirees or others leaving the University) would be counted toward any deduction that your department would have to make. Colwell stated that it is right at \$10 million now; \$1 million will have to be held back for one time payouts (accumulated sick or vacation, leaves, etc.); anything beyond that will go to the Provost and department heads to reinvest.

3. **Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE** M. McCarroll that Governor Rauner withdrew his recommendation for John Bambenek as the faculty appointment to the IBHE and appointed him to the Community College Board; the FAC is very adamant about having Tenure Track faculty in that position. McCarroll stated that there was discussion about individual Faculty Senates providing nominees to fill the seat on the IBHE.
4. **Graduate Council** J. Partridge reported on developing a mentor program for under-represented faculty; the Council voted to change the grading policy to be more consistent with undergraduates; previous grades will be on transcript, but most recent grade would be used to calculate GPA. Partridge encouraged everyone to wish Dr. Ratna Sinha the best as she prepares to retire at the end of May. Tomas Velasco is the Council Chair for 2017-18 and Julie Partridge is Vice Chair.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Ahmad Fakhoury**

No report

## **UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION POLCY COMMITTEE –Sandra Collins, Chair**

[2016-17 final report](#)

K. Chwalisz reported on behalf of S. Collins. The UEPC will be meeting with Associate Provost of Academic Programs soon to begin discussions on accreditation and RME/NUI processes; this will begin after finals week.

## **FACULTY STATUS AND WELFARE COMMITTEE – Bobbi Knapp / Marissa Ellermann, Co-Chairs**

[2016-17 final report](#)

M. Ellermann reported that they met briefly and discussed possibly doing a survey about morale and using that information to help with faculty retention.

## **BUDGET COMMITTEE – Howard Motyl, Chair**

[2016-17 final report](#)

## **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – Jim MacLean, Chair**

[2016-17 final report](#)

J. MacLean reported that he has put together a list of proposed changes to the Operating Paper and has been reviewing previous operating papers and tracking the changes to get an idea of what has been done in the past.

## **COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES – Cherie Watson, Chair**

[2016-17 final report](#)

[Approval of Standing Committee Appointments](#) C. Watson announced that the call for volunteers for University Committees has been sent out and asked everyone to encourage their colleagues to volunteer. C. Watson presented the standing committee assignments for approval, no discussion, M. Ellermann made a motion to approve the assignments, seconded by C. Watson, assignments approved unanimously by voice vote.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

K. Chwalisz stated that she was contacted regarding the [Resolution to Rescind Approval of Revised Associate of Science Degree as Core Complete](#). Transfer Student Services has stated that this is causing anxiety and confusion among transfer students.

Provost Ford provided insight regarding previous discussion of the Associate in Science degree as core complete; the State changed the requirements at the community college level to complete an Associate's degree in Science (AS) about two years ago; it reduced the number of humanities courses and increased the science courses; it did not change the Associate of Arts (AA) degree; prior to that change, SIU and every other Illinois state institution accepted either degree as core complete; when they changed the AS requirements in spring 2016, each four year university in the state re-thought whether or not to count it as core compliant because of the loss of the humanities courses; the initial information from the IBHE was that most universities were accepting it and this body (SIUC Faculty Senate) agreed to accept the AS even in its altered form as core compliant ([Resolution to Recommend Approval of the Revised Associate of Sciences Degree at Illinois Community Colleges for Transfer Credit at Southern Illinois University Carbondale](#)); in fall 2016 information was received that some of the four year schools were not accepting the AS as core compliant; the message from the IBHE was very complicated and confusing; this body (SIUC Faculty Senate) then voted to rescind the acceptance of the new AS degree; now every transfer student has to have their courses reviewed one by one to see if they have fulfilled the core requirements; it slows down the process by days, weeks or more; even after the process, transfer students may find out they need to take additional courses to complete the core once they get here; there are only two other colleges in the state that are not accepting the AS as core compliant; students are finding it more difficult to transfer here to SIUC as compared to transferring to one of our pier schools; the fear is that we are losing students because the transfer process is slow and they may have to take more courses; if SIUC is to change back to accepting the AS it has to come from the Faculty Senate; there is grave concern that

we will be out of step with all of our competitors and lose students if we don't accept the AS as core compliant.

J. Davie stated that the reason the original resolution was rescinded was because the IBHE retracted their recommendation ([see October 2016 Faculty Senate minutes](#)).

Provost Ford responded by saying that the messaging from the IBHE has continued to be confusing at best.

J. Davie added that each time this was done, it was at the recommendation of the IBHE.

Provost Ford stated that as it turned out, most of the other schools continued to consider the AS as core compliant and are recruiting students on that basis and are pointing out which schools are not accepting it; schools that were most likely to lose STEM students are the schools that are accepting it.

A. Teske stated that it seems that there is a connection between the loss of STEM students and SIUC not accepting the AS as core compliant.

Provost Ford commented that it would make Transfer Student Services job much easier if this could be changed today; this has also made it more difficult to recruit AS students.

J. Davie pointed out that the Faculty Senate did pass it and it was retracted because of the IBHE recommendation.

K. Chwalisz stated that this is a timing issue and asked if anyone would like to make a motion to open discussion on this matter; waiting for the July meeting to act on this could be harmful to enrollment; this is an unusual situation, normally there would be much more discussion; the Senate can always discuss it and vote no, but it might be prudent to discuss this issue now.

Concern was voiced by a Senator that we are discussing resolutions from the previous year's Faculty Senate and there is nothing to reference; can this even be done without text to reference.

J. Maclean clarified the concerns by stating that it would take a majority vote to bring a resolution today and vote without five days' notice; because the resolution already exists and is not completely new, rescinding the rescission would pass the original resolution that accepted the new AS.

K. Chwalisz called for a motion to call for a full Senate vote to consider this resolution without a five day notice. M. May motioned to call for a full Senate vote, seconded by A. Caceres. Unanimously in favor by voice vote, 1 opposed, 3 abstentions.

K. Chwalisz opened the floor for discussion about rescinding the October resolution to no longer accept the AS degree as core compliant.

M. Odom asked what initiated this change, how many classes are we talking about.

J. Mathias stated that there are two more math and two less arts and humanities.

J. Davie replied by stating that there was a recommendation by the IBHE to not accept AS as core compliant and require transfer students to take the two additional arts and humanities classes; since that recommendation, very few other schools have decided to enforce the additional classes.

K. Chwalisz stated that it appears that the biggest issue is that this makes it difficult for SIU to compete for students.

S. Ojewuyi stated that we are in a situation where we cannot afford to wait, the competition is high; what we are doing is going with our original plan which is what all other universities are doing; we need to move forward with the rescission of the rescission.

B. Knapp stated that there were two things that came up when this was discussed the first time: how will this benefit if SIU does not accept this and why do we have this program at all if we are willing to go against it; these are two things that are still relevant.

S. Ojewuyi replied that there needs to be a response to this urgent matter now; whatever problems still exist with transfer students can be revisited and addressed as a school; we need to respond now because it is affected our transfer students.

K. Plunkett asked if these dialogs are actually happening with students before or after they come to campus.

Provost Ford responded by saying that this happens at the time they consider applying; they ask how many of their credits are going to transfer; they will often make the decision as to whether or not to apply based on the response to those inquiries.

M. McCarroll added that from a recruiting perspective, it is a very easy and useful tool to be able to say that your associate degree will cover for the course.

J. Bean asked if students come to campus and ask how many of their credits will transfer, are we in the position of saying we'll get back to you.

Provost Ford responded by saying it is not determined which courses will transfer until the student has applied; it is a very long process; we do not have enough staff to determine that if the student is only thinking about applying; usually these conversations take place before the student even shows up on campus.

A. Teske stated that for parents and students who don't know the higher education system, it is a given that your associates degree from a junior college will transfer to any university.

E. Cox stated that she feels it is the responsibility of the Senate to do their due diligence, especially those who are new or new-ish and added that she does not feel comfortable making this decision without having UEPC of somebody doing some more leg-work. Cox asked the Provost if whether or not the decision is made today, regardless of how the decision is made, would this affect fall enrollment.

Provost Ford responded by saying probably and added that faculty own the curriculum; it is not her decision it is the Senate's decision. Provost Ford added that a decision now would affect more students now as compared to making the decision in July at the next Senate meeting.

A Senator stated that he feels the faculty did speak and may have been put under pressure to change what they originally said, now we realize that it needs to be changed.

H. Motyl stated that he was on the UEPC when this was originally discussed and added that the reason it was originally passed because we were told that all other state universities were doing this when it wasn't true.

K. Chwalisz provided a review of what has taken place so far with both resolutions by saying the original resolution accepting the AS in the first place was passed under coercion because we were being told that everyone was going to accept the AS; a year later we learn that not everyone would be accepting this and the IBHE was saying it is not core compliant, so we rescinded the previous resolution. Chwalisz continued by saying we now learn that everyone is still accepting it. There are two issues here: everyone is still doing it and there is the question about what should be in a student's core education which is a completely different issue; the UEPC issue that has been raised as well is that we need to be vigilant about our

student's education, but we also have this competing force that we are losing students because everyone else is accepting the AS as well as families expecting their associate degrees to count. There are two questions to be addressed: what are we doing immediately to allow our students to enroll and not go to other universities and what is our faculty's position on what our student's education should be. The second question cannot be addressed today, but we can address the immediate question to rescind the rescission and address the other down the road.

C. Watson pointed out that in the originally resolution it stated that the risks of defying the IBHE in this matter outweigh the risks of transfer student enrollment declines or administrative difficulties; the risk has changed because of the enrollment issue.

S. Ojewuyi agreed that this is definitely two separate matters; we can make a decision on one and revisit the other; as an institution we can always go back to our core curriculum and refine it whenever we want.

K. Chwalisz pointed out that there will be a new core curriculum director in place so there will be much discussion about new curriculum.

Provost Ford stated that this can all be very complicated; any associates degree in any institution is not core equivalent to our core because we require a health course which is not part of the State's requirement; so we already have history of accepting AS degrees that are not exactly like our core requirements; the IBHE has not been helpful in this matter; they have been giving persistently confusing messages for about three years now.

K. Chwalisz asked if there are any further comments about the motion to rescind the rescission.

K. Plunkett asked if we as a Senate are going to say we are moving on if the IBHE comes back again and says this really is important or are we going to be discussing this again next semester.

S. Ojewuyi responded by saying if we do nothing now, we continue to risk losing recruitment or transfer students; if the IBHE comes back and says you have to rescind what we asked you to rescind, then we have to discuss it again.

K. Chwalisz thanked everyone for their valuable input and called for a vote to rescind the Resolution to Rescind Approval of Revised Associate of Science Degree as Core Complete. Unanimously approved by voice vote.

H. Motyl asked how this gets approval from administration and how long before it is implemented.

Provost Ford responded by saying that the Faculty Senate sends it to the Chancellor for approval then it goes immediately in to practice.

K. Chwalisz stated that this will be sent to the Chancellor for approval immediately.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

M Odom made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by J. Mathias. Meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Grant Miller, Secretary  
GM: ao