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2005-10-04 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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Approved Minutes of the ECAS
Sixth Regular Meeting – Academic Year 2005-2006
Tuesday, October 4, 2005
1:30 p.m. Ploeger Conference Suite, St. Mary's Hall 113-B
Presiding: Dr. David Biers, President Academic Senate

Senators Present: D. Biers, J. Biddle, P. Eloe, J. O’Gorman, B. Penno, F. Pestello, J. Rapp, T. Thompson, J. Saliba

Absent (Excused): H. Gerla, S. Hileman, K. Huelsman

1. Opening Prayer:

- Jim Biddle provided the opening prayer.

2. Roll Call:

- Nine of the twelve members of the ECAS were in attendance.

3. Approval of Minutes:

- President Biers called for a motion to approve the minutes of September 23. The minutes were approved with corrections.

4. Announcements:

- Senate Elections - President Biers reported that the Senate Elections are on schedule to begin Wednesday, October 12 and noted the positions to be filled.
- Provost Council Sub-Committees - President Biers reported that the Provost’s council sub-committees are feeling the pinch in trying to move their agendas forward. Provost Pestello stated that the Council will soon put together a time line in order to prioritize the issues placed before the sub-committees.
- Doctorate of Physical Therapy - President Biers shared the challenges of proceeding with the proposed schedule to vote on the DPT. It was thought that given the original timetable to address the DPT he had hoped to hand out necessary materials and discuss the DPT at the October meeting of the Senate. (October 28 meeting-discuss DPT proposal, December 2 meeting – vote on DPT) President Biers questioned how we would be able to handle this process given that ECAS committed not to vote on the proposal until after the SOEAP had an opportunity to pass the proposal and given that the SOEAP Congress will not take its final vote on the proposal until December 2. J. Biddle stated that the SOEAP Congress will have two additional meetings to discuss the DPT leading up to their December vote. These sessions should ensure that all substantive changes to the document will be addressed prior to the December 2 vote. P. Eloe recommended that the Congress provide updates/changes to the proposal via e-mail to the Senate. This would allow the Senate members to be current on the proposal leading up to the December 2 Senate vote.
- November meeting of the Academic Senate – It was necessary to move the November 11 meeting to November 18 so that the principals to the budget discussion could attend. An announcement to the campus community of the date change.

5. Old Business

➤ **Committee Reports:**

- **Academic Policies Committee:** J. Biddle reported that the APC has not met this term (due to many scheduling conflicts). He intends to send the General Education report (on thematic clusters) to the APC members on October 15. A meeting of the APC to discuss this report will be scheduled for the

end of October. President Biers reminded the chair of the importance to holding a meeting soon.

- **Faculty Affairs Committee:** Absent the committee chair, B. Penno provided an update on the activity of the FAC. He reported that the FAC continues its discussion of faculty background checks (as reported to ECAS by J. Untener). Further he states that the next item for the FAC to discuss will be the constitutional issues raised in J. Farrelly's missive to ECAS.
- **Student Academic Policies Committee:** Absent the committee chair, no report was given.

6. New Business:

➤ ECAS Responsibility in Evaluation of President Curran:

- **Issue:** As a follow-up to the questions raised in S. Dandaneau's memo to ECAS regarding evaluation of President Curran and the information provided by Provost Pestello regarding the Board of Trustees direction to consult with faculty (via ECAS) President Biers asked the members how best to handle faculty involvement in the proposed presidential evaluation.
- **Discussion:** P. Eloie reiterated his concern about speaking for the faculty on this issue without a priori preparation from the Board—as they (the Board) would be the owners of the presidential assessment process. Board chair Dan Sadlier invited ECAS to put forth ideas which the Board could consider in order to gain faculty input in the presidential evaluation process. President Biers will invite D. Sadlier to meet with ECAS. Prior to this meeting ECAS will investigate how best to incorporate faculty in the process.
- **Outcome:** Further information is needed: (a) contact the IDEA Center (currently being used for dean evaluations) to learn if they have initiated presidential evaluations at other institutions and how faculty were involved and ask for their thoughts on how institutions of our size solicit faculty input into presidential assessment; (b) gather information on processes employed by peer and similar Catholic institutions with lay presidents have engaged faculty in such evaluations; (c) invite D. Sadlier to a ECAS meeting to discuss this issue.

➤ Proposed policy on printing and network storage.

- **Issue:** President Biers introduced the hand-out "Planning for Campus Wide Printing Policy" prepared by Tom Skill. He is proposing two policies: 1) Student use of campus printers; and, 2) network storage. T. Skill is seeking ECAS' thoughts and support on the proposals.
- **Discussion:** T. Thompson reminded ECAS that sometime ago that the proposal (intent of the policy) on printing is/was agreed upon but never implemented. ECAS recommends that careful thought be given to the number of copies students would be allowed to make in this policy. ECAS suggests that 300 would be a more acceptable count. J.O'Gorman stated that the Library is very interested in the outcome of this policy as there would be a direct connection to the copiers in the libraries. J. Saliba stated that this policy is already in effect in the SOE. The second policy which T. Skill seeks ECAS input is on developing a network storage policy. A lively discussion ensued about this pending policy. J. Saliba suggests that this is not an administrative policy but rather more operational issue and seek suggestions.
- **Outcome:** ECAS will communicate and encourage T. Skill to develop a process whereby archiving could be painlessly and automatically implemented behind the scene. In addition, ECAS will inform Tom that 300 would be a more acceptable count for the number of copies allowed of students.

➤ Faculty Bulletin:

- **Issue:** President Biers shared with ECAS that there have been many faculty complaints with the on-line bulletin. From the Provost Council, the Provost's asks if there really a demand and how strong is the demand for a paper copy of the Bulletin?
- **Discussion:** A lively discussion ensued on the pros and cons of operating without the hard copy bulletin.
- **Outcome:** ECAS' general consensus is that we return to printing the Bulletin and give the community an opportunity to purchase copies.

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➤ Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Henderson