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2010-08-23 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

University of Dayton. Academic Senate. Executive Committee

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Present: Judith Huacuja, Andrea M Seielstad, Bradley D Duncan, Corinne M Daprano, David W Biers, Heidi G Gauder, Joseph E Saliba, Leno M Pedrotti, Paul H Benson, Rebecca Wells

Guests: Paul M Vanderburgh

Opening meditation: Rebecca Wells opened the meeting with a meditation.

Minutes: The minutes of the April 19, 2010 meeting were approved.

Announcements: The announcements were combined with discussion of new and old business.

New Business: The meeting began with a discussion of graduate school representation on the Senate in light of the merging of the Dean of Graduate School position with an Associate Provost title. As announced by J. Huacuja, the issue is that the Senate Constitution provides that the Dean of the Graduate School be a voting member of the Senate, and the new position creates a constitutional problem that needs to be addressed. A variety of considerations and potential solutions were discussed. Ideas included the following: (1) proposing an amendment providing for the election of a senate representative from graduate faculty, (2) designating the Associate Dean of the Graduate School or chair of the Graduate Leadership Council to occupy the position, (3) modifying the constitution to allow the Associate Provost and Dean to serve as a voting member. It was widely agreed that it was important for the graduate school to have voice and representation on the Senate, but members did not reach agreement on the appropriate method of doing so during the course of this meeting.

In the course of discussion, other issues implicating representation and the Academic Senate Constitution came to light, including the fact that the Dean of the Library was not a voting member. The process for making emergency appointments to the Senate was also discussed, including that the full Senate would have to approve any recommendations made by ECAS.

D. Biers made a motion to appoint the Associate Provost and Dean of Graduate School (currently held by Paul Vanderburgh) for the 2010-11 academic year to represent graduate school as a voting member of the Senate and proposed that ECAS establish a special subcommittee to look at issues of representation across campus and the AS Constitution and to make appropriate recommendations. B. Duncan seconded said Motion.

A motion to table further discussion was made by A. Seielstad and seconded by J. Huacuja. It was unanimously agreed that the issue would be tabled until next Monday to permit ECAS members to review Senate organizing documents and reflect further on the discussion and proposed resolution.

Old Business:

Committee reports and issues list. J. Huacuja emphasized the importance of posting an issues list and reports by subcommittees on the Senate website for all to review. Committee reviewed a preliminary list prepared and circulated by J. Huacuja in advance of the meeting and engaged in discussion about additional issues that may be important to consider during this academic year. The following issues have been identified thus far:
- Intellectual Property Right Policy (FAC. Continuation from 2009-10)
- Non-Tenure track Faculty Titles (FAC. Continuation from 2009-10)
- Undergraduate Honor Code (SAPC. Continuation from 2009-10)
- Student Evaluation of Faculty Teaching (FAC. Continuation from 2009-10)
- Curricular Review.
- Post-Tenure Review Policy. Further consideration may be necessary of whether it is necessary to place DOC I-06-11 approved by the Senate in April 2010 for a full faculty vote.
- Maternity Leave Policy. It was brought to the attention of ECAS members that although the Senate voted 2 years ago to recommend a number of changes to the university policy, the Office of Human Resources was not implementing the recommendations of the Senate as the President’s Council had decided not to implement recommended benefits. It was agreed that further discussion should be held about what, if any, additional role the Senate may have in implementing all or part of the recommendations adopted by it.
- Human Resources Advisory Council. The need for better information and communication between Human Resources and the Senate was discussed. It was agreed that there should be clarification and resolution of the Senate’s representation on the HRAC.
- Consensual Relationship Policy. A question was raised about the Senate’s role in reviewing and amending a university consensual relationship policy between faculty, staff, other employees, and/or students. No policy is yet pending, but there was interest in considering this as a potential Senate issue.

Faculty Elections Committee Representative. A. Seielstad nominated Heidi Gauder to serve as the ECAS representative to the Faculty Elections Committee. Upon seconding by B. Duncan, she was unanimously approved for such service, and agreed to the term as well.

Senate Parliametarian. J. Huacuja nominated James Farrelly to serve as Senate Parliamentarian for the current Academic year. Upon seconding by L. Pedrotti, he was approved for service and it was reported that he had been consulted in advance and will agree to such service.

Student representatives have not yet been elected.

J. Huacuja invited members to submit ideas for future agenda items and consider how and what process might be used to select a committee to review the Senate Constitution and related issues of senate representation, in the event such committee was constituted by ECAS.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10.

Respectfully submitted by Andrea Seielstad