2010-08-30 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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Approved
Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate
August 30, 2010; 11 a.m.
St. Mary’s Hall Room 113B

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

Guests: Paul M Vanderburgh, James Farrelly, Ed Mykytka

Opening meditation: David Biers opened the meeting with a meditation.

Minutes: The minutes of the August 23, 2010 meeting were approved.

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

Old business. J. Huacuja announced that the Academic Dishonesty Form has been provided to John Hess, APC Chair and asked members whether any other documents or materials should be transmitted to any subcommittees. None were identified.

New Business:

Graduate School Senate Representative: The discussion regarding the replacement of the Dean of the Graduate School continued from the previous meeting. Some attention was given to the language and history of the present Senate Constitution, including Doc. 94-01 (1988). While the 1988 document indicated different voting eligibility requirements, the present Constitution does not grant voting privileges to assistant or associate provosts. The idea behind amendments contained in the existing Senate Constitution was to keep the office of the provost separate from the Senate. However, the dean of the graduate school clearly was meant to be the voting representative of the graduate school. Members agreed it was important to keep that voice on the senate and that there was not an alternative representative and/or selection process. The associate dean of the graduate school was discussed as one possibility, as was selection of a faculty member to fill the role. In the end, there was consensus that the solution and the one making the smallest departure from the current system was to refer the constitutional matter to a subcommittee for study and resolution and to appoint the newly–appointed Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate School to the Senate for the Academic Year 2010-11. The motion made by D. Biers at August 23 meeting carried with only one member voting “no.”

Revisions to Graduate Transfer Credit and Related Policies. Associate Dean of Graduate School, Ed Mykytka introduced draft revisions to policy regarding transfer of graduate school credit. After brief discussion, a motion was made by D. Biers and seconded by P. Benson to refer the matter to the Academic Policies Committee for review once the document is finalized by E. Mykytka. The motion carried unanimously.

Post tenure review document. J. Huacuja relayed to the committee a question raised by some in the university community as to whether the Post Tenure Review document passed by the Senate at its April 2009 meeting must be submitted to the full faculty for a vote. It was agreed that the matter does not meet the criteria for a full faculty vote insofar as it (1) clarified but did not make substantive changes to university policy
that existed at the time of its enactment, (2) does not impact the granting or removal of tenure or issues related to academic freedom, and (3) was not challenged within eleven days after notification of its enactment last spring.

Appointments to University General Education Committee. J. Huacuja announced a need to make appointments to University General Education Committee. Upon motion by J. Huacuja, seconded by L. Pedrotti, it was agreed that the matter was to be referred to the University Nominating and Recruitment Committee.

Senate Agenda. Two items were discussed for placement on the Senate Agenda of September 17, 2010. First, it was agreed that the matter of the temporary appointment of the Associate Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies to the Senate be placed on the Senate Agenda for a vote, pursuant to the Senate Constitution which requires that the Senate approve emergency and temporary measures recommended by ECAS. The matter to be voted upon is whether the Associate Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies (currently occupied by Paul Vanderburgh) shall be appointed to serve as the representative of Graduate Studies and as a voting member of the Academic Senate for the Academic Year 2010-2011. Additionally, J. Huacuja will ask the Provost's office to give an update on implementation on CAP planning process.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:13.

Respectfully submitted by Andrea Seielstad