Faculty Senate Minutes for Monday, September 10, 2012

Present: Kris Bartanen, Brad Dillman (chair), Brian Ernst (ASUPS President), Kathryn Ginsberg (student member), Zaixin Hong, Judith Kay, Alisa Kessel, Kriszta Kotsis, Alan Krause (guest), Brendan Lanctot, Amy Odegard, Elise Richman, Maria Sampen, Mike Segawa, Shirley Skeel (Staff Senate liaison), Ross Singleton, Amy Spivey, and Nila Wiese.

I. Call to order – Chair Dillman called the meeting to order at about 4:00 p.m.

II. Announcements
   A. Mike Segawa announced that no faculty member has been assigned to represent the faculty at ASUPS Senate meetings this year. Partly because of the ASUPS Senate meeting time (on Thursday nights), it has been difficult to find someone to serve in that capacity. Segawa brought up several remedies to the situation, including not having a faculty representative to the ASUPS Senate, asking a member of the Student Life Committee to fill that role, or asking one of the student ASUPS Senators to attend Student Life Committee meetings. There was general consensus among the senators that having some representation from the faculty to the ASUPS Senate was necessary, and Segawa agreed to look into various options.
   B. Judith Kay announced that on Saturday, October 6, the Race and Pedagogy Initiative will host the Race, Education, and Criminal Justice Conference here on campus. Registration is required; students may register for free. She encouraged everyone to announce it in their classes and to attend.
   C. Nila Wiese passed around the schedule for “scribe of the day” for this semester and the spring.

III. Confirmation of Senate Executives and replacement Senators
   M/S/P that Nila Wiese has been elected Secretary and Alisa Kessel has been elected Vice-Chair of the Faculty Senate for 2012-2013.
   M/S/P to accept the following replacements for senators who are on sabbatical leave:
   Brendan Lanctot to replace Ariela Tubert in Fall 2012 and Kriszta Kotsis in Spring 2013.
   Maria Sampen to replace Leslie Saucedo for the 2012-2013 academic year.
   Amy Odegard to replace Sue Hannaford in Fall 2012.
   Amanda Mifflin to replace Sue Hannaford in Spring 2013.

IV. Approval of the Faculty Senate minutes for May 7, 2012
   M/S/P that the Senate accept the minutes of May 7, with minor revisions on page 2 (“IEC” replaced by “UEC” in eight places on that page).

V. Receipt of Curriculum Committee report from 2011-2012 academic year, amended on May 11, 2012
   Dillman explained that an incomplete Curriculum Committee report had been received by the 2011-2012 Senate on April 30 from Barbara Warren, the 2011-2012 chair of the Curriculum Committee. That report was quite brief, and the Senate requested that the report be amended to include more detail and reports regarding curriculum reviews from departments, for example. A
revised report was submitted by the Curriculum Committee chair and posted on SoundNet on May 11, 2012, after the last Faculty Senate meeting of the Spring 2011 semester.

Kessel asked whether the diversity question in the curriculum review guidelines has now been replaced with a revised question, as detailed on page 4 of the Curriculum Committee report. Dean Bartanen answered that yes, it has.

M/S/P that the Senate accept the revised Curriculum Committee report of May 11, 2012.

VI. Reports from committee liaisons

Each standing committee liaison reported on the first meeting of their committee and announced the name(s) of the newly-elected committee chair(s). The Library, Media, and Information Systems committee (LMIS) will meet for the first time on Sept. 14, so their liaison had nothing to report. The committee chairs are:

- Academic Standards – Kristin Johnson (Fall); Don Share (Spring)
- Curriculum – Tatiana Kaminsky
- Diversity – Amy Ryken
- International Education – Diane Kelley (Fall); Peter Wimberger (Spring)
- Institutional Review Board – Garrett Milam
- Professional Standards – Seth Weinberger
- Student Life – Bruce Mann
- University Enrichment – David Andresen (co-chair); Stacy Weiss (co-chair)

VII. Faculty governance listserv membership question

Dillman asked the Senate who should be automatically enrolled in the faculty governance listserv. To date, he has enrolled all faculty members who have the right to vote in full faculty meetings. Faculty members will be able to opt out of membership on the listserv, if they wish. Although no formal vote was taken, there was general consensus among the senators that that was the right way to set up the listserv.

VIII. Consideration of charges for the 2012-2013 Academic Standards Committee (ASC)

Brendan Lanctot, Senate liaison to the ASC, brought forth a draft set of charges for this year’s ASC. There was general discussion of the charges and revisions were proposed.

M/S/P to adopt the following charges for this year’s ASC:

1. Research and present options for course schedule framework revisions with the goals of meeting the faculty’s teaching needs (e.g., rethinking balance of 2, 3, and 4 day per week scheduling options), using available campus spaces more efficiently, maintaining commitment to 4:00-6:00 p.m. curricular and co-curricular program offerings, and locating a “common hour.”

2. Review and, if appropriate, recommend changes to the Student Integrity Code in light of the data generated by the 2012 Spring Survey and concerns about the impact of the Internet on the issue of academic integrity.

IX. Consideration of charges for the 2012-2013 Student Life Committee (SLC)

Mike Segawa brought forth draft charges for this year’s SLC. There was some general discussion of the charges and some minor revisions were made.
In particular, a question arose about the meaning of midterm grades and the fact that some students find the meaning of midterm grades to be unclear and inconsistent from one faculty member to another. In addition, there was a question of whether midterm grades could be set up to more effectively encourage strong students in their studies. (According to Nila Wiese, these issues had come up in an SLC meeting last year.) The general sense was that midterm grading issues are outside of the purview of the SLC but that a charge related to the effectiveness of midterm grades might be appropriate for another committee, such as the ASC.

M/S/P to adopt the following charges for this year’s SLC:

1. Continue to assess issues and programs regarding campus diversity.
2. Review implementation of the two year residential requirement and the plans for the new residential facility.
3. Review plans for the renovation of the Wheelock Student Center.
4. Review faculty members of the SLC’s service to Student Affairs ad hoc committees and Honor Court.

X. Consideration of charges for the 2012-2013 University Enrichment Committee (UEC)

Maria Sampen, liaison to this year’s UEC, made a motion to accept draft charges for the UEC that she presented. There was considerable discussion of the charges, and a number of major revisions were made.

The revised charges (which have not yet been approved by the Senate) are as follows:

1. Determine how the UEC might shift its role in providing oversight of faculty conference travel requests in light of the university’s move to a P-card system.
2. Investigate the logistics of going to a per diem for food during travel for the university.
3. Determine if a faculty research award could be established for junior faculty, much like the Phibbs award serves the established faculty member.
4. Discuss the ways in which departments/faculty use their $350 travel allocation. Can this money be transferred to students for potential research travel? Does this money roll over from year to year if unused?
5. Discuss the possibility of a scholarship/research award that could be presented at the Fall Faculty Dinner (perhaps selected each year by the FAC).
6. Discuss and implement strategies to promote visibility and awareness of UEC funds, deadlines, opportunities, and awards amongst faculty and students (e.g. a “Wednesdays at 4” session or announcements in Open Line).

Comment related to charges: Committee members were also interested in discussing the budget allocations for 2012-2013 (in particular whether this year’s balance from faculty Conference Participation funds could have been added to Faculty Research Funds; some on the committee felt that the budget for Faculty Research Funds was too low).

In discussing the draft charges as they stand (above), several senators expressed the idea that the allocation of UEC funds in general needs to be reviewed, including both the balance of funds between faculty research, faculty travel, and student research, and the different caps
currently placed on faculty conference travel spending. Items 1, 2, and 4 in particular seemed to suggest this idea of a more all-encompassing charge to the UEC.

Dean Bartanen commented regarding Item 4 that currently the $350 allocation per faculty member that is made to the departments does carry over from year to year if unspent, up to a maximum of three times the annual allocation level. If a department has reached its maximum of saved-up allocated funds, new funds that would otherwise be allocated to that department revert to the general UEC faculty travel fund.

Regarding Item 4, a couple of senators expressed reservations about the idea of transferring money from departmental travel allocations to students for their travel.

Spivey brought up the possibility of the UEC requesting additional funds for faculty conference travel and research by recommending that the Academic Vice President bring such a request to the Budget Task Force. This might represent a seventh charge for the UEC.

The motion to accept the charges to the UEC was not brought to a vote. Sampen agreed to bring the revised charges forward again at the next meeting.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Spivey (scribe for the day)