

Senate Minutes 9/12/05

Attending: Anton, Bartanen, Sousa, Haltom, Orlin, Bristow, Lear, Wimberger, Hanson, Israel, Howes, Singleton, Holland, Kim

The Senate came to order at 4:35 PM, Monday, September 12.

The first order of business was to affirm the appointments of Senators Juli McGruder and Derek Buescher who are replacing former Senator Alyce DeMarais and Senator Keith Maxwell. Senator McGruder will serve one semester for Senator Maxwell while he is on leave.

Old Business: Senator Bartanen handed out the latest known version of the proposed revisions to policies on Privacy; Information Use and Security; and E-mail, Voice-mail, and Network Access. These were part of a package that included the Firearms and Weapons Policy. The Firearms Policy was finished and posted; however the other three have not been acted on. Bartanen suggested that a subcommittee be formed to review the Senate's proposed revisions from 2003 prior to the policies being reviewed by university counsel. There was discussion about the makeup of the subcommittee or whether we could assign the documents to standing committees. The first motion to form a subcommittee failed to pass, perhaps because we, as Senators, needed more time to discuss. A motion to reconsider was approved.

MSP to form a subcommittee to review the policy revisions. Senators John Lear, John Hanson and Suzanne Holland agreed to serve.

The Report from the ad hoc Committee on Tenure was deferred.

There was a request from the PSC to look at proposed revisions to Chapter 3, Sections 6 and 7 of the Faculty Code, which had been forwarded at the April 28 Senate meeting. We agreed that we would discuss these at our next meeting on September 26.

New Business: Charges to Standing Committees (Original attached)

Academic Standards Committee

We considered the following charges:

1. Continued deliberation of consistent implementation of W/WF policies.
2. Return to the issue of Pass/Fail in the International Study Abroad program.
3. Re-evaluate class scheduling with respect to approved time blocks for class offerings.
4. Review the issue of students seeking waiver of the foreign language requirement because of disability.

After much discussion, many motions and amendments later, we agreed to forward the following charges to the ASC:

1. Continued deliberation of consistent implementation of W/WF policies.
2. Reevaluate the class schedule with respect to the goals for which it was implemented and consider a protected time for faculty meetings.
3. Review the issue of students seeking waiver of the foreign language requirement because of disability.

We decided that we would send the issue of Pass/Fail in the International Study Abroad program to the interim Study Abroad Committee (ISAC).

Curriculum Committee:

The Senate considered charging the Curriculum with their usual review of departments, programs and Core categories but decided that those were part of their normal duties and didn't warrant charges. Senator Orlin raised the issue of activity credits and asked whether a review of the activities for which students receive activity credit was merited, specifically bowling. Student representative Senator Howes stated that students were aware of that they were paying a goodly sum to take bowling and not an academic class. Student representative Senator Israel thought that receiving credit for extracurricular activities was clearly part of liberal arts. Senator Hanson made the point that in some cases the ability to take activity classes allows students to graduate on time. Senators noted that the activities promote health and can create life-long good habits, and that activity credits are available for activities such as music. We asked whether 1.5 units was the right number of units to which to limit students. Senator Holland moved to charge the Curriculum Committee with discussing activity credits. The motion failed. Senator Bartanen moved that no additional charges be made to the Curriculum Committee. Motion passed.

Diversity Committee:

We considered the following charges:

1. Continue working with the Office of Admission, the Office of Human Resources, and other appropriate offices and governing bodies in support of efforts to recruit and retain an increasingly talented and diverse faculty, staff, and student body.
2. Complete development and implementation of a crisis response team to address incidents related to diversity.
3. Continue a program of national participation by sending delegates to gather information at one of the several conferences devoted to diversity issues in higher education.
4. Support or assist with the national diversity conference organized by Race and Pedagogy.
5. Provide liaison between the faculty, staff, and student organizations related to diversity issues and continue working with the Student Diversity Center and the Office of Multicultural Student Services to support the work of Student Diversity

Center organizations, Diversity Theme Year, and other existing and emerging organizations and programs.

6. Support the Office of Institutional Research collection of data regarding staff and faculty members' attitudes toward and experiences of diversity as an element of campus climate through programs to increase participation by faculty, staff and students in the Campus Climate Survey.

Senator Haltom moved to accept and send them on. Senator Kim informed the Senate that the Diversity Committee was working on a seventh charge. The Senate said that we were happy to accept new charges at any time and charge committees with them. The motion was passed.

Institutional Research Board

We considered the following charges:

1. Continue work on developing and implementing revision of the IRB website.
2. Continue implementing change/end of project reporting and monitor adherence to reporting requirements for projects approved during AY04-05.

M/S/P to pass them on to the IRB.

Library, Media and Information Systems

The Senate considered the following charges:

Faculty project/programming support: Academic technology Consultant to Humanities and Social Sciences.

Wireless access points: future development and timetables.

Remote maintenance/troubleshooting of classroom projection systems.

Investigate more effective email filters to remove spam. (Our understanding of this that this is issue has been addressed independently of LMAC by OIS and that funding has been provided for such via the BTF process.)

Investigate procurement of anti-plagiarism software (The committee did not have time to turn to this charge. If the Senate wishes LMAC to pursue it, we request that it be forwarded to next year's committee).

The Senate noted that the first and fourth issues have been dealt with and that the other topics were already on the LMIS agenda. In addition Senator Bartanen noted that LMIS would have work to do with the draft Puget Sound Strategic Plan.

The Senate had no new charges for LMIS.

Professional Standards Committee

Continue efforts to facilitate faculty discussion of amendments to Chapter III, Sections 6 and 7, on procedures for appeals and procedures for hearings.

"Housekeeping amendments" to the Code to correct typos and inaccurate internal Code citations.

Revision of the formal Code interpretation of Chapter III, Section 6, in the old Code ("Whether a five-year evaluation of a full professor entails 'altering the status of the evaluated faculty member's appointment' so as to be subject to appeals procedures"). This formal interpretation was approved in 1997, but was inadvertently omitted from the appendix of formal Code interpretations and consequently was not revised this year along with the other formal interpretations. The internal Code citations in this formal interpretation need to be updated.

Clarification of the definition of "tenure-line faculty" by a Code amendment or formal interpretation.

Consideration of amending the Code to replace "days" with "working days."

Consideration of revising formal Code interpretations to include "partners" in places where "spouses" are mentioned.

Examination of Chapter III, Section 4. b (4), with reference to the relationship between the informal and the formal challenges that an evaluatee may make to an evaluation conducted by a department, school, or program.

Examination of Chapter III, Section 5, to consider questions that have arisen about the so-called streamlined five-year evaluations of full professors (for example, questions about classroom visitation and about the participation of departmental colleagues in these evaluations).

Consideration of how departments, schools, and programs in their statements of evaluation guidelines handle the assessment of an evaluatee's teaching in non-departmental courses.

M/S/P to accept charges and send them to PSC.

Student Life Committee

We considered the following charges to SLC:

1. To continue to explore ways to encourage campus conversations aimed at promoting greater responsibility, accountability and civility on campus.
2. To review and consider the recommendation of the purchase of an on-line alcohol awareness tool that students would have to complete prior to arriving on campus.
3. To discuss the university's position on parent notification when there is an incident of drug or alcohol "abuse".
4. To explore the on-campus living needs and desires for juniors and seniors.

M/S/P to accept these and send them on.

Senator Kim mentioned that in addition to these charges, the SLC would be forwarding a new charge related to integrated student learning outcomes to the Senate.

University Enrichment Committee

We considered the following charges:

1. Explore more formalized possibilities for giving student applicants feedback.
2. Explore updating pertinent websites with more helpful information.
3. ASUPS will be asked to make more money for student conference travel available.

Senator Israel suggested we charge the UEC with better publicizing of funding opportunities for student travel and research. Senator Bartanen clarified that the role of the UEC was providing support to students who are presenting papers at conferences and that ASUPS has money for students who are attending conferences without presenting. She recalled some discussion of ASUPS perhaps providing more money for students attending conferences. After more discussion, charge #2 was changed to,

“Update relevant websites with more helpful information and work with ASUPS to increase student awareness of opportunities for student conference travel and research.

Charge #3 was subsequently struck.

Senator Holland suggested an additional charge – that the UEC explore making funding available for travel to conferences for faculty who are leaders in their professional societies.

The next item on the agenda was committee self evaluation, which we decided to postpone to next meeting as the hour was getting late. Senator Holland inquired about the status of the disability policy. Senate Chair Anton will let us know.

Scribed,
Peter Wimberger