

## Faculty Senate Minutes

September 22, 2003

**Senators Present:** Eric Orlin, Kris Bartanen, Sarah Parker, Bill Beardsley, Alyce DeMarais, Robin Foster, Sue Hannaford, Barry Anton, Bill Haltom, David Tinsley, Julian Edgoose, Terry Cooney, Keith Maxwell, Paul Loeb, Karen Porter

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m., with a welcome to the new members Sue Hannaford and Sarah Parker.

The Chair indicated that since Senator Porter could not be present until later in the meeting, he would put off consideration of the minutes of the September 8 meeting until she arrived.

The Chair also noted that Randy Bentson, a new hire in Computer Science, had experience with on-line voting mechanisms and was willing to explore possible mechanisms to use these on our campus with the Senate.

### **Special Orders:**

Senator Edgoose distributed a card for Senators to sign wishing Senator Holland a speedy recovery.

Senator Bartanen distributed an organizational chart for the Division of Student Affairs, noting that this current chart will be obsolete within three weeks.

Senator Haltom delivered a (thankfully) short Philippic on the need for transparency, noting that Senator Parker should be welcomed as the student representative to the Senate.

Senator Tinsley noted that he could personally attest to the virulence of the latest computer virus (the one that masqueraded as a message from Microsoft). Senators commiserated greatly with Senator Tinsley.

### **Old Business:**

The Senate returned to a consideration of charges for the faculty committees.

#### *Library, Media and Academic Computing Committee:*

The Chair distributed an email from Associate Dean Barry representing the substance of what Chairperson Greenfield agreed should be charges for LMAC. These charges were:

1. Review the need for an institutional license for a citation software
2. Work with the library to develop guidelines for the acquisition of paper and/or electronic journals.
3. Explore ways of promoting information literacy among students generally and within disciplines.

There was some discussion as to whether the Chair could confirm that Professor Greenfield was indeed on the LMAC; no one present could confirm that fact, though all considered it a safe operating assumption. Senator Edgoose asked whether there was a move afoot to begin charging for printing in the library. Dean Cooney responded that, while he was not present at the meeting where this issue had been discussed, a proposal is beginning to be considered which would allow students a to print a certain number of pages free, and then charge for pages in excess of that number. It is hoped that such a policy would be implemented by OIS, but only after consultation with students and with LMAC. Senators expressed interest in keeping as close as possible to the current policy in which students are not charged for printing, while recognizing that costs of printing can be a serious problem for the institution. Senator Edgoose **M/S/P** the following motion to add to the LMAC charges:

4. Investigate options for avoiding excessive printing costs while ensuring students' ability to do their coursework.

Dean Cooney noted that it appeared that only a handful of students engaged in excessive printing, and Senator Tinsley noted that faculty also have been known to abuse the printers. The motion was then approved unanimously.

Senator Tinsley **M/S/P** a motion to delete charge #3 above, as unnecessary.

Senator Edgoose then **M/S/P** to pass the charges for LMAC as amended, to wit:

1. Review the need for an institutional license for a citation software
2. Work with the library to develop guidelines for the acquisition of paper and/or electronic journals.
3. Investigate options for avoiding excessive printing costs while ensuring students' ability to do their coursework.

*Professional Standards Committee:*

Since the question of how to proceed in developing a procedure to evaluate the Dean of the University formed one of the issues the Senate hopes to discuss when President Thomas visits the Senate, the Senate moved on to other issues. Dean Cooney noted that a request would be forthcoming for departments to keep the departmental evaluation procedures current in light of recent changes to the Code. Dean Bartanen brought up an issue raised during a discussion among Student Affairs staff and Julie Neff Lippman about the new first-year seminars, as to whether the faculty evaluation form would be revised in light of the new seminar style classes being implemented for first-year students. A brief discussion ensued over the difficulties of the form itself and of revising it, and it was decided that the Chair might offer a 'friendly reminder' to the PSC to re-consider the evaluation form, without the necessity of making this a formal charge. Senator Foster asked whether the PSC ought to be charged with ensuring that departmental guidelines meet the new Code, and Dean Cooney replied the PSC needed to strike a balance between its mandate and departmental initiative. Senator Edgoose returned to a note in the suggestion box and reminded senators that they were currently not charging the PSC to consider open files in tenure cases. The Senate then moved on without adding any new charges for the PSC.

Senator Porter having arrived at the meeting, the Chair then returned to approving the minutes from September 8. Dean Cooney noted that references to "by-laws" in the minutes should actually be to the "Faculty Code". After several senators pointed out and corrected various typographical errors, the minutes of September 8 were approved as amended.

*Academic Standards Committee:*

Senators began a brief discussion of charges for the Academic Standards committee. Senator Foster mentioned that in conversations with Jack Roundy, there was some consideration of re-evaluating the requirement for the number of units in residence in the senior year. The petitions committee routinely sees requests, particularly in regard to students studying abroad, that might be avoided perhaps through a rewording of the current language. No formal charges were proposed for this committee.

*University Enrichment Committee:*

Senator Anton raised the issue of the costs associated with using the University's approved travel agent. Cooney noted that departments were no longer required to use the travel agency, though the controller was reluctant to distribute credit cards to departments. After further discussion, Senator Anton **M/S/P** (with one Abstention) a charge for the UEC:

1. Provide a progress report on decentralizing travel charges.

Senator Foster brought up the issue of the UEC criteria for students receiving funding to go to conferences. In response to a query for clarification from Senator Edgoose, Senator Foster indicated that currently the UEC will only fund the 'principal presenter', with the result that many students who work hard on a presentation can not get funding to go if the presentation is a poster session. Subsequent discussion focused on the fact that the UEC is limited in the amount of money it can offer students, and

on whether the current policy, or revisions that might be made to it, has an unequal impact on students in different disciplines. Senator Foster **M/S/P** (with one Nay and three Abstentions) a charge to the UEC:

2. Re-evaluate the criteria for eligibility for student travel to conferences

Senator Loeb asked about the status of ASUPS contributions to the UEC student travel fund, both whether the ASUPS contributed and whether a disparity existed between the UEC contributed and the ASUPS contribution. Senator Haltom indicated that he would be more enthused about getting information on this subject, rather than trying to cajole ASUPS into using its funds according to faculty desires. Senator Loeb **M/S/P** (with one Nay and one Abstention) a charge for the UEC:

3. Report to the Senate on ASUPS contribution to student travel fund, the history of that funding, the balance between UEC and ASUPS contributions to that fund, and the distribution among departments of student funding.

Dean Bartanen asked whether these questions concern students presenting papers or simply students traveling to conferences; Loeb replied he was interested in student travel broadly considered.

The Senate then **M/S/P** the charges for the UEC as follows:

1. Provide a progress report on decentralizing travel charges.
2. Re-evaluate the criteria for eligibility for student travel to conferences
3. Report to the Senate on ASUPS contribution to student travel fund, the history of that funding, the balance between UEC and ASUPS contributions to that fund, and the distribution among departments of student funding.

*Faculty Advancement Committee:*

The Senate decided that the FAC probably had enough work to do already and saw no need to add any specific charges.

#### **New Business:**

Senator Orlin noted that the next Senate meeting was scheduled to be held on October 6, which is the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur. Since a faculty meeting is scheduled for October 13, rescheduling is not possible. Senators discussed the possibility of canceling the meeting, but were uncomfortable with the notion of not meeting for more than a month. Senator Orlin suggested that the meeting could go on without him, and the Chair, with apologies, noted that the meeting would have to go ahead as scheduled.

Senator Maxwell asked for an update on the Board of Trustees' directive in regard to the OT program. Dean Cooney replied that there were no action points between last May and the Board meeting in February, since the application pool that comes in next January provides the next marker.

The Chair asked Dean Cooney about the elections for the two open FAC positions, and Cooney replied that the two new members of the committee, Bruce Mann and Kathie Hummel-Berry, were indeed the two top vote-getters.

Senator Haltom noted as the meeting was breaking up that an appropriate agenda item for the October 6 meeting might be to set up a list of items for the Senate to discuss with President Thomas when he visits an upcoming Senate meeting.

There being no further business, the Senate adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Orlin

*Scriptor Diei*

(Emendations and Corrections noted by David F. Tinsley)