

FACULTY SENATE
Tuesday, April 28, 2009
3:30 – 4:30 pm
Senate Chamber, Old Capitol

MINUTES

Present: J. Bertolatus; S. Bishara; D. Black; G. Buettner; H. Butcher; A. Campbell; M. Cohen; J. Cox; E. Dove; E. Ernst; J. Fieselmann; J. Garfinkel; E. Gidal; T. Gross; G. Jogerst; C. Kletzing; S. Kurtz; A. MacVey; T. Mangum; B. McMurray; J. Menninger; F. Mitros; A. Morris; N. Nisly; J. Pendergast; B. Plapp; J. Polumbaum; B. Rakel; L. Robertson; M. Sauder; K. Schuh; S. Schultz; C. Scott-Conner; P. Snyder; C. Sponsler; S. Staggs; H. Stecopoulos; R. Valentine; T. Vaughn; R. Wachtel; J. Wadsworth; L. Wang; E. Wasserman; S. Wilson; M. Wilson Kimber;

Absent: N. Andreasen; D. Asprey; L. Ayres; G. Bergus; S. Copeland; M. Donovan; G. El-Khoury; D. Hammond; C. Helms; K. Kader; L. Kirsch; J. Kline; T. Kresowik; D. Look; S. Lutgendorf; D. Macfarlane; C. McCarthy; P. Mobily; S. Moorhead; R. Mutel; F. Nothwehr; J. Reist; G. Russell; T. Schnell; W. Sharp; T. Stalter; N. Street; K. Tachau; M. VanBeek; R. Williams; S. Wolfe, C. Woodman, T. Yin; N. Zavazava.

Excused: D. Anderson; L. Boyle; D. D'Alessandro; S. Gardner; B. Justman; E. Lawrence; S. McGuire; M. Noonan; L. Richman; J. Tomkovicz; S. Vincent; J. Woodhead.

Officers

Present: D. Drake (Vice President), M. O'Hara (President); V. Sharp (Past President); S. Stromquist (Secretary).

Guests: J. Beckman (Linguistics); J. Carlson (President's Office); C. Drum (University Relations); B. Eckstein (Provost's Office); S. Johnson (Provost's Office); A. Lothson (*Daily Iowan*); L. Zaper (Faculty Senate).

I. Call to Order – President O'Hara called the meeting to order at 3:33 pm.

II. Approvals

- A. Meeting Agenda – Professor Jogerst moved and Professor Nisly seconded that the agenda be approved. The motion was unanimously approved.
- B. Faculty Senate Minutes (March 24, 2009) – Professor Cohen moved and Professor Morris seconded that the minutes be approved. The motion was unanimously approved.
- C. Faculty Senate and Council Election Results (Mike O'Hara) – President O'Hara read the names of newly-elected Councilors and Senators.

- D. 2009-2010 Committee Recommendations (David Drake) – Professor Bishara moved and Professor Nisly seconded that the committee recommendations be approved. The motion was unanimously approved.
- E. 2007-2008 Motion Summary (David Drake) – Professor Cohen moved and Professor Nisly seconded that the motion summary be approved. The motion was unanimously approved.

III. New Business

- *Revision of Faculty Senate Constitution and Bylaws (Shelly Kurtz, Chair, Rules and Bylaws Committee)*

President O'Hara explained that the Rules and Bylaws Committee spent a great deal of time working on these revisions. The Faculty Council then reviewed the documents twice before approving them. If the Senate approves them, the next step will be for the entire faculty to approve the constitution in a referendum (the bylaws only require Senate approval for adoption). Then, the constitution will be sent to President Mason for her approval and then on to the Board of Regents, State of Iowa.

Professor Kurtz reiterated that the Constitution and the Bylaws are two separate documents. He then noted some of the more important revisions.

1. The formula for determining the number of collegiate representatives was moved from the Constitution into the Bylaws. Therefore, if it becomes necessary to make changes to this formula, only Senate approval will be required.
2. The pool of potential officers was widened to include individuals who have served in the Senate for three years at any time.
3. A definition of the term “central academic official” was provided; this phrase encompasses current and future vice presidents, whether interim or permanent, who report directly to the University President.
4. Floor privileges at Senate and Council meetings can be granted by the Senate President or by the Senate.
5. The past president is officially recognized as an officer and is also named the Senate parliamentarian.
6. Senators' terms of service are defined as beginning immediately following the close of the last regular meeting of the Senate in the spring semester in which that Senator is elected and ending at the close of the last regular meeting of the Senate in the spring semester of the end of the three-year term.
7. The number of Senate meetings per year is set at six.
8. The Senate will be an “advise and consent” body to the Senate president on committee appointments (it has already served this role in current practice).

Professor Wilson Kimber asked if a new role had been created for the Board of Regents in section c.(1)(e)(i), on the role of the Board of Regents in selecting faculty to serve on search committees for the University President. Professor Kurtz responded that the revision puts additional emphasis on the role of the Committee on the Selection of Central Academic Officials. Professor McMurray commented that the language in c.(5)(b) regarding who is eligible to be elected as an officer is somewhat unclear. The suggestion was made for the following modification to the sentence: “Any newly elected, continuing, or departing member of the Senate, or any ~~other~~ person who has served at least three years in the Senate at any time shall be eligible to be elected as an officer.”

Professor Cohen moved and Professor Scott-Conner seconded that the revised Faculty Senate Constitution and Bylaws be approved with the suggested modifications. The motion was unanimously approved.

President O'Hara thanked the Rules and Bylaws Committee once again for their work.

IV. Announcements

- Regents Awards for Faculty Excellence (Mike O'Hara)

President O'Hara announced the winners of the 2009 Regents Award for Faculty Excellence: Er-Wei Bai (Electrical and Computer Engineering); Mark Blumberg (Psychology); Willard Boyd (Law); William Coryell (Psychiatry); Katherine Tachau (History); Daniel Tranel (Neurology).

- Michael J. Brody Awards for Faculty Excellence in Service to the University and the State of Iowa (Mike O'Hara)

President O'Hara announced the winners of the 2009 Michael J. Brody Award for Faculty Excellence in Service to the University and the State of Iowa: Laurence Fuortes (Occupational and Environmental Health) and Thomas Walz (Social Work).

- Concluding Remarks of the 2008-2009 Faculty Senate President

President O'Hara thanked Faculty Senate Program Assistant Laura Zaper for her work. He also thanked his fellow officers (David Drake, Shel Stromquist, Vickie Sharp) for their teamwork this past year. President O'Hara thanked the senators, as well as the faculty members who have served on committees, for all their efforts during a difficult year. President O'Hara noted that faculty governance is being challenged throughout the country and, while it remains strong at the University of Iowa, we must remain vigilant to ensure that the faculty voice continues to be heard.

President O'Hara commented on three major events that have shaped campus life this past year. The first of those was the aftermath of the sexual assault that had occurred earlier on campus. The flood will continue to impact the campus for decades to come. Finally, the economic crisis will be very challenging for the next several years. President O'Hara stated that he was proud of the faculty's responses to all of these challenges. President O'Hara then highlighted the accomplishments of the past year. A strategic initiative process is now underway. Areas of focus range from internationalization to graduate education. A research track has been approved by the College of Medicine and may be approved by other colleges in the future. Policies that were adopted and/or revised include a faculty civility policy, the honorary degree policy, bylaws for the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics, the parental leave policy, and the Faculty Senate constitution and bylaws. The Senate has been involved in discussions about fringe benefits and sexual harassment policies. Faculty have also been active in discussions about flood recovery and the budget crisis.

An active, engaged faculty, through the Faculty Senate, is critical if we want to maintain our status as a premier research institution. Too many universities are moving away from faculty governance. In too many institutions, faculty are treated as merely employees and don't have the kind of input we do in the envisioning of the university. President O'Hara stated that it was an honor and a pleasure to serve as Faculty Senate President this year. He was humbled by the opportunity and challenged by the work and he looked forward to passing that responsibility on to David Drake.

The Faculty Senate Officers presented gifts to outgoing secretary Shel Stromquist and outgoing past president Vickie Sharp.

Professor Cohen moved and Professor Menninger seconded that President O'Hara be recognized for his year of exceptional service to the Faculty Senate. The motion was unanimously approved.

- V. Adjournment – Professor Cohen moved and Professor Menninger seconded that the meeting be adjourned. President O'Hara adjourned the meeting at 4:10 pm.

FACULTY SENATE
2009-2010 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
Tuesday, April 28, 2009
4:30 - 5:15 pm
Senate Chamber, Old Capitol

MINUTES

I. Call to Order – President Drake called the meeting to order at 4:15 pm.

II. Election of Faculty Senate Officers (Carolyn Colvin, Elections Committee)
The new and continuing senators were requested to move into the center seating area. Although outgoing senators were free to leave, they were invited to remain, if they wished, but to be seated in the side areas.

The candidates for Faculty Senate Vice President were Edwin Dove, Biomedical Engineering, and Bruce Justman, Endodontics. The candidates for Faculty Senate Secretary were Jane Pendergast, Biostatistics, and Katherine Tachau, History. Paper ballots were distributed, collected, and counted.

Professor Colvin later announced that next year's Vice President would be Edwin Dove and next year's Secretary would be Katherine Tachau.

III. Opening Remarks of the Faculty Senate President David Drake – President Drake thanked all four senators for running for office. He stated that he looked forward to working with the newly-elected officers. He thanked last year's Faculty Senate Officers, especially Past President O'Hara, for all their work during the prior year. President Drake commented that the past year had been very educational for him.

President Drake explained that he had come to the University of Iowa twenty-one years ago as an assistant professor, and he remains passionate about his work and about the university. He is a professor of microbiology at the Dows Institute for Dental Research in the College of Dentistry.

He commented that he would be giving a brief presentation to the Board of Regents at their upcoming meeting on the impact of the recent budget cuts on faculty. It is crucial that faculty work closely with administration as we go through the strategic planning process. The university will be facing additional major budget cuts in the next few years. We must also advocate for strong support from the state. Maintaining a strong and vibrant university is in the best interests of this state. The strategic planning process is underway; there are task forces working on strategic initiatives. It is essential for faculty, and the Senate, to be involved in this planning process. President Drake expects senators to be actively engaged in the issues confronting the university. He encouraged senators to listen to their colleagues and bring their concerns back to the Senate. President Drake is honored and humbled to be Faculty Senate President and he pledged to do his best for the Senate.

IV. From the floor – There were no issues from the floor.

V. Announcements

- 2009-2010 Meeting Schedule – President Drake indicated that the meeting schedule was in the packet of meeting materials.

VI. Adjournment – Professor Mangum moved and Professor Wilson Kimber seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.