

University of Southern Indiana
Faculty Senate Minutes
Session: 9
Room: UC 214
Date: February 3, 2006

Members Present: B. Boostrom, P. Cashel-Cordo, M. Dixon, P. Doss, R. Hoebeke, B. Hooper, J. Kempf (for L. Howard), M. Krahling, I. Phillips, C. Shan-Lai (for L. Nunn), M. Shaw, B. Wilding, L. Bennett, ex-officio

Members Absent: L. Howard, L. Nunn

Guests:

1. Call to order at 7:30 a.m.

2. Announcements from the Chair:

A) SGA elections

1. The Student Government Association has requested faculty members to serve as poll sitters for elections on March 27, 28, and 29th.
2. Faculty are needed from 11:00-Noon, Noon-1:00, and 5:00-6:00 on those days
3. Please contact colleagues and encourage them to volunteer their services during the election.

B) SET

1. The Student Evaluation of Teaching Committee met January 30th
2. There is a virtual meeting scheduled with Scantron representatives on February 13th at 10:30
3. This meeting will enable the committee, IT, administration, deans, chairs, and other participants to ask questions prior to the campus visits by Scantron representatives
4. The SET committee is charged with writing appropriate questions based upon the faculty survey for the potential instrument
5. A subcommittee of SET members have already begun developing questions based on faculty input from the survey

C) Student Affairs Committee

1. The Student Affairs Committee received the charge to evaluate current USI policies regarding academic honesty.
2. The Committee will pursue the charge and report to the Faculty Senate by December 2006.
3. Dean Schonberger and Dane Partridge will address the committee about current USI policies and practices.

D) Wellness and Fitness Committee

1. Michelle Davis is seeking faculty representation for this committee
2. Interested faculty are asked to contact Michelle at 1781

3. Report from the Provost and V.P. of Academic Affairs, Dr. Linda Bennett

A) Updates

1. A draft of the self-study document is in progress
2. The task force on enrollment and retention is discussing information dissemination strategies.
3. Discussions are underway to develop the quadrangle, the physical space between the Library and Liberal Arts. Representatives from the company who prepared the ten year plan have been on campus to discuss general themes from formal gardens to less formal space.

4. Minutes

January 20, 2006 minutes approved pending corrections (Boostrom/Hoebeke)

5. Old Business

A) Budget Priorities Presentation

1. The number one priority identified by the senate is to close faculty salary gaps in all ranks in comparison to peer institutions within five years
2. P. Cashel-Cordo discussed the spreadsheets comparing faculty salary to peer institutions with compensation and cost of living figures
3. The discussion which ensued noted that it becomes difficult to have a meaningful dialogue regarding salaries without using a consistent set of numbers (indicating what it being compared) and defined peer institutions (indicating with whom USI is being compared).
4. Based upon this discussion, the Faculty Senate expressed support for a conversation between President Hoops and P. Cashel-Cordo prior to the budget hearing to discuss a consistent comparison method which would be agreeable to faculty and administration.
5. The second priority is to convert 60% of faculty position to full-time faculty positions within six years. Converting six part-time faculty positions to full-time positions each year would achieve this target.
6. The third priority is the ADA position, which will assist students, faculty, administration, and visitors. This position would serve to advocate for needed resources, such as a student testing center.
7. The fourth and final priority is to obtain a small Faculty Senate budget to offset the costs of printing, web page management, and student worker hours.
 - * Faculty Senate budget discussions included a recommendation for a stipend for the senate chair for summer compensation like other director positions, such as CTLE, Academic Affairs and Honors Program. Dr. Bennett will explore the stipend issue rather than addressing it during the budget hearings
8. The Faculty Senate budget presentation will take place Monday, February 20, 2006 in Carter Hall.
9. Motion to accept budget priorities as listed (Krahling/Wilding) (unanimous)

B) Student Affairs Committee

1. The Student Affairs Committee fulfilled their charge regarding minus grades and forwarded several models of minus grade scales to the Faculty Senate.
2. Motion (Doss/Boostrom) was made to select an implementation system and forward to the Provost's office.
3. The above motion was tabled until the next meeting to give senate representatives an opportunity to discuss the potential scales with their constituents. B. Hoebeke will scan the table of potential grading scales and send to senate representatives to share with their colleagues.

C) Academic Honesty

1. Senators are encouraged to discuss academic honesty software with their constituents and share that feedback during the next meeting.

6. New Business

D) FASTR Committee

1. Motion (Shaw/Doss) was made to accept the committee's changes in the language of the faculty handbook and to forward to the Provost's office.
2. Motion unanimously passed

E) University Curriculum Committee Schedule

1. The discussion regarding the recommendation to adopt an inactive class drop policy was moved to the March meeting.
2. The chair of the committee will be invited to the March meeting to discuss questions which were raised by senate representatives.

7. The meeting adjourned 9:00 a.m. (Doss/Hoebeke) Next meeting March 3, 7:30 in UC206.

Respectfully submitted by Iris Phillips, Senate Secretary