Minutes of the November BSUFA Senate - Nov. 7th, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Gilbertson.

A Motion was made by Chris Brown to accept the minutes of the Oct. meeting as distributed, seconded by Keith Marek. Motion passed.

Colleen Geer moved that Larry Swain be appointed Senate Parliamentarian, seconded by John Truedson. Motion passed.

President’s Report

President Gilbertson reported that one position was restored from the 33 positions that were cut in recalibration. The position was in Health. At the last meet and confer the Administration brought forward to the Association three new positions: one position is in Biology, one in Criminal Justice and a third in Native American Studies. These three positions will be advertised in the near future. President Gilbertson reported that all the positions in recalibration, with the exception of the reinstated Health position, are still slated to be cut. The Administration stated that they were not contemplating reinstating any of the cut positions. In the case of tenured faculty on sabbatical this year whose positions were eliminated in recalibration, they will be allowed to return for one year, and then it is excepted that they will either retire or be noticed for lay off.

President Gilbertson informed the group that the wait list registration function proposed by the records office will be tested in several Departments. President Gilbertson asked that members who wished to attend the delegate assembly contact an Executive Committee member. Priority for attendance to the delegate assembly will be given to those members who serve on state wide committees. President Gilbertson also requested that those wishing to submit delegate assembly resolutions prepare and submit them to him since he wishes to bring the resolutions to the Senate for approval.

President Gilbertson reported that discussions are taking place with Administration about faculty representation on the BSU Foundation Board, the discussions are still in the very early stages.

President Gilbertson passed out the proposed resolution for the payment of internships supervision; Senators were asked to discuss the proposal with their Departments and be prepared to vote on the resolution at the December Senate meeting.
President Gilbertson brought to the Senate’s attention the report submitted by the Dean of Health Sciences and Human Ecology on the upcoming Board of Teaching visit. Discussion took place and the Senate voiced the opinion that they would like reports to continue from the Dean.

President Gilbertson asked if Senators would bring back any feedback from their Departments on the book store for the December meeting.

Laurie Desiderato announced a new opportunity for grants in applying technology to teaching. The source of the grants is the technology fee money paid by students and will amount to $40,000 per year. Contact the Center if you have any questions.

John Truedson for Curriculum Committee that there will be a new addition to the curriculum forms, a required listing of learning objectives. There were numerous questions ask about this and much discussion.

Chris Brown moved and Christel Kippenhan seconded that the issue be sent back to the Curriculum Committee for clarification and that the Committee report back to the Senate. The motion passed.

Liberal Education Report

Liberal Education coordinator Deb Peterson reported on the assessment of liberal education. The plan has been public for some time and needs to be implemented to meet the needs of our accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission. The assessment of courses will be by a random sample of 150 students. Faculty will be informed if they have one of these students in their liberal education course and will be required to assess the student based on the learning outcomes of their class that student and place the information in Task Stream. Discussion took place.

Discussion also took place about what to do with People and the Environment course. Deb Peterson shared a survey made of the faculty teaching course. The result was that faculty wanted to keep teaching the course as they do currently. Deb informed the group that the Administration felt that the current method of delivery is too expensive and that the number of offerings was not meeting the demand for the course.

The motion was made by Tim Kroeger and seconded by Tom Fauchald that the People and Environment course be continued to be taught in its current format, even if it means offering sections taught on over load or by adjuncts. The motion passed.

Chris Brown moved and Derek Webb seconded that the proposal of adopting the liberal education assessment plan be tabled. The motion failed on voice vote.

Division was requested and the motion failed by a hand vote.
More discussion took place and Derek Webb moved and Tom Fauchald seconded that the Senate accept the Liberal Education assessment plan as proposed. The motion passed.

Derek Webb moved for adjournment, the motion was seconded by Cheryl Byers. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Tom Fauchald BSUFA Treasurer