BSUFA Senate Minutes
April 2, 2012
4:00 pm HS 107

Present: David Benson, Chris Brown, Cheryl Byers, Tom Fauchald, Dean Frost, Troy Gilbertson, Andrew Graham, Colleen Greer, Mike Hamman, Heidi Hanson, Michael Herbert, Bonnie Higgins, Christel Kippenhan, Tim Kroeger, Brian Ludlow, Keith Marek, Pete McDonnell, Brendan McManus, Sheila Paul, Deb Peterson, Mehdi Sagheb-Tehrani, Karl Salscheider, Medhi Sheikholeslami, Kathryn Smith, Erika Savanoe, Larry Swain, Carolyn Townsend, John Truedson, Derek Webb, Jim White, Sarah Young.

Call to Order

Approval of minutes for March 12, 2012
Chris Brown moved (Larry Swain seconded) to accept these minutes. Motion passed.

Mark Jaede
Mark Jaede who is a candidate for IFO President spoke to the senate and then took questions from the senate. The election, which is being conducted electronically at the same as the BSUFA elections, remains open until 4 pm April 10, 2012. Please urge the members to vote by using a non-MNSCU owned computer and internet connection.

President’s Report
Rob Bollinger had a schedule conflict with this meeting but will be available to attend the next senate meeting.
Bob Griggs (interim VP of Academic Affairs) is holding a faculty forum showcasing faculty achievements. Troy Gilbertson is urging the BSUFA members to contribute to that forum. A new MNSCU travel authorization form is being implemented. It will require additional details of faculty travel plans.
Human Resources is requiring new verification records for dependent coverage on MNSCU provided coverages. Dependents can be dropped from your policies without this new verification. This process was initiated by the state legislature as a means to produce insurance savings. Please contact Troy Gilbertson if you have questions. Karl Salscheider recognized Barbara Bridges who reminded the senate that the verification can be completed online by going to www.auditos.com and entering the code #1474255 for Bemidji State. The deadline for this process is in May.
Carry forwarding of departmental budgets will subject to a new screening by the university administration at the end of this budget year. Tom Fauchald said a new form must be filled out by department chairs to seek exemption for funds.
Miscellaneous Course Operation Policy: A new guideline is proposed that will limit each faculty member to no more than 9 credits or 75 students per semester of miscellaneous (i.e., $65 per credit courses) instructional activity. Please contact Troy Gilbertson or a member of the executive committee if you have questions.
Troy and other BSU representatives to the IFO Delegate Assembly commented on the delegate assembly they attended in March. He congratulated Colleen Greer and Deb Peterson on their IFO award.

**Committee Reports**

John Truedson presented the Curriculum Committee report. He moved approval of the Geology proposal, the Humanities Proposal, the Individualized Studies Proposal, and the Social Studies Proposal as a group. The motion passed unanimously.

The Elementary Education Proposal was discussed. John recognized Barbara Bridges who spoke as one of the proposers. She said that Professional Education developed the course and it meets all accreditation standards. The course is offered as a blended course with face-to-face meetings as well as online. The proposal was recommended for approval by the senate by the Curriculum committee. The motion to approve the proposal passed in a voice vote with several dissensions.

Deb Peterson distributed the Liberal Education Committee’s report. She stated that work is proceeding on meeting the Higher Learning Commission’s requirements for our liberal education program. Staffing levels for the People & Environment course for Summer and Fall 2012 were discussed. Data for all categories of Liberal Education requirements were distributed and these data show the number of seats and their occupation rates. A list of courses to be presented to the Transfer Oversight Committee for future inclusion as Liberal Education courses was included in this discussion. Peterson moved (Brown seconded) the committee report be accepted. The motion passed unanimously.

Peterson moved (Brown seconded) to extend the senate’s time and the motion passed.

Troy Gilbertson and Derek Webb presented the following motions on behalf of the executive committee:

**Motion 1:** Senate gives the Executive Committee authority to serve on its behalf over Summer 2012. The motion passed unanimously.

**Motion 2:** All grievances occurring during Summer 2012 are to be held in abeyance over summer 2012. The motion passed unanimously.

**Motion 3:** All MOAs that come forward from either the BSUFA or BSU Administration during the Summer 2012 are held in abeyance over Summer 2012. The motion passed unanimously.

**Motion 4:** All MOAs that come forward from either the BSUFA or BSU Administration are to be reported at Senate prior to the BSUFA President signing. The motion passed unanimously.

**Motion 5:** Senate directs Executive Committee to prepare a yearly budget (academic year) and present it at the first Senate meeting each fall. Chris Brown moved (Tom Fauchald seconded) to amend the motion to read “present it at the September Senate meeting each fall.” The amendment passed. Next, the motion passed unanimously.

Adjourned at 5:30 pm, CDT.

Submitted by Dean Frost