BSUFA Senate Minutes
10 Sept 2012
4:00 pm HS 107

Attending
Chris Brown, Cheryl Byers, Laurie Desiderato, Tom Fauchald, Dean Frost, Andrew Graham, Heidi Hansen, Mike Herbert, Bonnie Higgins, William Joyce, Christel Kippenhan, Tim Kroeger, Lynn Maltais, Keith Marek, Brendan McManus, Mike Morgan, Francois Neville, Carla Norris-Raynbird, Deb Peterson, Sanjeev Phukan, Kathryn Smith, Erika Svanoe, Larry Swain, Mehdi Tehrani, Jeffrey Ueland, Sarah Young

Not attending
Virgil Bakken, Tom Beech, Dave Benson, Debbie Guelda, Eric Forsyth, Pete McDonnell, Mike Murray, Blanca Rivera, Sarah Tarutis, Karl Salscheider, John Truedson, Jim White, William Joyce, Carolyn Townsend, Kit Christensen

Visiting
Doug Leif, Marty Wolf

Call to Order at 4:00

Approval of minutes of 30 April. Fauchald moved; Marek seconded. Approved.
Approval of minutes of 27 August: Swain moved; Peterson seconded. Approved.

President’s Report
Visit from Russ Stanton, IFO Director of Government Relations, regarding the latest IFO legislative agenda and endorsements.

Thank yous from Stanton. GOP continues to attempt to reduce government - and we are part of that reduction. They have cut MnSCU by $130m over 2 years. They are trying to change our health care plan, with high deductible plan. They tried to shift the TRA, effectively creating 3% pay cut. They have tried to pass the Right to Work legislation, which is a union-breaker. The IFO has been able to stop the legislation through Dayton vetoes. But it’s not getting better. Contracts have to be approved by legislature, and committees are voting party lines. Our pay has been frozen for four years. To see a pay increase, we’re going to have to have a Democratic legislature. All legislators are up this year owing to redistricting. There will be a big turnover. Seats that turned two years ago went by thin margins. So it is possible to turn the legislature. Bemidji is ground zero in this matter. The stakes are high for higher ed so the IFO is endorsing Saxhaug, Purcell, and Erickson. Those we endorse have voted with the IFO and higher education interests, and this election is our opportunity to respond to their support.

The IFO is standing on the constitutional amendment to restrict marriage. The gay and lesbian members of our union are under attack, and contract issues of health benefit are tied to marriage, so IFO is asking member to vote against the amendment.
The IFO opposes the voter photo ID requirement. States with photo ID it tends to suppress voting.

Brown announced that a DFL Fish Fry will be held Monday 17 September, and encouraged all to attend.

**Officer and Committee Reports**

**Curriculum Committee.** Swain moved that Curriculum Report I be accepted. Peterson reported that Lib Ed Committee had passed it.

Discussion followed concerning the Computer Science part of the report. Fauchald asked whether the plan required three CS positions. Glen Richgels was recognized by Fauchald to clarify. CS is trying to draft a proposal for a major, and Hanson was supportive. Doug Leif was recognized by Fauchald. Up to 18 credits of Computer Information System program would be affected by this change. Business requests that the CS portion of this proposal be held out so that Business can meet with CS. Richgels assured Business that the plan was not developed to impinge on Business. CS has no problems working it out. Peterson recognized Marty Wolf. Wolf said that Business was notified of the plan with a 23 April email to Rod Henry. Leif pointed out that there weren’t many duty days between 23 April and now. Wolf pointed out that if the CS portion of the curriculum doesn’t pass, it louses up CS schedule. Leif stressed that the CS program would affect the Business program, and requested to meet to be proactive and sort out the issues. Swain asked for clarification: Only one of the courses of the core was changed. Is that enough to hold up the proposal? Lief suggested that we separate the CS portion. Peterson suggested that perhaps further conversation should go on. Ueland agreed that the departments should work it out to create a good interdisciplinary program. Fauchald moved to separate. Desiderato seconded. Motion carried.

More discussion. Leif reiterated that Business is simply asking to meet with CS. Doesn't have to wait until the month. Marek moved, Fauchald seconded to postpone the vote on the CS portion until next month. to let parties meet and discuss. Carried

Move to approve Curriculum Proposal sans CS carried.

**Lib Ed Committee.** MnSCU response to MnTC Course and Goal Area Review Part 2

Peterson filled in the background. Part 1 came through a few years ago. The upshot is that we have to take care of a few things in our transfer curriculum to come into compliance with MnSCU’s wishes. Some notes: We have asterixed courses that do not transfer. We are being told we must continue to do that. MnSCU sense an uncertainty of placement of some lib ed courses in MnTC goal areas. We’re supposed to confirm or change. MnSCU has trouble with language that guides students towards a particular program or profession in goal area 3. Address questions on the changes should to Peterson. More info will be coming to the departments that are part of changes.

**Budget Committee: Enrollment**
Fauchald circulated a spreadsheet of enrollment by undergrad and grad. We are down 6.7% credits. But we have a bigger problem: Graduate credits are down - in part because we cut grad programs. The dollar affect is a $2m shortfall for 2012-2013. We have some one-time recalibration money and $2m in reserve. By 2013-2014, we are beyond the worse-case scenario. Maki’s predication has us needing $3m by 2014. This puts us in a tough position. We will see a budget from the administration in October.

Also to note is that the drop in enrollment is statewide. SCSU has lost 11% this year, 6% last year.

**New Senate Rules**
President Brown encouraged senators to reconsider changes in operating procedures of the senate. Do we want on change meeting times? Procedures? Send ideas and request to Brown to be placed in front of senate for discussion

**Old Business**
**Response to President’s University Planning Council Proposal**

Marek moved and Peterson seconded that faculty participate.

Ueland spoke against the motion: This council or committee doesn’t help. It’s administrative cover. A select membership won’t provide insight. Desiderato spoke for the motion: Not participating is cutting off our nose to spite our face. It would be helpful to have our members present, and would recommend placing exec committee on it. Smith: We have a senate to give the administration input. This looks like another layer of faculty grouping. Higgins spoke against. The senate provides best representation. Peterson spoke for the motion. This is the administration trying to plan. We aren’t precluded from placing the entire senate on the council. Byers asked a question: If we vote to not participate, will the strategic plan proceed as is? Brown: We don’t know. Peterson noted that if this is voted down, we need to devise a strategy to participate.

Discussion finished. Motion failed.

Desiderato moved, and Byers seconded to send executive committee and allow all faculty to participate as they wish. Speaking against the motion, members remarked that we have a way to identify membership on committees, and we should use that rather than an at-large membership. Colleges like representative representation. Not unreasonable that non-IFO members might participate, but that senate should approve. Speaking against the motion, it was stressed that departments want representation.

Motion defeated.

Smith moved and Peterson seconded that membership on the council be the exec committee, and a committee formed by the Senate and reporting to the Senate, with members elected by the usual means, with numbers proportionate to representation by college.
Ueland called for a friendly amendment of one representative per department. Accepted by Peterson.

Peterson moved and Desiderato seconded to extend five minutes. Motion carried

Motion carried.

New Business
Peterson on the 1B1 changes in discrimination policies, asked senators look at the changes and get back to her.

Peterson asked that faculty put forward requests for People and Environment sections, but these have to be as part of load, not overload.

Marek reported that ACC met and we’re compiling concerns for technology over the next year. Requests input from faculty and members.

Byers moved to adjourn.

Adjournment at 5:22.

Submitted
M C Morgan