BSUFA Senate Minutes
4 Feb 2013
4:00 pm HS 107

Attending: Tim Brockman, Chris Brown, Cheryl Byers, Laurie Desiderato, Tom Fauchald, Dean Frost, Heidi Hansen, Mike Herbert, Bonnie Higgins, William Joyce, Christel Kippenhan, Tim Kroeger, Keith Marek, Pete McDonnell, Mike Morgan, Tom Murphy, Mike Murray, Kristi Nei, Francois Neville, Carla Norris-Raynbird, Larry Swain, Mehdi Tehrani, John Truedson, Sarah Young

Not attending: Virgil Bakken, Dave Benson, Tom Beech, Vivan Delgado, Debbie Guelda, Craig Hougen, Amber Fryklund, Del Lyren, Lynn Maltais, Sanjeev Phukan, Kathryn Smith, Erika Svanoe, Sarah Tarutis, Rod Witt

Call to Order at 4:00

Approval of Minutes of 14 Jan. Hansen moved, Kippenhan seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of minutes of 28 Jan postponed until Mar 4 Senate.

President’s Report
Brown recognized Troy Gilbertson. Gilbertson announced the Student Scholarship and Creative Achievement Day on Wednesday 10 April. The BSU website for submitting abstracts is open. BSU is participating in the MnSCU-wide conference this year, at MSU Mankato on Monday 8 April. Academic Affairs will fund travel. Encourage students to participate. Questions to Troy Gilbertson.

Update on the IFO Association’s Summer Chair grievance. Henry clarified the contract on teaching during summer. 1. Chairs are permitted by contract to teach only up to 4 credit hours over the entire summer session. 2. There is to be no double-dipping: That is, a chair cannot be paid for teaching on top of extended duty days if those duty days cover the same period as teaching. This part of the contract is being read as permitting deans to require chairs to teach over extended duty days. The Association is grieving whether chairs can be forced to teach without additional compensation. Because extended duty days of the chair are negotiated, the possibility of negotiating chair duty days to cover periods when courses aren’t being held is possible.

Fauchald offered further clarification. The chair cannot teach more than 4 credits during the summer, including online. Henry: This has been in contract since 2004, but we didn’t discover it until recently. Summer session also used to be considered 2-5 week sessions rather than one full-summer session. Non-chairs are limited to 16 credits total during summer.

Truedson: Are the chairs coordinating their efforts to negotiate this? I’d be glad to hold a meeting of all the chairs. Brown: Senators should recommend that chairs should meet and discuss the matter.
Meet and Confer notes. The administration would like to approve our M&C minutes before they are distributed. Fauchald moved that the Exec would not engage in joint M&C minutes. Swain seconded. Carried.

Contract balloting: We have had two informational meetings today to answer questions about the contract. Balloting takes place Weds and Thurs, from 8 - 6, at BSUFA office in Memorial Hall. Report out at 8:00pm. Contract needs to be votes on by MnSCU Trustees, then on to Legislature for approval. Owing to time, there are no absentee ballots. Faculty can vote at IFO headquarters in St. Paul during Weds and Thurs open hours.

Hanson is adding his support to a student request to develop a student memorial wall. Fauchald moved to support. Marek pointed out we don’t have much information on the idea yet. Fauchald moved to table. Swain seconded. Carried. President said he would invite Student Senate Co-President to visit at the next Senate meeting.

Old Business
 MAP response. The BSUFA MAP response is being collated. We will continue collecting until Friday, then pass it on. There was a request to change the preliminary paragraph of the response away from using the term “support” to “acknowledge that we have received these responses and are passing them on.” Move by Swain. Seconded by Marek. Carried.

Calendar Startup Dates Resolution. The Exec took the Senate’s concerns to Hanson at the last M&C. Hanson suggested getting all universities together on the issue. Brown then took it to the IFO Board. We ran into a problem: Common start dates is in statute. The matter died downstate. We have no resolution because IFO wouldn’t work with it.

New Business
 Lib Ed Survey. Swain move to send the recent Lib Ed survey back to committee for reconsideration and discussion. Desiderato seconded.

Swain presented four concerns. 1. The survey misrepresents the situation and the issues. There is enough information in the opening statement to set up the issue for a survey. The history of the Category 6 issues is not fully explained. 2. Any change of Lib Ed Category for Speech originates with the department and goes through Curriculum, not Lib Ed. 3. The questions call for faculty impression and so don't provide the kind of information on which to base a curricular decision. 4. We currently have no Speech faculty. Discussing placement of Speech without faculty on staff is a mistake. We hope to have faculty in fall, when we can then discuss this with the expertise of faculty. The charge to the Lib Ed committee is to come up with the best way to make lib ed decisions. This is not one of those ways.

Motion carried. The Lib Ed survey is returned to the Lib Ed Committee.

Automatic D2L shell
AVP Tadlock suggested that all BSU courses be assigned a D2L shell so that faculty could report cancelled courses to students. Truedson remarked that this was a terrible idea if the shell showed up without any course material. Murray: A number of faculty use shells, and we have to ask for them. Doing this would mean we wouldn’t have to ask for them. Faculty who aren’t going to use the shell can report in their syllabus that they won’t use it. Mike Herbert: I appreciate the idea of an auto shell. My concern is the requirement on whether we have to use it and for what. This is something not to do. Desiderato: I’m all for saving time, but if that’s they want, they can bulk load shells and make them inactive. Fauchald: Students will expect faculty to report to D2L, even if they aren’t using it for class. This could create student issues. We already have a system set up for reporting cancelled classes. That information can be passed on by staff and posted on the portal. Truedson moved to oppose. Fauchald seconded. Norris-Raynbird: The underlying assumption is that students are checking D2L. That’s a faulty assumption. Marek spoke against the motion. This is not a bad idea. Motion to oppose carried.

Adjournment
Norris-Raynbird moved to adjourn. Swain seconded. Adjourned at 4:45.

Submitted
M C Morgan