BSUFA Faculty Senate Meeting
January 13, 2003

Present: Carol Bodien, Valica Boudry, Chris Brown, Brian Donovan, Tom Fauchald, Eric Forsyth, Todd Frauenholtz, Rich Gendreau, Susan Hauser, Janice Haworth, Rod Henry, Elaine Hoffman, Richard Hook, Kristina Kippenhan, Brendan McManus, Ron Oldham, Debra Peterson, Glen Richgels, Kay Robinson, Pat Rosenbrock, Mark Schmidt, Jauneth Skinner, Carol Struve, Randy Westhoff, Rod Witt, Marty Wolf, Sarah Young

Absent: Sandra Bland, Annie Henry, Marilyn Meisenheimer, Ken Traxler, Pat Welle

Absent (excused): Tom Beech, Drago Bilanovic, Elizabeth Rave

Visitors: President Jon Quistgaard, Dave Kingsbury, Gerry Amble, Vice President JoAnn Fredrickson, William Brauer, Harold Culbertson

* Call to Order
Fauchald moved to reorder the agenda to allow President Quistgaard to speak first. Seconded by Witt. The motion carried without opposition.

Quistgaard shared information about the budget situation. He commented that things will be taken care of for the rest of this academic year, but that things looked much worse for fiscal years '04 and '05.

Highlights:
- Summer School credits for financial aid are not there for next summer. There is no more work study, and no child care.
- Applications for enrollment for next fall are running very strong.
- BSU is currently holding 5 administrative positions, the equivalent of about $300,000 in salaries.
- No decision yet of what to do with summer school earnings from last year -- a total of about $500,000. The administration is freezing this money for now.
- There will be no new expenditures unless it is strictly for safety and health.
- We are not laying off people for next spring.
- BSU will try to operate as normally as possible this spring semester. The real challenge will be the next two fiscal years. De-allocation may be a problem for fiscal years '04 and '05.

Questions and discussion followed. Then the administrative visitors left.

Brown reminded senators that we have a Meet & Confer scheduled for Wednesday. He stated that BSU needed to plan for all contingencies.

* Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting
Fauchald moved approval of minutes. Oldham seconded the motion. Approval of the minutes carried with no opposition.

* President's Report
Brown:
Collocation Expansion - prior to break a meeting was held considering the collocation project, which will probably be renamed. If it was put next to Bangsberg, so much money would be spent in site development, that it would not be feasible. Instead the administration is looking at expanding Bridgman up a floor and out into the Hagg Sauer Education Arts parking lot. This would be a loss of more than half of those parking spaces. Traffic would be rerouted next to Education Arts and the new Indian Center, probably with a loss of some trees north of Education Arts.

A lively discussion followed. Parking lost would be about 40 spaces. What about making it faculty staff only parking? No clear answer to the parking problem. Choices include a satellite lot with shuttle buses or perhaps discussion of building a parking garage.

Action: Please discuss this with your respective departments. The administration wants faculty feedback.

Leech Lake is trying to reinvigorate their tribal college. A first draft proposing the faculty mentor program was distributed to senators. Fredrickson is working on this. BSU faculty would mentor Leech Lake faculty. BSU faculty would be paid to do this. This program is based on something Moorhead State has been doing with White Earth Reservation Tribal College.

Action: Senators, please look at this, discuss it with your departments and let us know what you think.

Contract: rumors. There was a meeting of bargaining unit heads. The IFO has taken the lead with pulling this thing together. The domestic partner issue is still there. Some of the other bargaining units have real problems with leaving this clause in if it costs us our contract. At this point most faculty have expressed support for excluding the Domestic Partner Benefits if the legislators will pass the rest of the contract.

* Committee Reports
  - Academic Affairs: On-line courses

Peterson brought a proposal to senate recommending the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee. Discussion followed. Amendment from Witt that the function of the committee would be to examine and clearly delineate what it perceives to be issues in the alternative delivery course systems, then bring it back to Senate by the end of Spring Semester '03. The amendment was seconded by Oldham.

A lengthy discussion of the amendment followed.

Brown called for a vote on the amendment to the committee's recommendation. The motion carried with some opposition.

Schmidt recognized Brauer. Brauer voiced concerns about how courses are offered and issues of academic freedom. A heated discussion followed.

Fauchald called the question. The motion passed with some opposition.

Peterson reminded senators that this was an open committee meeting, others are invited to participate.
- Ethics Ad Hoc Committee
Skinner made a brief report. The committee convened for the first time during finals week in a conference call. The next meeting is to be held on February 7. Skinner requested help. Action: Professors please forward copies of ethical guidelines in their respective disciplines -- to her at 221 EA, Department of Visual Arts, Box 36, or to jskinner@bemidjistate.edu. Please send them to her to arrive by February 2.

* Unfinished Business
- Plus/Minus Grading
Peterson made a presentation from the Academic Affairs committee. Recommendations from the Academic Affairs committee. Discussion followed. The vote carried without opposition.

The meeting adjourned. Next Senate meeting: January 27, 2003, 4:00 P.M., HS 107.

Respectfully submitted,
Jauneth Skinner
BSFUA Executive Board Secretary, in Tom Beech's Absence.