Senate Minutes 3/17/03


Absent: V. Boudry, E. Hoffman, M. Meisenheimer


Guests: M. Fulton, B. Hanus, E. Dunn, J. Reynolds, J. Brouwer, K. Burdick, K. Swanson, P. Waletzko

M. Wolf moved that the minutes from the March 3 Senate meeting be approved. Seconded by S. Hauser. CARRIED

President’s Report (C. Brown)

- The PSEO draft policy will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Three members of the Student Senate (P. Waletzko, K. Burdick and K. Swanson) would like to speak on the issue of plus/minus grading. The Student Senate passed a bill, by the margin of 17-2 in opposition to adoption of this system. Their concerns were: potential impacts on GPAs; why is there a need for change; that too much emphasis will be placed on grades rather than learning; that, since it is optional, that some faculty will use this, and others will not, which creates inequities.
- T. Beech moved to reconsider adoption of plus/minus grading. Seconded by S. Hauser. After a vigorous discussion, this CARRIED. P. Welle moved to refer the matter to Academic Affairs. CARRIED.

Committee Reports

Student Services (S. Hauser)

- Currently working on the next calendar. Proposals for guidelines will be sent out in near future.

Budget (T. Fauchald)

- L. King put together a confidential report on potential campus closures. Expect to see an article in the Star-Tribune.
- Presented allocation for appropriations and degree of cuts that each of the MNSCU institutions faces. BSU can expect an 11.92% cut from 2003 to 2004,
and a 2.38% cut from 2004 to 2005. This would mean a total of $74 million cut from 03-05.

Government Relations (T. Fauchald)
- Rumor is that the contract will be passed on Thursday and then will go to the Governor.

Curriculum Committee (M. Fulton)
- Curriculum Report 11. The FYE proposal was returned last week, they expect to see it resubmitted.

GEOGRAPHY / PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
Course modifications
-- 3460 Teaching of Secondary School Social Studies, to GEOG 3460 Teaching of Middle and Secondary School Social Studies

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (SPECIAL EDUCATION)
Program modifications
-- Specific Learning Disabilities Licensure
-- Emotional Behavioral Disorders Licensure
-- Special Education, M.S.

Course modifications
-- ED 3620/5620 Teaching the Learner with Specific Learning Disabilities I, 2 credits, to 3 credits
-- ED 3630/5630 Teaching the Learner with Emotional Behavioral Disorders I, 2 credits, to 3 credits
-- ED 6620 Teaching the Learner with Specific Learning Disabilities II, 2 credits, to 3 credits
-- ED 6630 Teaching the Learner with Emotional Behavioral Disorders II, 2 credits, to 3 credits

Modifications ACCEPTED.

Ad Hoc FYE Committee (E. Dunn)
- Provided a list of concerns that the committee had concerning the First Year Experience proposal, including course fees, academic supervision, course focus, etc.
- T. Fauchald proposed that next Senate meeting be postponed until April 7.
Meeting Adjourned 5:15 PM