BSUFA Faculty Senate

Date: April 4, 2005


Absent: J. Brouwer, P. Donnay, E. Hoffman, P. Welle

Excused: V. Boudry, D. Bilanovic, D. Maglaglic, C. Nielsen, S. Young

Guests: Nancy Black, Julie Gronquist, William Brauer, George Gardner, Tammy Bobrowsky, Rod Henry

Called to Order: 4:05

Approval of March 7 and March 21 Minutes

Fauchald: Move to approve these minutes.

Wolf: Second.

Motion carried.

President's Report

Larkin: I yield to our State IFO President, Nancy Black. She will introduce the Stop the Slide Action campaign.

Black: Gave a STOP the SLIDE report (previously disseminated to all faculty via email and fuchsia hard copy). The biggest issue is that our funding is so low with respect to other states.

Fauchald: What percentile are we?

Black: There are many different indicators. We will be meeting on April 8 for final figures showing us against comparable tier 2 institutions. Depending on rank we range from 60% and below. Other sources make some of this data hard to interpret. We need to hang together on this. There is much going on with the politics that we will have to wait to see how some of this plays. Freedom of Speech is an issue. So many issues could derail anything. We still haven’t had our contract ratified by the legislature. Please don’t hesitate to contact me with your questions and concerns. Now I’ll turn this over to your local people. Thanks to Chris Brown for his work as State Action Committee coordinator last year. Rod Henry, chief negotiator for IFO, will give you an update on contract negotiations. Chris Brown, who is this contract’s negotiator for BSUFA will also speak, as will Sharon Gritzmacher, the BSUFA Action Coordinator.

R. Henry: We are scheduled to meet with the MnSCU bargaining team for the first time on April 20. We will present our initial proposal and get a look at what they are proposing. Last year we lost 100% family health contributions. The rumor is that this round they will go after 100% of employee health contribution. You should also know that as we begin to prepare for our first meeting with the other side, the legislature has still not ratified our current contract which will expire on June 30. Chris Brown, BSUFA negotiator, will now discuss other negotiations issues.

Brown: The negotiations team has gone through the delegate assembly resolutions and has prepared our initial offer. Will meet with other side end of April. We should thank Frank Moe for his work on the bonding bill. We have Bridgeman Hall and we were worried about that.

Gritzmacher: First, we need to thank Mary Ann Papanek-Miller for all her work on the costing/teaching workload task force. That has many implications for this year’s contract negotiations. At this point, almost all of us are feeling overworked and spread entirely too thin.
Still, I am going to ask you all to engage in a unified action with the other MnSCU faculty. Our theme for action is stop the slide, and action at this point is critical. If we do a little now, we will save ourselves a lot of work later. We are distributing our stop the slide buttons and posters. We will hold off on the informational bannering for a couple of reasons. As Nancy mentioned, the legislature still hasn’t ratified our current contract. And, we would like to see what the offer is from the other side. Bannering is tentatively scheduled for early fall, depending how negotiations go this spring and summer.

Student Senate Report

Gronquist: My report will be brief because I know you have a long agenda to finish today. We in student senate are excited about the Stop the Slide campaign. Our tuition freeze campaign is going well. Carrie Ruud, Frank Moe, and Brita Sailor are on board with us. We will be trying something new in Rod Skoe’s district. We will be going door to door. Regarding the issue of parking, our recommendation will be coming out soon. Tamarack residents are talking about protesting. They will be forced to park at the back of the Rec Center. The lighting is bad; there are real concerns about the safety of 18 year old female freshmen. We are advocating an honors code for incoming freshmen to sign. This will address academic integrity. Our state association delegate assembly just met. We made a trip to Washington DC, and would like to believe that we were instrumental in keeping TRIO programs alive. We were well received by the legislators.

Fauchald: Have you heard from President Quistgaard on the subject of tuition?

Gronquist: He has presented four scenarios, depending on what the legislator does: a freeze or 2%, 4%, and 6% increases.

Committee Reports

Constitutional Review

McManus: I move that Amendment 1: Election Reform presented at the previous senate meeting be adopted with a minor change. In Section B: Nominations I want to insert “with the approval of the Senate.” The last sentence should read, “If, after the completion of the nominations process only one eligible BSUFA member has self-nominated for any BSUFA office or position, that member, with the approval of Senate, will be considered to have been elected to the given office or position.

Fauchald: Second.

Milowski: Is it possible to change the wording of these amendments without going through the entire process.

Questions about the parliamentary process.

Larkin: We need to vote on the change to the motion.

Milowski: I am against the amendment. We have an opening on an IFO committee. Anyone can put their name forward. If only one person puts for their name, we can get into personalities.

McManus: Unfortunately, we can’t amend the bylaws yet. But, what I contemplate is that the senate will receive a report on who has self-nominated in a report from Committee on Committees.

Lee: This amendment is a perfect compromise. There is some oversight.

Division of the house.

In favor of the motion: 13.

Opposed: 10.

Motion to change language carries.

General discussion.
Hauser: The English department would like to have paper ballots with the opportunity to write in candidates.

Gritzmacher: There is no provision in the constitution for write-in candidates. Years ago, before I was ever involved, the constitution was amended to require that all nominations for committee seats be self-nominations. This prevents the very real possibility that a candidate with absolutely no interest in a position could appear on the ballot. The issue is the same for write-in candidates. I could write in the name of any one and that person would be elected to serve on a committee.

Lee: In the history of the Senate has a single candidate been overturned? General agreement that this had not occurred.

Vote on the constitutional amendments.
Division of the house.
In favor of the motion: 17.
Opposed: 7.
Motion carried.

McManus: I move that Amendment 2, which will allow us to amend the bylaws, be accepted.
Wolf: Second.
Motion carried.

McManus: Now there will have to be an information BSUFA meeting prior to a vote by the entire body.

Larkin: I will arrange it for April 18.

Curriculum Committee Report

Brauer: We have two proposals in Curriculum Report VIII, one from accounting, and one from English. The Curriculum Committee has reviewed them and recommends approval of both. Confusion because only the accounting proposal had been disseminated.

Brauer: I need some help understanding what is to be brought to Senate. The matter was referred to Wendy Larson.

Donovan: I have a question. This is a minor in fraud examination. Will anything on the transcript address that this is accounting.

Bland: I acknowledge George Gardner.

Gardner: It is intended to be an interdisciplinary minor between Criminal Justice, Business, and Accounting. Fraud examination can be very broad. It isn’t just an accounting problem, it is a societal problem. I don’t believe that there should be an accounting major who graduates without a criminal justice course.

Donovan: Suppose a chemistry major took this course. Would it allow him to examine fudging experimental data?

Gardner: Yes, fraud is intentional, it isn’t by mistake.

Marek: I guess since chemistry was mentioned, I feel obligated to comment. Will this enable someone to discover scientific fraud?

Gardner: It will define fraud and address the ethics involve. There is an initiative to add fraud examination at the college level. Given Enron, etc., the idea of this minor is timely. There are universities that offer it as a major as well as at the graduate level. It isn’t accounting fraud, it’s fraud.

Papanek-Miller: I call the question.
Milowski: Second.
Motion carried.
Curriculum report VIII carried.

**Committee on Committees Report**

**Gritzmacher:** We have a significant number of committee seats up for election this spring. The call for nominations will go out Friday. Please encourage your constituents to respond to this call. As in the past, a few faculty serve on multiple committees. We also have many vacant seats. Given the costing teaching information provided by Papanek-Miller, many of us are doing too much. We need some other faculty to ease the burden and become involved.

**Fauchald:** Isn’t there a question about distribution of senate seats? Based on the information you passed out in March, it looks like my department should have another senator.

**Gritzmacher:** Frankly, I had forgotten about that. It has been lost from the agenda, and I am not prepared to talk about it today. **I move we hold on senate seat issue until fall.**

**Dunn:** Second. Motion carried.

**Budget Committee**

**Fauchald:** I have a copy of budge report in the back. Because we have so much on today’s agenda, I won’t give an oral report. I urge you to look at the report.

**Academic Affairs Committee**

**Larkin:** I acknowledge Deb Peterson.

**Peterson:** Tammy Bobrowsky has come to discuss turnitin.com.

**Bobrowsky:** I don’t have a specific presentation, but am here to answer questions. Universities can subscribe to this service. It will produce an originality report identifying what percentage of a student’s report is original.

**Lee:** Because information is submitted without the permission of the author, is there some violation of copyright?

**Bobrowsky:** On the turnitin.com website they have information indicating that they have checked this out. The paper is in the repository. If the same paper had been submitted previously, you would only see the text that matched; you wouldn’t see any names.

**McManus:** As they upload more and more papers, it raises the potential of a tremendous data base. Is it customary for institutions to make disclaimers?

**Bobrowsky:** The recommendation is to state in your syllabus that papers will be turned in to turnitin, if it is warranted. The most effective way is to put it in the syllabus. This doesn’t just have to be a policing tool. It can be a learning resource. We can let students submit their own papers.

**Wolf:** Eventually, isn’t, every paper going to hit?

**Bobrowsky:** Logically. Papers with lots of appropriately cited quotes will have a high warning rate. They may still be papers of integrity.

**Dunn:** **I move we recommend this software to the Provost’s office.**

**Meyer:** Second.

**Fauchald:** It’s $3600?

**Bobrowsky:** I believe it is closer to $4000.

**Rosenbrock:** This is just a recommendation. The money is her problem.

**Wolf:** It seems like there are some inherent problems. Center for Professional Development should provide some training on who is to use this tool.

Motion carried.

**Peterson:** I want to speak to the proposed academic calendar.

**Meyer:** I move we hold on discussion of the calendar until our next meeting.
Lee: Second.
Motion carried.
Liberal Education Committee
Donovan: The Liberal Education Committee interviewed the soul candidate who came forward for the soon to be vacant Liberal Education Director position currently held by Susan Hauser. The Liberal Education Committee recommends approval of Louise Mengelkoch.
Milowski: I move we endorse the Lib Ed Committee recommendation.
Fauchald: Second.
Motion carried.
Papanek-Miller: The final meeting of the Costing Teaching Workload Taskforce is this Friday. We are charged to present our report to the negotiating team on May 1.
Multicultural Issues Committee
A. Henry: The Multicultural Relations Committee is recommending that our campus undergo TOCAR training as a means of preventing racism. Please fill out these surveys and return them to me. I want to feel the pulse of our departments. Please return information from the Continuum on Becoming an Anti-Racist Multicultural Institution to Senator Annie Henry.
Executive Committee Report
Milowski: Two meetings ago we had handouts on the program indicators. These are the new dirty dozen. As we move into the master academic plan, the program indicators will be used to evaluate programs, departments, etc. Look at these. Discuss them with your departments. This is the way that the administration will evaluate us in the future. We need to look at the way these will be looked at. Will they have numerical rankings? Some departments fall under these heavily. Right now they are not weighted. Some of us are advocating going forward. They have been brought to meet and confer. We have not made a formal response as an executive board.
Weaver: I move to adjourn.
Lee: Second.
Motion Carried.
Larkin: Next meeting will be April 18 at 4:00 PM. Dan Rice, the outside consultant reviewing the planning committee structure will be here to listen to comments.

Adjourned: 5:16 PM