BSUFA Senate Minutes 6 March 2006

Members Present: Chris Brown, Brian Donovan, Elizabeth Dunn, Tom Fauchald, Todd Frauenholtz, Annie Henry, Steve Heriot, Christina Kippenhan, Stephanie McConnell, Brendan McManus, Kathleen Meyer, Carol Milowski, Ron Oldham, Deb Peterson, Rosalie Weaver, Pat Welle, Rod Witt, Marty Wolf, Kari Wood

Members Absent: Drago Bilanovic, Jim Brouwer, Donald Cloutman, Harold Culbertson, Patrick Donnay, Susan Hauser, Richard Hook, Craig Hougen, David Larkin, Keith Marek, Pat Rosenbrock, Mark Schmit, Steve Sundahl, Derek Webb, Sarah Young

At 4:05, Vice-President Elizabeth Dunn convened a BSUFA Association Meeting for the final consideration of the proposed Constitutional Amendment combining the Committee on Committees and the Constitutional Review Committee into a Rules Committee. Brendan McManus, Constitutional Review, said the ballot for the amendment would be distributed to members shortly after break. As the Senate was short of a quorum, the Association agreed to informal discussion of the CEL reimbursement question. Rod Henry, Lead Negotiator for the IFO, wanted members to know that the negotiators had tried to negotiate this issue and contrary to what Dean Martin Tadlock had suggested in his e-mail, “no money was left on the table” during negotiations.

With a quorum present, Vice-President Elizabeth Dunn convened the Senate Meeting at 4:20.

Marty Wolf moved (Rose Weaver second) approval of the 6 February 2006 Minutes. Passed unanimously.

Chris Brown moved (Kathy Meyer second) the reordering of the agenda to consider CEL Course Reimbursement as the first item of business. Passed unanimously. The question before the Senate was the Administration’s response to the IFO Executive to fund on-line courses only at $85/credit, leaving the packet courses at $65/credit. There was considerable discussion about whether or not this would create a “two-tiered” faculty, whether it would occasion an increase in student fees, and how “on-line” was defined. Tom Fauchald moved (Pat Welle second) that all distance courses be reimbursed at $90/credit with no release of intellectual property rights on the part of faculty. After considerable discussion, Todd Frauenholtz called the question (Brendan McManus second). Passed unanimously. After which the original motion passed without objection.

Under Officer’s Reports, Dunn reminded the Senators of the Delegate Assembly Pre-Meeting at 4:00 pm on March 20 at the Park House. There are still three open delegate slots if any IFO member wishes to attend.

The first item of business under Committee Reports was Curriculum Report VII placed for action by William Brauer, Chair of the Curriculum Committee. Marty Wolf spoke against adoption of the report as Technological Studies proposes to grant degrees
in other disciplines *i.e.* Accounting, Computer Science, Psychology, and four other subject areas, without early and continuing consultation with faculty in those areas. Brauer was asked if the Chairs of the disciplines listed had been consulted about the new degree; Bauer replied that he had been told they did not need to be consulted, but he did not know who told him this. Christina Kippenhan spoke against the proposal as it listed health/medicine as an area students would be prepared to enter, and she felt this was misleading. Tom Fauchald moved (Christina Kippenhan second) that Curriculum Report VII be returned to committee and the Chairs of all affected areas be notified for formal input. The motion passed unanimously.

The second committee report was John Truedson’s report on the MNSCU D2L committees. Truedson says there are several committees at the system level and the universities appear to be underrepresented on them. There is a recommendation to combine the committees into one. On Motion of Marty Wolf (Brian Donovan second) the report was accepted.

On motion of Tom Fauchald (Brendan McManus second) the Senate meeting was extended for ten (10) minutes to finish the agenda. Passed unanimously.

The third committee report was Graduate Studies request for zero-credit/continuing enrollment and recognition of the International Baccalaureate for entry into graduate studies. Christina Kippenhan, Chair of Graduate Studies, distributed the report for action. In discussion, Kippenhan indicated that problems with library access and the propensity of students to “drop off the radar screen” for several years and then reappear wanting to finish a degree as the main reasons for adopting the continuing enrollment proposal. Chair Dunn held the report over for action under New Business.

Mark Schmit, Technological Studies, reported that his department continues to want one seniority line rather than the two proposed by the Administration.

Chair Dunn indicated that Provost Fredrickson had asked her if she could visit with the Senate about the evaluation of administrators. There was informal concensus to refer this back to the Executive Committee.

For lack of a quorum, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm. Carol Milowski, Recorder.