BSUFA Senate Meeting
November 6, 2006

Senators Present: Sandra Bland, Tammy Bobrowsky, William Brauer, Chris Brown, Donald Cloutman, Sue Cutler, Brian Donovan, Elizabeth Dunn, Tom Fauchald, Susan Hauser, Craig Hougen, Christina Kippenhan, Russ Lee, Keith Marek, Kathleen Meyer, Carol Milowski, Ron Oldham, Deb Peterson, Joel Pugh, Mark Schmit, Jauneth Skinner, Richard Spindler, Derek Webb, Pat Welle, James White, Rod Witt, Marty Wolf, Kari Wood, Sarah Young

Guests: Sharon, Gritzmacher, T. Todd Masman

1. The Senate convened at 4:02 PM.
2. Minutes for October 2, 2006: Motion to approve, as presented, by Peterson, seconded by Wolf; motion carried.
3. Student Senate Report by President Cody Nelson, including Student Senate the following: Priority parking at athletic events for donors; an Honor Code (signature themes, conduct, academic); a Signature Themes committee; the Get Out the Vote Campaign.
4. President’s Report
   - New MnSCU committee, FAN (Friends Action Network), may solicit for MnSCU; please let Dunn know if you are contacted regarding this organization.
   - Three IPESL proposals were forwarded to MnSCU (two from Math, one from Psychology) for review.
   - Joan Miller is surveying adjunct faculty to develop an adjunct faculty handbook for her graduate study work.
5. Grievance Officer’s Report: Dr. Witt informed the Senate as to Dr. Fredrickson’s response to two recent grievances. The first addressed the issues of the administration announcing the designation of departments prior to submitting the proposal through the Meet and Confer process as required by contract. The second grievance addressed the issue of closure in Professional Development Plans. In response to a grievance by the Association, Dr. Fredrickson has claimed that the weighting of different student evaluation methods which might be employed by faculty did not constitute closure. Both grievances of been referred to President Quistgaard for action.
6. Curriculum Committee Report, 2006-2007, # III: Passage recommended by Committee Chair Brauer, for undergraduate items, and by Graduate Committee Chair Kippenhan, for graduate items. There was a discussion of proposed Math items. Motion by Peterson, seconded by Marek, to separate the Math component from the report. Motion carried.

Report with MATH separated carried.

Motion by Lee, seconded by Young, to recommit the Math portion of the Report to the Curriculum Committee with the recommendation that both courses be numbered at the 08xx level. A discussion ensued (Gritzmacher recognized by Young). Motion carried.

7. Rules Committee, Sharon Gritzmacher: Motion by Milowski, seconded by Wolf, to formalize through Meet and Confer that two faculty members will serve at-large on the Who’s Who Selection Committee. Motion carried.
Gritzmacher reported back to the Senate, as requested, on Rank and Choice voting: This would require amendment to the BSUFA Constitution or Bylaws to the Rules Committee is taking the concern under advisement.

8. Government Relations, Fauchald: Motion by Fauchald, seconded by Oldham, that the Senate pay $150 to Bemidji State student April Knutson, for her time (more than ten hours) dedicated to the Get Out the Vote project. Motion carried.

9. Athletic Budget Task Force: Dunn announced that six of fourteen members on this task force will represent the BSUFA. Motion by Fauchald, second by Schmidt, that the Executive Committee consult with coaches regarding representation on the proposed Task Force and report back to the Senate. Motion carried.

10. Search Committee Agenda Item: No action necessary.

11. Curriculum Planning: The Provost has indicated that she is available for visits with departments regarding upper division course offerings.

12. Board of Trustees Teaching Awards: Dunn reviewed the MnSCU award announcement. It includes a $5,000 cash award. There will be one award system wide for the universities (two for two-year colleges). Bemidji State is allowed to nominate two faculty members. Our administration has asked us how we would like to establish the committee to identify nominees.

A discussion ensued, especially regarding the award as a form of merit pay, time required to generate nominations, the contract as the appropriate place for negotiating faculty compensation, and questions regarding the origin of the award.

13. The discussion was interrupted for a motion by Fauchald, seconded by Wolf, to extend the meeting for five minutes, to 5:20; motion carried.

14. The award discussion continued with a motion by Brown, seconded by Peterson, that the local board bring this back to state with a reminder that compensation takes place within the contract, not external to it. Motion carried.

15. NEW Business: remand all documents about university committee restructuring to Rules Committee. Motion by Brown, seconded by Fauchald; motion carried.

16. The meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM

Susan Hauser,
Recording Secretary

Next Senate meeting: Monday, December 4, 2006, HS 107.