BSUFA Senate Meeting
May 7, 2007

Present: Tammy Bobrowsky, Chris Brown, Donald Cloutman, Sue Cutler, Patrick Donnay, Brian Donovan, Elizabeth Dunn, Tom Fauchald, Susan Hauser, Annie Henry, Christina Kippenhan, Russ Lee, Keith Marek, Brendan McManus, Kathleen Meyer, Ron Oldham, Darren Olson, Deb Peterson, Joel Pugh, Jauneth Skinner, Richard Spindler, Pat Welle, James White, Rod Witt, Marty Wolf

Guests: Fu-Hsian Chang, Satish Davgun, Mur Gilman, Colleen Greer, Sharon Gritzmacher, Tim Kroeger, Kerry Openshaw

1. The meeting convened at 5:01 PM. President Dunn noted that if the agenda is not completed today the Senate will meet again on May 21.

2. Motion by Brown, seconded by Wolf, to approve the minutes for April 2 and 16, 2007 (one meeting). Correction: in the April 2 minutes, the word be is omitted from the phrase “survey will administered. Motion to approve minutes as corrected carried.

3. President’s report
   Announcement of three surveys: CEL student satisfaction survey; MnSCU survey for faculty (Linda Lade) on how incoming students are assessed and placed; Academic Computing Committee Survey (will be a factor in laptop decision for next year).

   Campus Security: Dunn noted that an incident took place on campus last month that culminated in the arrest of a person who had made threats against the campus community. The BSUFA was not notified of the situation until it was made public. The Executive Committee will bring their concern about this to Meet and Confer. Re 911 addresses on buildings: Dunn will ask that the Security Office be prepared to identify buildings by 911 addresses. A PA system is being piloted in BN hall.

   In the new contract draft, MnSCU does not provide for faculty and family tuition accommodation for the new applied doctorate programs. Their proposal also contradicts current practice regarding graduate programs and faculty and family tuition waivers. The union is aware of this and is arguing against MnSCU’s position

4. Officer’s Reports
   Chris Brown, Negotiator, reported on Intra-Space Bargaining. It looks like we will not have a new contract in place for 2007-2008.

   Deb Peterson, Treasurer, reported on the current, healthy state of our BSUFA budget. Fauchald, Wolf, moved to approve the report. Motion carried.

5. Committee Reports
   Brian Donovan, LE Committee Chair, reported on the Liberal Education Task Force. Colleen Greer, Task Force Convener, was recognized by Donovan and gave an update on Task Force processes and progress. Chris Brown asked that the wiki address for the Task Force be re-sent to the Senate. Greer said she would do that.

   William Brauer, Curriculum Committee Chair, recommended that the Senate accept
Curriculum Report IX, 2006-2007. The Committee asked that the Senate take note that the Geography proposal contains an increase in credits in a program, and that a People & the Environment course is required in the program.
Donnay recognized Davgun who spoke to potential concerns, including staffing considerations. Kippenhan noted that the Graduate Committee recommends the graduate portions of the Curriculum Report. Donovan noted that the Liberal Education Committee recommends the Liberal Education components. Wolf asked that Biology and History comment on the effect on staffing in the changes they propose. Cloutman responded for Biology, Dunn for History. Both noted that staffing had been considered and would not pose a problem. Acceptance of the report was voted on; the report was accepted.

Crystal Kippenhan, Graduate Committee Chair reported that the Graduate Committee revised language in its Graduate Orals form, as requested by the Senate at its last meeting, regarding the retaking of oral examinations. The guidelines now spell out the conditions for that situation. Motion by Welle, seconded by Fauchald, to insert the word “substantial” under subparts A and B (conditional portion) before the word “revision” (“substantial revisions”). Welle recognized Tim Kroeger who spoke in favor of the motion to add the word “substantial” to certain items in the graduate policy proposal. The Senate voted on the report as presented at the last meeting with the change in the wording as presented at today’s meeting; the report was accepted, twelve in favor, nine opposed.

6. Welle proposed that a position be added to Graduate Committee for EEEC. He acknowledged Fu-Hsian Chang who spoke in favor of the proposal. Motion by Donovan, seconded by Brown, to refer the proposal to the Rules Committee. Motion carried.

7. Mur Gilman, recognized by Dunn, reviewed the 2008-2010 calendars proposal put forward by Provost’s Work Group on the Calendar. The calendars are limited in some respects by MnSCU calendar requirements. A discussion ensued. Wolf recognized Gritzmacher who commented on J-terms and the calendar. Kippenhan moved, Fauchald seconded, to accept the report. Motion carried.

8. Sharon Gritzmacher, Rules Committee, reviewed handouts on the distribution of Senate seats. Gritzmacher encouraged Senators to encourage faculty to volunteer for the CAL pool, which has no representation at the moment.

9. Dunn called for a vote, seconded by Brown, to ratify the election of unopposed candidates in the BSUFA officers election; motion carried.

10. Dunn asked the Rules Committee to determine if the by-laws (or the constitution) require the names of unopposed incumbents to appear on the ballot for BSUFA officers.

11. Dunn reported that the Scenario Planning Committee has completed its work. At its last meeting it identified six proposed strategies to the Provost to be incorporated in the revised Strategic Plan. Roughly speaking, they were: 1. Focus on improved communication. 2. Support academic innovation. 3. Build upon success. 4. Reinvent planning process, structure, and decision-making. 5. Redirect resources. 6. Identify issues that create obstruction.

12. Dunn reported that the Women’s Studies Ad Hoc Committee recommends Jauneth Skinner for Director of the Women’s Studies Program. A call for additional applicants has been issued.

13. Dunn asked if there was additional feedback on the budget for the next Meet & Confer meeting. Peterson noted that the WCHA is not lifting its moratorium on new admission
of new teams; Peterson requested that the Executive Committee ask for the administration’s response to this at Meet & Confer.

14. Dunn announced the results of the election for the Provost’s Work Group: Mur Gilman, COPS; Maryanne Reitmeir, SNS; Nancy Michael, CAL; Mike Herbert, at-large.

15. Per Dunn’s request, Fauchald moved, Wolf seconded, that the Executive Committee act on the Senate’s behalf during the summer; motion carried.

16. Kerry Openshaw, recognized by Cloutman, described the previous role of the BSUFA ex-officio representative on BSU Foundation Board; he noted that the position was eliminated during a recent (December 2005) reorganization. Cloutman moved, seconded by Brown, that the BSUFA ex-officio position on the BSU Foundation Board be reinstated.

17. Motion by Welle, seconded by Cloutman, to extend the meeting for five minutes; motion carried.

18. Foundation discussion resumed. Motion to request that the position be reinstated carried.

19. Resolution by Kippchen regarding campus safety and security: BSU Campus Security & Safety should visit department meetings once every two years with the purpose of introducing and reviewing appropriate behavior by faculty and staff in different emergency situations as outlined in the BSU/NTC Emergency Plan. It is recommended that these presentations are customized to the specific needs and requirements of the visited department and the buildings in which the members of the departments are housed and teach. Seconded by Brown; motion carried.

20. Motion to adjourn by Donovan. Senate adjourned at 5:20 PM.

The Senate will meet again ??? fall 2007.

Susan Hauser, Recording Secretary