BSUFA Senate
March 3, 2008

Present: Tammy Bobrowsky, Chris Brown, Cheryl Byers, Patrick Carriere, Sue Cutler, Patrick Donnay, Brian Donovan, Marsha Driscoll, Elizabeth Dunn, Tom Fauchald, Mark Fulton, Susan Hauser, Michael Herbert, Christel Kippenhan, Russ Lee, Keith Marek, Richard Mayer, Brendan McManus, Kathleen Meyer, Darren Olson, Mark Schmit, Kathryn Smith, Richard Spindler, John Truedson, Derek Webb, James White, Marty Wolf, Sarah Young

Guests: Russ Bennett, Troy Gilbertson, Richard Hook, Jim Rafferty, Ivan Weir

1. Dunn called the Senate to order at 4:02 PM.
2. Motion by Fauchald, seconded by Meyer, to approve the minutes for February 4 and February 18, 2008; motion carried.
3. Student Senate president Cody reported on Senate actions, including a student fee for environmental projects, actions on bonding requests, student participation, and long-range plans.
4. Fauchald moved, seconded by Meyer, to reorder the agenda, moving up the presentation by Institutional Research & Assessment Director Ivan Weir on the MnSCU “Dashboard,” a project that presents selected university data measures.
5. President’s Report
   a. The Rules Committee will soon issue a call for self-nominations for the BSUFA Executive Committee openings for 2008-2010.
   b. Futures Council: the Senate asked for a fourth BSUFA representative; the administration agreed to that.
   c. Delegate Assembly: there are still three openings. Dunn will issue a reminder. Faculty are encouraged to volunteer to attend as BSUFA delegates.
   d. Data book committee: BSUFA membership was announced.
   e. Athletic budget plan: the Senate requested additional information on the “self-insurance” item in the athletic budget. Dunn ascertained that the item applies only to student athletes (not interns); in the past BSU carried a secondary policy for students; if students did not have a primary policy, ours became primary; because of that, our premiums have gone up, reaching a high of $150,000. New plan: set aside our own money to manage our risk ourselves which will amount to about $50,000 per year, and take out a “catastrophic” insurance policy which would kick in after a deductible of several thousand dollars per incident. This would allow us to hire another athletic trainer for about $50,000 (to help keep costs down) and still save approximately $50,000.
   f. Events center lease: the Senate had asked how savings in the projected events center lease played a role in the $750,000 “savings” slated for the athletic budget. Vice President for Finance Maki reported at Meet and Confer that the lease came in $150,000 lower than anticipated and budgeted, so it is, in fact, a savings in the budget.
6. Motion by Wolf, seconded by Welle, to reinstitute the practice of sending senators full curriculum packets. This practice was stopped some years ago to economize on paper and printing; now the packets can be sent electronically. A discussion ensued. Motion carried.
7. Motion by Driscoll, seconded by Fauchald, that the Curriculum and Graduate Committees post curriculum proposals for an all-university review prior to the committees’ meetings to review those proposals. A discussion ensued. Motion withdrawn by Driscoll and Fauchald.

8. Motion by Lee, seconded by Wolf, that the Curriculum and Graduate Committees review the curriculum process and propose a revised process to address the concern regarding faculty timely access to proposals; motion carried.

9. Curriculum Committee Chair Carriere, Graduate Committee Chair Kippenhan and Liberal Education Committee Chair Donovan recommended approval of Curriculum Report VI.
   a. Motion by Smith, seconded by Driscoll, to separate the graduate Professional Education proposal from the Curriculum Report. Motion carried.
   b. Call for a vote on the remainder of Curriculum Report VI; report was approved.
   c. Motion by Smith, seconded by Webb, that the graduate packet from Professional Education be remanded to the Graduate Committee to be sent back to Professional Education for reconsideration; motion carried.

10. Dunn noted that the new contract proposal has been approved by the IFO constituency. It has been passed by the MnSCU BOT Human Resources Committee. It then goes, in sequence, to the full Board of Trustees on March 18, the State Legislature and the Governor.

11. Carriere moved, seconded by Meyer, to extend the meeting five minutes; motion carried.

12. Dunn asked for the Senate’s response to the Provost’s recommendation on department reconstitution (the document was previously sent to the faculty). Webb moved, seconded by Driscoll, that the Senate accept the proposal without comment. A discussion ensued.

13. Olson called the question, without opposition; motion carried.

14. Dunn noted that the Provost has sent us a timeline for college reorganization and that she will call for another round of department reconstitutions.

15. A continuation meeting of the Senate will be held on March 17.

16. The Senate adjourned at 5:23 PM.