BSUFA Senate Minutes
1 Feb 2010
4:00 pm HS 107

Attending: Chris Brown, Mark Christensen, Sue Cutler, Phil Dahl, Laurie Desiderato, Brian Donovan, Tom Fauchald, Eric Forsyth, Mark Fulton, Jeanine Gangeness, Dan Gartrell, Janice Haworth, Mike Herbert, Bonnie Higgins, Ellen Jones, Christel Kippenhan, Ivy Knoshaug, Tim Kroeger, Doug Leif, Co Livingston, Mike Morgan, Tom Murphy, Dianne Narum, Bud Nestel, Mehdi Sheikholeslami, David Smith, Kathryn Smith, John Truedson, Jeffrey Ueland, Derek Webb, Pat Welle

Not attending: Tom Beech, Matthew Bowen, Cheryl Byers, Dave Benson, Craig Hougen, Butch Holden, Keith Marek, Miriam Rivera-Hokanson

Call to Order at 4:03

Approval of Minutes of 25 Jan 2010. Nestel moved; Welle seconded. Carried

President’s Report
Delegate Assembly, April 9 - 10. Brown made a call for delegates and resolutions. Let Brown know if you want to be a delegate. We can have up to 20. Brown will distribute copies of the resolution form. Resolutions allow the rank and file to direct the negotiators in contract discussion. It's not difficult to get a resolution started. You need another group or individual to sign on. The resolutions go to the Exec Committee. They check for duplication and wording, and the delegates bring them to Delegate Assembly. The resolution form is also on the IFO website.

Jones: If we're on statewide committee should we forward resolution to you?
Brown: Send it to us. You should also plan to be a delegate. We need 20.
Desiderato: Will we be seeing a list?
Brown: Yes. I'd like to run them all past the senate.
Welle: They can carry more weight with a "BSUFA resolves" in front.
Brown: I'd like approval from Senate to fund delates an extra $50 to take a single room during assembly. Moved by Fauchald; seconded by Jones. Carried.

Responses to the AVPs Assessment Plan (distributed)
B: What comments should we address to the AVP?
There were no responses. We moved on.

Brown: At M&C the administration acknowledged there are problems with expediting IFO travel money. One of our grievances went downstate, to the point where Jon is looking at a plan or way of expediting travel and purchasing. Is there an appropriate committee or group that want to put this together?
Fauchald: Academic Affairs meeting with AVP?
Jones: What was the rationale behind the refusal?
Brown: People are becoming reluctant to use their travel and study funds because the
The approval process has become convoluted. Gartrell moved to refer the matter to the Exec Committee; Fauchald seconded. Brown: This is about a way to expedite the approval of spending IFO travel money. We want to look at procedures to make it faster. Leif: The faculty member signs, then the chair, then the dean - then the request gets denied. We want to eliminate that. Jones: Using the travel credit card is straightforward. Cutler: One of the issues is using money for conferences. Book purchases at conferences are being denied because they haven't been pre-approved as part of your travel spending estimate. Brown: Pre-approval is one of the big issues. Fulton: When did this start? Brown: In the last 12 months. Jones: I'd like to take it back to my department. Move to table until next meeting. Leif seconded. Motion to table failed. Original motion carried. Nestor: Would a line on your travel proposal help? Brown: In theory.

Brown announced a Budget forum 12:00 EA 115, Weds.

Committee Reports
Curriculum Report (distributed)
Nestel: We had quite a few programs to be approved. They are all very valuable. Curriculum recommends approval all of them. Approval carried.

Gartrell: Can I ask a question of Curriculum Committee? Where are we now with double counting? Brown: Senate approved 12 credits overlap, and Exec reported that to the administration. Haworth: Did they actually accept it? I met with Nancy, who said we have all kinds of issues in Music. Brown: We'll follow up. Welle: The Curriculum report made some changes in the College Writing courses. Donovan recognized Hauser. Hauser: It doesn't change the sequence at all, but students have a choice at the second level. We could not accommodate what Psychology and Biology wanted. We changed the courses. Welle: Thanks.

Rules Committee
Webb reported: Rules was tasked to solicit input on committees. We asked the committees to review their bylaws. We are waiting.
Lib Ed
Murphy reported: The English changes were approved by Lib Ed. We're going to meet next week with the Assessment Committee and work with them.

Unfinished Business
One-third of credits at BSU to earn a minor from BSU
Brown: Transfer students are arriving with no courses from BSU in an area, and requesting a minor.
Gangeness: There's a guideline on the books. I think it's 27 credits.
Nestel: We said it's one-third of their credits in the minor have to come from BSU, in line with the major.
Brown: Can we check to settle the concern? Ok.

New Business
Department policies on voting for members of graduate faculty
Brown: There's an issue as to how faculty are approved.
Leif: The method of assigning faculty graduate status may violate the contract. Article 20, secs 3-6, sub 4 states that recommendations have to use the five criteria. As well, a vote can't be used to constitute a recommendation. AVP Erickson is taking this to Deans' council.
Leif moves to charge The Graduate Committee to reassess their process with respect to Art 20, secs 3-6. Fauchald seconded.
Desiderato: What's the current practice?
Kippenhan: Anyone can nominate for grad faculty. The chair and dean have to sign off. Then the graduate dean. The department has to approve with a 2/3 majority. My understanding is that even if the department approves, the dean does not have to adhere to that. "The vote shall not constitute a recommendation" conflicts with the idea that the department can vote to recommend.
Brown: It might be language from contract changes over the years.
Sheikholeslami: What's the grad faculty?
Kippenhan: To teach 5000 and 6000 level classes and advise for capstone and thesis. You don't have to have a graduate program to have graduate faculty. Each thesis has an outside reader that could come from any area.
Sheikholeslami: What advantage is there?
Kippenhan: There's an advantage if you're teaching upper division classes.
Welle: Departments have been voting, and deans and the AVP have been going along with the departments' recommendation generally. There might have been some exclusions.
Brown: It seems there might be some departments setting making their own standards for grad faculty.
Kippenhan: I know that we've established our own procedures. We might have to look at those.
Forsyth: Isn't there a resolution to pay grad faculty?
Brown: Yes.
Motion carried.
Return to the issue of number of credits for a BSU minor
Gangeness: I misspoke about the minor. That's the AA.
Co: I thought it came as a recommendation
Kippenhan: There was a recommendation that one-third of the credits should come from BSU.
Brown: It's back now.
Kippenhan moves to align the minor with the major, meaning one-third of credits must come from BSU to be granted a minor from BSU. Fauchald seconded.
Sheikholeslami: That is really generous. One-third is not enough.
Motion carried.

Other matters
HLC consultant questions
Brown: This came up at a department meeting. HLC officers have been going to departments. But I recommended that Marty come here so you can take it back to departments.
Nestel recognized Marty wolf.
Wolf: The last visit was 10 years ago. Wolf distributed a handout on Items Faculty Should Know, and guided us through this page, including links. You will need to read the report online, and you will need to use your Novel log in to see the data. The site visit is the second week after spring break. They consult with us and they evaluate. Faculty will have a least one opportunity to consult with the evaluators, two if you're in a college.
There is one meeting for all all faculty. If you are in one of the colleges, there will be college-based meetings. The officers will release schedules as we get closer. As for the Consultation questions. The Steering committee has adapted one concerning online courses. As for the other three, the Steering is all over the board on those. Hopefully they will be finalized soon. We're having a mock visit next week for you to become familiar with what a consultant might ask you. We have a meeting set up for 2:30, N Conference Room, Monday. There will be an email coming tomorrow.

If you are on a committee - Budget, Lib Ed - this is a good chance for you to get a sense of the questions that consultants will ask. Please attend the mock visit. There will be a debrief 4:00 - 6:00 at Bridgeman. All are invited to see what they have learned in their visit.

The list on the handout are the goals that the committees developed. We have found that the way we collected data wasn't good. We're looking for other ways and will discuss those at the end of the visit.

Please take some time to look at the self-study document, especially if you have an interest in one of these criteria. We identified three priorities. Erwin is in charge of the first, Pat Rogers is in charge of the other two. What's happened in the past, what's happening now, and what we intend to do in the future to address these.
Gartrell: We have some issues with one of the reports. Ostensibly, the dean wrote the
report from the dean. The dean submitted it and did not take any input from the department. To claim that the report was written by the dean and the department is wrong.

Wolf: The dean's report is not final. It's in draft. Would it help to get info on how the dean took input from Pro Ed Department?

Gartrell: Yes

Wolf: I'll see to that.

Wolf: There is concern as to how MnSCU reports information on the dashboard, so we are also using the VSA.

Wolf: Here is another piece. We're pretty familiar with our Five Year Reviews done by the Assessment Committee. The Gaps and Trends Committee oversees university-wide assessment. They identify trends and gaps and make suggestions about improvement. They are interested in finance and student enrollment assessment.

Wolf: Also, TaskStream people are developing a user interface that is familiar with the assessment process on campus. Business is beta testing this. Everyone will use this eventually.

Wolf thanked Senate.

Webb moved to adjourn; Fauchald seconded. Carried

Adjournment at 5:12

Submitted,

M C Morgan