Senators Present: Virgil Bakken, Dave Benson, Jim Brouwer, Cheryl Byers, Mark Christensen, Phil Dahl, Laurie Desiderato, Tom Fauchald, Mark Fulton, Jeanine Gangeness, Troy Gilbertson, Colleen Greer, Heidi Hansen, Mike Herbert, Bonnie Higgins, Butch Holden, Ellen Jones, Christel Kippenhan, Mark Lawrence, Co Livingston, Keith Marek, Tom Murphy, Dianne Narum, Bud Nestel, Karl Salscheider, Mehdi Sheikholeslami, Jennifer Swanson, John Truedson, Jeffrey Ueland, Derek Webb, Pat Welle, Jim White

Senators Absent: Jennifer Atteberry, Craig Hougen, Doug Leif Brian Ludlow, Miriam Rivera-Hokanson, Kathryn Smith, Rose Weaver.

Call to order at 4:00 pm

Minutes
Motion to accept minutes of 6 Dec 2010. Fauchald/Desiderato. Passed

President’s Report
Two calls are out: 1. two faculty to sit on the Registrar hiring committee. 2. interim grievance officer for spring while Smith is on sabbatical Deadline for both is 14 Jan 2011.

Negotiator’s Report: Jeff Ueland
Downstate negotiation committee met this last weekend. They discussed a grievance at SW concerning cross-rostering, and are developing an LOU to avoid problems of cross-rostering locally. If you believe you belong on a roster, get hold of HR, and contact Jeff. The Negotiations start in earnest on the 30th with interest-based negotiating, using delegate assembly resolutions from the last two years to frame the priorities.

Karl Salscheider
Announced that BSU will be hosting a two-day workshop in Teaching Epidemiology, 20-21 May, 2011. Funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. This places BSU in with the Carnegie Academy for Science, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in Atlanta. The workshop is free, but can also be taken for credit through CEL.

M&C Report
As of the last M&C on 8 Dec 2010. Exec is seeking the advice of the Senate concerning some issues in notification. Contract states that the union is to be notified prior to announcement to the faculty. Fauchald reported that exec is not sure if the administration is going to contact individual faculty or program directors/chairs concerning cuts. We’re not sure if the admin is going to give us names or a list of programs.

Christensen: We shouldn't grieve individual notifications. That’s a courtesy rather than a grievance.
Benson: But we don’t want to let the contract slide in this case.
Fauchald: It’s the difference between meeting with individuals and meeting with programs. Very different.

Discussion voiced concerns about public notification, concerns about not following the contract and implication. Jones pointed out that the coming notification might not be the last notification.

Desiderato: Why not just be silent?
Sheikholeslami: It is important to keep my job. How I’m informed is a non-issue.

Fauchald acknowledged that the Senate has given the exec direction on this matter.

A question was raised about what information exec has about the cuts.

Fauchald: We don’t know what the end result is going to look like. Next M&C is next week, Tuesday or Wednesday (18 Jan or 19 Jan).
Gilbertson: We have no information about what’s being done. It’s a lock down. Nothing.
Desiderato: How do we find out about what happens at the meet and confer? Can I request a one page notice be sent out as soon as possible?
Fauchald: We have ten days to respond.
Welle: We could ask the administration to bring a document of the cuts.

Jones moved, Welle seconded to direct the executive to ask the administration for a document of the cuts. Passed.

M&C Report Continued
Gilbertson reported that the administration asked about giving honors to faculty at commencement, and about awarding honorary degrees.

Concerns voiced were that Commencement is about students, not faculty, and it’s too long already. Concerns about awarding honorary degrees included that a time of cuts and recalibration isn’t appropriate for the discussion of honorary degrees; and that it seems strange to provide an honorary degree from a non-doctoral institute.

Byers moved and Fauchald seconded to ask the exec committee to get clearer criteria on honorary degrees from the administration. Passed.

Curriculum Report: Truedson

The Professional Education curriculum proposal has not been considered by the Graduate Committee at the time, so Trudeson moved, Nestel seconded

Moved that the Curriculum Committee put forward the undergraduate portion of the Professional Education curriculum proposal. Carried.

Curriculum Report IV was approved.
Academic Computing: Marek
Academic Computing Committee met with Computer Services people, discussing how to better communicate with faculty when changes in the network and support are imminent. Computer Services will be looking to communicating through chairs meetings and other means, as well as the list serv.

Computer Services will upgrade you to Windows 7, if desired, but it will take 2 -3 days. The next faculty laptop computer updates are due in summer 2012. Faculty will have a choice of Windows (Dell) or Mac. Computing Services are moving to Active Directory, but we have’t heard if it’s happened yet, and we are not sure how much space they are going to provide. They are moving from to MS Outlook.

Byers raised concerns about discussions on moving from D2L to another CMS. Fauchald is on some of the discussions, and advises that for the foreseeable future, there won’t be a move for the next 2 - 3 years.

New Business
Salscheider will be meeting with Lib Ed to revisit the 10 goals and objectives, and will report back.

Adjourned at 5:00

Submitted
M C Morgan