Senate Minutes

August 22, 2011


Approval of Minutes for May 2 moved by Deb Peterson, seconded by Laurie Desiderato with the following corrections: Deb Peterson was approved as Liberal Education Director. Jim Brouwer reported on Lisa Erwin’s insertion into the search committee for Phil Dahl’s position. Minutes approved.

President Hanson was recognized: Announcements- New Chancellor Steven Rosenstone.

3 administrative interims: Bob Griggs as Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs. The search for a new Vice President for Academic Affairs has begun and faculty representatives will be sought.

Mary Ward is the new – Interim Vice President of Student Development & Enrollment. This position is being worked on and a search has not yet begun. Carol Nielson Interim Dean for College of Business. This position is being studied before a decision will be made to fill.

President Hanson updated Senate on Enrollment, the Tobacco Free Campus policy. Student counseling has moved to Cedar Hall temporarily. BSU Foundation board approved a 35 million dollar campaign.

Work plan for 2011/2012 - to have 8 or 9 components/work groups he will be proposing. Stem programming; AIRC and initiative (has its own campaign); strengthen brand and marketing; group to strengthen legacy programs within the university; group to discuss academic and administrative restructuring.

President Hanson invited and answered questions.

Chris Brown - Capital campaign- Reminded President of the recent voluntary pay freeze.

Tom Beech - Legacy programs – Business triangle Quality/Cost/Time –

Tom Fauchald- Does giving to scholarships count? “Yes.”

Mike Murphy– Students First? Is it the first step to get rid of our articulation agreements? Hanson sees signs of that, but has no answers. It’s a question for the chancellor.
Deb Peterson - Is the new chancellor open to revisions to the allocation model? President Hanson hopes so. “seems to be open.”

Tom F. Recognized Bill Maki -Update of the budget after recalibration. Currently will not have to use the carry forward cushion. Ended up in a better financial position for 12/13. Trying to stay around 4% tuition increase and planning for 2013. Also assuming a 2.5% increase in staffing costs. We cut 3.5 million for fiscal 11/12.

Tuition structure – Banded tuition rate is now available (against Senate opposition).

Laurie Desiderato- Requested that we track completion/failure/withdrawal rates carefully to identify if students are taking more classes without being prepared to succeed.

Tom Fauchald - Encouraged other programs to keep online classes available to off campus students.

Karl Salscheider - Students may be negatively affected by the banded tuition – because they may be taking the lower credits.

Tom Fauchald - Asked about a game plan with students who come to campus planning to take courses from other campuses so they want to pay per credit for their BSU courses which would be a problem with banded tuition.

Bill Maki…not sure how much “shopping is going to occur”.

Jeff Ueland- Would our tuition have been cheaper without the band. Bill “No”.

Does it impact the modality of credits/courses offered/ Bill “No it shouldn’t impact that”

Bill Maki- We are still ahead of the other colleges


Motion to recognize Don Larson – IFO president

Newsletter was sent out a few days ago.

Membership- Incentives, Also spring delegate assembly. A presidential election. Update of constitutional pages and operating procedures. The Contract is in the works. Spoke with President Hanson- his frankness and concern with academic quality reflects the priorities that the administration will be bringing onto the new chancellor. Don Stated that the chancellor asked for ideas and he (Don) wants the faculty to share some ideas. Involved in contract negotiations. Paying close attention to the roles of adjunct/fixed term faculty. Slow trend in drop of the percentage of tenure track faculty but still above the national average so that is positive. No clear trends on fixed term since that varies from campus to campus. A gradual rise in adjunct faculty.
Keep adhering to the contract in the use of the role of contingent faculty. New fixed term positions NEED to be posted, advertised and searched.

Students First – he feels it is in enough disarray that it isn’t a large problem currently. But the transfer issue is still problematic. “Smart transfer” does have some potential. It will still take a while to clarify and implement using the MN Transfer Curriculum.

Questions:

Tom Fauchald- Faculty development $1300?

It is in limbo currently. Additional funding for fiscal 2012 is pending an additional agreement. $3.5 million in unused 19B monies in the system. IFO has asked for an accounting of where that money actually is. A sunset may be put in place for the future. 19A tentative research funds still in negotiations.

Tom Fauchald - Health insurance – In negotiation – no answers yet. MNB has requested Mediation immediately but no details yet.

Tom Fauchald moved to extend ten min. Jeff Ueland seconded – motion passed.

Grievance committee report- Letter from admin (step 1 grievance) concern for non-faculty serving as advisors. Administration denied the grievance (step 1)- giving examples within the system of non-faculty serving as advisors. Some campuses have taken the position that non-academic advisors can advise if students haven’t declared a major.

Deb Peterson-Informational- Possible grievance for summer duty days for faculty serving on search committees. ½ duty day vs. full duty day pay. Administration feels they are honoring the payment at ½ duty day.

Chris Brown asked about a department chair serving on search committees-does that change this? Per Deb when administration asks for your participation- they should clarify if you’ll be paid at ½ or full.

Don Larson – State position-full duty day – when does the day begin and end? Referred to a case at Metro State. Other universities have MOA’s but BSU does not.

Sharon Gritzmacher – System is looking at bringing all MnSCU 4yr. Faculty Association contracts into more cooperative agreement. Not sure when that is coming. This will take some constitutional changes.

Sharon Gritzmacher discussed the circulated chart of Committee/BSUFA/Univ. wide vacancies. (Sent out prior to Senate) Sharon pointed out the drop in faculty totals – affecting committee vacancies. The numbers now sit at 8 seats for every 7 faculty members. We need to be willing to become a more manageable/functional body. Move to a more Senatorial rather than
representative model. Will reduce the number of Senators and the ratio of faculty to Senators to faculty to 1 per 6. We don’t have full participation. Sharon suggested a survey of faculty to gage participation and future changes to the model.

**See Sharon’s handout on concerning downstate committees and further details.

Adjourned 5:30.