

The meeting of the 2014-2015 Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by President David Wright. The following senators were present for all or part of the meeting: Renae Chesnut, Robyn Cooper, Bruce Gilbert, Pat Heaston, Karen Leroux, Craig Owens, Chuck Phillips, Dorothy Pisarski, Eric Saylor, Bart Schmidt, Joseph Schneider, Bob Soltis, Jody Swilky, Maria Valdovinos and David Wright.

Absent: Maria Bohorquez, Maria Clapham, Matt Esposito, Miguel Schor, Keith Summerville, Tim Urness

The April 2015 meeting minutes were accepted.

President Maxwell Report:

President Maxwell presented a follow up to Senate from the April Board of Trustees meeting. There were two main topics: The Fiscal Year 2016 Budget (FY16) and the STEM budgeting plan. Details of the FY16 Budget were delayed until the June 2015 meeting. President Maxwell introduced Teresa Krejci and Venessa Macro. They each gave a brief description of how they have divided the duty areas of Business & Finance. They have split between them the Facilities area. Ms. Macro offered they would be willing to take your concerns and asked to have issues or questions sent directly to them. Their titles and positions are under review with President-Elect Martin.

Vice President Tom Delahunt gave an undergraduate/pharmacy admission update. He stated they are 800 entering first year students expected for Fall 2015. This is 50 students lower than 2014. Multiple disciplines are showing a decrease in admissions. From the Noel Levitz reports, so far, the average gpa is very close to last year. Currently there is not much comparative data at this time.

Senator Saylor asked about transfer students. Mr. Delahunt indicated the current number is about one half of what is expected to be the final number. Additionally, Senate Saylor asked if there is any known connection in the decrease to the lack of CBPA accreditation. Mr. Delahunt stated only random comments, no direct data. Senator Phillips asked "what is the best guess" for the August cohort. Mr. Delahunt said 812. There was at one point 860 used as the number for the budget build. Senator Wrenn asked what Mr. Delahunt's best guess is for the Health Sciences shortfall. The reply was a decrease was an expected reality of the student expectations of health profession positions and curriculums. Senator Wrenn indicated he made some calls and that was exactly what the persons had said to him. Senators, Mr. Delahunt and President Maxwell shared a discussion of Cabinet's decision to set an aggressive enrollment number and the possible future use of an Enrollment Management view of the process which would create a larger picture from which to set targets. Acting Provost Lenz noted that up until the last two weeks, the numbers were on track to last year. President Maxwell offered that in retrospect, we were too taken by the past good performance and did not take into effect some current realities.

President Maxwell continued that Drake is getting outspent already for the Fall cohort. This is where some schools are doing a short term fix. Mr. Delahunt stated he would not use financial aid as an excuse for getting a student. President Wright asked if there more contributions which faculty can do to help. Mr. Delahunt replied that Drake's faculty have been special in their efforts citing when he'd recently asked for some Sunday calling help and was not turned down. He expressed appreciation for that support.

Senator Heaston asked if the expected numbers are comparable to two or three years ago and that last year was the anomaly. Also, he asked if it is more Americans being admitted with fewer Malaysians. He noted the CBPA is devoting more resources to the actuarial science program and the current accreditation situation does not affect the actuarial science program. Senator Chesnut offered that while the PHHS are running behind they have had calls made by various national alumni early in the spring semester. Mr. Delahunt agreed the phone calls are helpful along with some increase in financial aid. This is a program which has not needed this attention, in the past.

Ms. Krejci stated that within her review of the FY16 budget, an enrollment of 860 would need to have prioritization done. Senator Simpson noted that prior to Vice President Newsom, there was a conservative budget building process. She asked Ms. Krejci her stance on that idea. Ms. Krejci indicated she is now looking at a wide range of enrollment numbers, credit hours and various special programs to learn about where the money is raised and spent. Senator Schneider noted the pronoun we was used. He asked to whom are the numbers presented. Ms. Krejci stated first the results will go to Cabinet. She is also looking forward to engaging the Senate Budget Committee.

Senator Heaston asked “what is the total budget?” and what is the discretionary amount. Ms. Krejci replied \$136 million in expenses from last year’s budget as the total and that she did not know the discretionary amount. Senator Heaston continued that he suspected some persons believe there is a large discretionary amount and yet he does not. He continued to state that the largest portion of the budget is maintenance. President Wright appreciated Ms. Krejci’s willingness to work on the budget with faculty input.

President Maxwell concluded his remarks, of his last Faculty Senate meeting, noting that he’d valued the occasional squawkiness and many personal friendships within Senate. He said “I’ll miss these meetings”. There was applause within the assembly.

Acting Provost Lenz Report

Acting Provost Lenz reminded Senators to notify their deans of their attendance at Commencement. These exiting students are those who have invested themselves in Drake.

Dr. Lenz indicated an invitation will soon be sent for the August 21st Learning Symposium. He encouraged all to attend. He noted he’d received a question about the electronic drop add project and while there is desire and interest in this moving forward, he would not promise anything to the group.

President Wright Report:

President Wright noted that Ken Kass of DTS will leave Drake for California in early June. Student Senate has asked for the consideration of A+ grading and to look at consistent grading schemes within a course with multiple crns (course reference numbers) and multiple instructors. Senator Chesnut shared that a student committee has submitted recommendations to Student Senate on these matters.

Senator Owens offered thanks to David Wright for his service noting that Senate has been in a position to react in several critical situations this year with his leadership.

President Wright offered some insights from this year which included the landscape of higher education is changing very fast and we at Drake are no different as Drake is in leadership transition, continues to prepare for the Higher Learning Commission visit and our new academic programs coming online. He continued by wondering if this year, with this level of faculty providing leadership and representation, the needs of the faculty have been met or do we all need to think more proactively and initiate change before we have it brought to us. While this was not a usual year; I have concerns that we need to be ready for change at all times. He offered the reflection that governance is like the iceberg with 90% not being seen by the masses. There is a good basic relationship between the faculty and the Board of Trustees, which is valuable. President Wright cautioned that the University needs to get a handle on resources and resource allocation. While the exact impact a faculty committee can make can be discussed, no one is served by animosity between the BOT, faculty and administration. He acknowledged challenges, yet held optimism for our room for growth. Senator Soltis stated something which has been a topic in Senate Executive Committee and that is some faculty development. “This is not your grandfather’s Senate”, he said. There was a call for greater transparency between Senate Executive Committee and Senators and an appreciation for the interesting 2014-2015 year. President Wright agreed to the balancing act and several members reminded the group that Senate is a representative body and a legislative body.

New Business:

Senators Gilbert and Simpson moved and seconded motion **15:09**

RESOLVED: That the Faculty Senate endorses a process for revision of the charges of the University Curriculum Committee (UCC) and the Drake Curriculum Analysis Committee (DCAC).

RESPONSIBLE PARTIES AND TIMELINE:

The incoming Chairs of the UCC and DCAC should work over the Summer (in consultation with appropriate faculty and administrators) to draft potential revisions. The UCC and DCAC should then review and amend (as necessary) any proposed changes and forward a report to Senate Exec no later than October 2015.

SCOPE / GOAL OF REVISIONS:

The purpose of any revisions should be to make the work of the two Committees more integrated, intentional and meaningful. Specifically, the goals must be to ensure that ongoing change and reform processes are: Outcome-driven, data-driven, and sustainable over time. Also, any changes that stress the importance of service on these two vital committees should also be encouraged.

In support of the above goals, examples of the kind of changes the two Committees should consider include (but not be limited to) the following:

- 1) Establishing a set meeting time.*
- 2) Establishing of joint annual meeting(s) of the two Committees.*
- 3) For UCC: Changes in processes that will streamline the review of individual course approvals for AOIs and FYS, and make those processes more outcome- (instead of input-) driven.*
- 4) For DCAC: Establishing a Vice-Chair position (similar to that currently required for UCC)*
- 5) Establishing an ongoing Calendar of Review for reporting and recommendations to Senate that will break the "End of Year" cycle by allowing Senate to review, vet, and discuss proposed changes much earlier in the AY.*

RATIONALE: The good work of the UCC and DCAC in AY 2013-2014 demonstrates that there is potential for ongoing growth, experimentation and nurturing of best practices within the context of existing curricular committees. There have also been several successful efforts to re-invigorate existing committees to give those committees' efforts more substance, e.g., the recently passed updated charge to the Senate Budget Committee. Thus, the two committees' charges should be revised to ensure greater ongoing collaboration, and to increase the faculty's direct ownership of reform and improvement processes."

Senator Gilbert referenced the recharging of the existing committee and thus give more meaningful work on the curriculum. It is important work and work which needs to be coordinated. He also hoped the Senate can avoid having curricular discussions in Spring and May of each year.

With a voice vote, the motion passed.

Senators Schmidt and Pisarski moved and seconded motion **15:10**

Revise the Board of Student Communications committee description

Current language:

I. MEMBERSHIP

1. *The Board of Student Communications shall have eight voting members, and other non-voting members determined as described below.*
2. *The representation on this committee shall be four faculty members and four students. The faculty co-chair shall be appointed by the Faculty Senate, and the student co-chair shall be the elected School of Journalism and Mass Communication Senator. In the fall, the faculty co-chair will be responsible for drafting agendas and facilitating meetings; in the spring, the student co-chair will have this responsibility.*
 1. *Faculty members will serve staggered, two year appointments. At least three of the faculty members will be from the faculty of instruction.*
 2. *Student members will serve for one-year appointments. Of the four student members, one shall be the elected School of Journalism and Mass Communication Senator, one shall be the Student Senate **Technology Liaison**, and one shall be a student in at least their second-year at Drake who is not active in an editorial board position of any publication and who is appointed by the Student Body President. The BSC organizational chiefs shall chose the fourth member of the BSC in the first two weeks of the fall semester via majority vote. In the event of a tie, the student co-chair shall cast the deciding vote.*

Proposed language:

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President Wright announced this change has the support of Student Senate and the current BSC.

With a voice vote, the motion passed.

Before the meeting closed; thanks were offered to President Wright and President Maxwell for their service.

The meeting closed at 4:40 p.m. Secretary, Nancy Geiger