

Minutes of the Faculty Senate      January 27, 2016

The meeting of the 2015-2016 Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by President Bob Soltis. The following senators were present for all or part of the meeting: Dan Alexander, Klaus Bartschat, Maria Clapham, Robyn Cooper, Debra DeLaet, Todd Evans, Bruce Gilbert, Pat Heaston, Adina Klipatrick, Craig Owens, Chuck Phillips, Nancy Reincke, Elizabeth Robertson, Eric Saylor, LouAnn Simpson, Maria Valdovinos, Craige Wrenn, Bob Soltis

Absent: David Courard-Hauri, Carrie Dunham-LaGree, Joseph Schneider, Miguel Schor, Darcie Vandergrift

The December 2015 meeting minutes were accepted as presented.

President Martin Report:

President Martin began with a few updates starting with the Continuous Improvement process. He has reviewed submitted comments, made updates and shared the updated version with campus leaderships groups. The document and latest video will be shared through blueView soon. The Continuous Improvement plan will be an agenda item for approval at the April 2016 Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting. He reminded the Senate that the plan is never really done and it changes as improvements are realized.

At the recent January BOT meeting, the Board of Trustees approved adoption of the fiscal year 2017 budget which is a deficit budget. They had a great amount of discussion. Additionally, they approved a 3.8 million allocation to technology and deferred maintenance improvements. Venessa Macro and Chris Gill will lead the effort using these funds. Senator Owens asked about the use of the cash reserves. He asked if Drake exceeded the enrollment projection would fewer dollars be taken out of the reserve. The reply was yes. The fiscal year 2017 budget is built on an 870 entering first year enrollment yield. Currently applications are similar to two years ago. Senator Saylor asked if there is any impact in applications are due to the recent political presence. Associate Sanders offered there is a traditional bump every four years in the politically related majors. President Martin noted there is also some fatigue from the efforts yet the events have made us visible.

Senator Philips asked if the facilities money will be for renewal and replacement. President Martin said yes, some HVAC systems, some roofs and even more doors which will open.

Senator Gilbert asked how the conversations regarding the pricing models were received. President Martin indicated the BOT gave a thorough review of the conversation which started in October 2015. Further models were requested plus a marketing survey was done. More effort will be put into the flat model and a proposal will be brought to the April 2016 BOT meeting. Once approved, the new pricing model would come into effect for the Fall 2017 entering class. Senator Reincke asks if this means students would be paying different tuition. President Martin said yes. He reminded the group that Drake is less expensive than amongst the peers or other Iowa private institutions. There is a misalignment between what Drake charges and what is being delivered. In response to a question, President Martin stated that Dayton, where a flat model is used, has seen a 3% increase in retention and less student debt accumulation.

Interim Provost Lenz Report ---

Provost Lenz brought news of social events and recognitions in his report. There will be a STEM Open House later this week which will be a chance for faculty/staff/students can learn about the impact of the construction which will start soon. Drake's new provost will be on campus in mid-February and begin getting to know Drake. There will be a campus wide social Meet-and-Greet on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Deb DeLaet has completed being the Ethics Chair and the next individual holding that position will be Jennifer Harvey. Ms. DeLaet will be the first David E. Maxwell Professor of International Affairs chair.

President Soltis Report:

Kristin Donat gave the Student Senate report. As the Spring semester gets in full swing, many students are sharing experiences from various political events and JTerm courses. She encouraged senators to be on the lookout for the annual Academic Affairs Dinner invitation.

President Soltis had several announcements:

- a) 2016-2017 At-Large Senator Elections will begin in February. He encouraged the senators to talk about Senate service.
- b) From the Board of Trustees, he shared there is movement in regards to the QI Report and issues of Inclusion and Diversity. He also believed there has been some improvement of morale on campus which is welcome and shared that to the Board members.
- c) The Academic Chapter was last revised in 2011. While several sections need updating to reflect current administrative titles and reporting lines, there is a section which both the BOT and faculty want reviewed. That section relates to President Selection. President Soltis has talked with Larry Zimpleman regarding the faculty's interest in moving this forward in the next months. More information will be available later on this topic.
- d) President Soltis stated today's agenda includes approving the 2019-2020 academic calendar. There will also be the need for Senate to confirm the 2017-2018 calendar. There are points within that calendar which fall out of the Calendar Construction Guidelines. This topic is not an agenda item today. If there should be a change to the calendar, then conversations, within and outside Senate, are appropriate. President Soltis sent earlier in the afternoon a basic comparison chart of Spring semesters.  
Senator Bartschat stated he did not see a problem with the calendar as it is. The guidelines are just guidelines. Senator Gilbert pointed out the 17 day JTerm and asked to have Option 2, as sent by earlier in the afternoon, considered. Senator Clapham had interest in not losing any JTerm days. Senator De Laet indicated she would not want staff to come in to work on a holiday.

Unfinished Business – None presented

New Business:

Senators Simpson and Saylor moved and seconded motion **16:05**:

*Set 2016-2017 Spring Break as March 13-17, 2017*

The motion passed without discussion or dissent.

Senators Gilbert and Reincke moved and seconded motion **16:06**:

*Approve the 2019-2020 Academic Calendar*

The motion passed without discussion or dissent.

Senator Gilbert addressed Senate announcing the retirement reception on Friday, in the Reading Room, for Liga Lacis. She leaves Drake after more than 40 years of service.

Senate adjourned at 4:10 p.m. Secretary, Nancy Geiger