

The regular meeting of the 2011-2012 Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by President Simpson. The following senators were present for all or part of the meeting: Alexander, Bartschat, Beisser, Chesnut, Clapham, Cramer, Dore, Evans, Frazier, Freeman-Miller, Gilbert, Leroux, McCarthy, Nelson, Reed, Sanders, Schaefer, Simpson Summerville, Urness, Vitha, Wrenn

Absent: none

The May 2011 minutes were not presented.

President Maxwell Report

President Maxwell indicated that as of last week, 97.3 million dollars had been raised towards the Distinctly Drake capital campaign. The goal, to be raised for this year, is \$38 million. He continued by thanking the Senate for their involvement and attendance in yesterday's open forum. He appreciated the frankness on the issues.

Interim Provost Wright Report

Interim Provost Wright also thanked the Senate and attendees of the forum. She noted this fall semester began with twenty new tenure track faculty. This is a five person increase in faculty numbers. She then mentioned the fall retention rate of last year's first year students is 88%.

Ms. Wright announced there will be a Commencement held in December which information will be forth coming. Other major topics this fall include the J-Term implementation and Experiential Education Committee work.

Senator Gilbert asked if information from last Spring's J-Term survey would be available to this year's Senate noting that there were 184 respondents to that survey cited in the J-Term Task Force materials. And as a follow up to a question posed at yesterday's meeting, he asked if the Implementation Task Force's charge would be updated to include the topic of faculty compensation and was the 2013 start for the J-Term mandated. President Maxwell indicated he would favorably respond soon to the compensation topic from the forum. Associate Provost Art Sanders replied that the survey results had been sent out last Spring. Ms. Wright stated that 2013 is the goal for implementation yet is not formally stated that it must be 2013.

President Simpson Report:

President Simpson noted that there will be further J-Term issues which will receive Senate attention. She gave an update on the Advising Task Force. The proposed University Advising Policy was reviewed by the Professional and Graduate Council who requested some wording be added. Even though the original Task Force had disbanded they were asked for their input. After this further review, the proposed Advising Policy will be brought to Senate for action.

Additionally, noting the forum hosted by President Maxwell and Interim Provost Wright yesterday, motion B on the agenda was withdrawn.

Unfinished Business:

Senators Dore and Vitha moved and seconded motion **12:01**

Approve Student Code of Conduct Revisions

Secretary's note: this was a discussion item in May 2011

Liz Kennedy was introduced to give background on the changes. Intent was to incorporate a better system to acknowledge the special challenges of the rights of the accused and victims and to acknowledge an Office of Civil Rights Issues Dear Colleague letter. She noted the issues raised last May were welcomed and believed the document was better after the summer discussions. Changes included: various definitions were expanded, the pre-hearing was clarified, an inclusion of how an interim leave could be imposed if appropriate, and highlighting why mediation could be used.

Previous question was called and passed.

The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Student Body President Greg Larsen was introduced along with the Academic Affairs Senator Amanda Lorenzen. President Larsen noted Student Senate had agreed with the Student Code of Conduct changes.

New Business:

Senators Gilbert and Cramer moved and seconded **motion 12-2**

Motion to create an ad hoc LMS Review Committee

RESOLVED: That the "LMS (Learning Management System) Review Committee" shall be constituted as an "ad hoc" Faculty Senate Committee for the remainder of the 2011-12 AY. The LMS Review Committee shall be charged with ongoing review of BlackBoard and alternative systems for the purpose of selection of a campus-supported platform. The Committee's charge shall include conducting and coordinating a pilot of multiple potential platforms, coordinating campus discussion of the options and their ramifications, and writing a report that recommends a platform (including justification). The Committee shall submit an initial report to the President of the Faculty Senate (and other appropriate parties) no later than 15 March 2012.

The Committee's membership shall consist of the membership of the previously-formed LMS working group, plus any additional members that Senate Exec may appoint. Participation in the pilot shall not be required of committee members, nor shall pilot participants be required to be on the committee.

Senator Gilbert stated the issue is the current Blackboard software version will go out of warranty in about a year. The campus needs to make a decision concerning course management software. He offered background to the how the first review committee was constituted. He noted faculty concern that this needed to be a more faculty owned group. Eric Manly is serving currently as the chair and is willing to continue in that role on this broad based group. Senator Wrenn was in favor of a Senate committee to insure there is faculty involvement in which platform Drake will use.

Senator Clapham had a question concerning the timing of when a decision will be made, especially as it might impact summer courses. Senator Gilbert noted the motion calls for a March 2012 report. Additionally, it was noted that the present software version will not disappear and can be used until the new software is tested and in place for faculty use. CITO Ann Kovalchick was recognized and stated she welcomes having a faculty driven decision. And after a preferred choice is made, then a plan will be constructed to bring the solution to the faculty.

Senator Gilbert noted that the costs are known for a hosted solution and while having an entire year is favorable, the University will have a truncated time schedule for this project. Ms. Kovalchick responded to a Senator question concerning why is there is pressure to upgrade by stating that without any upgrade there will continue to be browser compatibility problems. Another question concerned the archiving feature. Senator Gilbert mentioned in the testing so far the products handle this feature, yet it will be a migration issue for any product chosen.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

The Senate had a short general discussion concerning the Advising Policy, while the Task Force tried to include all levels, some wording adjustments have been offered. Senator Summerville stated the Task Force goal was to create a policy which was general enough for all but not so general that it was not descriptive. Senate consensus was to request Senate Executive Committee bring a revised proposal back to Senate after input is received from the Professional & Graduate Council.

Senators Evans and Cramer moved and seconded motion **12-03**:

Amend motion 11-15 passed by the Faculty Senate (April 2011) such that the clause in the resolution that currently reads:

Drake University has instituted a January Session as part of each Spring semester.

Would now read:

Drake University has instituted a January Session.

Senator Gilbert raised the concern that he did not want this implementation to be addressed in piecemeal fashion. He distributed a handout titled: Collaborative Process for Implementation of the J-Term and Approval of the Calendar Revision providing this set of suggestions. Mr. Sanders, Chair of the J-Term Implementation Task Force was recognized and stated that there are working groups within the Task Force addressing issues and assured the body that more items will come forward to Senate. President Maxwell stated that this motion addresses a logistical, federal issue surrounding financial aid for our students. It is not a curriculum issue. Senator Gilbert disagreed that if it is a part of the Fall semester the student registration and faculty workload are affected. Mr. Sanders cited that a separate registration for the J-Term experiences has been cited no matter which semester the courses are fielded.

Previous Question was called and passed on a show-of-hands vote.

The motion passed with a voice vote.

Senators Schaefer and Vitha moved and seconded motion **12-04**:

Add to the Sabbatical Policy Section 4.344 Fulbright Sabbatical

Senator Schaefer gave background which included his experience at a national workshop where he learned of a wide range of institutional policies or lack thereof concerning the Fulbright Sabbatical experiences. After a favorable discussion with Ms. Wright, polling a peer group concerning their policies and practices (which he found to be all over the map) and gathering campus input, the policy was drafted. If accepted, he stated this will leap frog Drake from the back of the pack to the upper 20-30 percentile nationally. Senator Schaefer thanked Provost Wright for her support.

Senator Clapham asked is this will interfere with sabbatical leave eligibility or could the experience be taken sequentially. Ms Wright believed that Section 4.3223 covers that question.

The motion passed with a voice vote.

Senators Cramer and Beisser moved and seconded motion **12-05**:

Amend the Academic Charter Section V.F.:Conditions of Academic Tenure

F. If the condition of employment is changed from “visiting” or “consecutive term” to one of a probationary appointment, *up to four years of* the time served in a “visiting” or “consecutive term” capacity shall be considered as part of the probationary period.

Senator Cramer noted that ‘shall’ is a permissive word, thus the four years is not a mandate. Senator Bartschat asked why the change was needed since this seems to be rare event and exceptions can be given. Provost Wright offered that as a part of AAUP, it is a way to protect a faculty member who is moving from visiting to tenure track and exceptions need to be taken to the Board of Trustees.

The motion passed with a voice vote.

Senators Reed and Evans moved and seconded motion **12-06**:

Change the words “Final Exam Week” to “Final Evaluation Week” in all references in Drake policy documents, especially Faculty Manual,

Rationale: Throughout the Faculty Manual and other Drake documents the term "Final Exam Week" is used to reference the last week of the fall and spring terms during which final evaluations of course work are scheduled. Given the fact that faculty use

many methods other than exams to evaluate student performance, it seems appropriate to change the official reference to that week to "Final Evaluation Week."

Ms Wright stated that while working on Faculty Manual Revisions, not substantive, she noted multiple locations where the wording of Final Exam Week. She offered that this language as more descriptive of what is done at Drake. The other documents mentioned do not include the Academic Charter rather the General Catalogs and other policy documents.

The motion passed with a voice vote.

The meeting ended at 4:44 p.m.