

The meeting of the 2013-2014 Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by President De Laet. The following senators were present for all or part of the meeting: Alexander, Courard-Hauri, Dao, Fejes, Leroux, McCarthy, Pisarski, Reed, L Reel Schmidt, Schmidt, Simpson, Sleister, Soltis, Summerville, Swilky, Vandegrift, Vitha and Wright.

Absent: Esposito, Sidon, Urness

The January 2014 meeting minutes were accepted

President Maxwell report:

President Maxwell began his remarks by responding to a Senator's pre-meeting submitted question: What is the status of the STEM initiative at Drake. Reminding the body that the 'E' stands for Education, he remarked that a webpage is under construction which will describe the project. Funding involves three building initiatives which include a connector between Olin and Fitch Halls, a stand-alone building and the renovation of a number of spaces. The total plan currently involves spending \$60 million of which half will be raised from donors and half raised from issuing bonds. In June 2014, the planning and development will be presented formally to the Board of Trustees.

Additionally, he noted that Fall 2014 undergraduate applications are still ahead of the prior two years and the profile remains strong. The goal remains to enroll 900 entering first year students. President Maxwell cautioned that all individuals need to be concerned that many Midwestern schools are not reporting increases in enrollment and this is still early in the student/family decision making cycle.

Next week, Mr. Larry Goldstein will be on campus to conduct Administrative Program Review interviews. The final report, containing his recommendations, is due out later this spring.

Finally, Cabinet and Senior Advisory Council (SAC) have been working on a revision of the Strategic Plan Goal 3; and President Maxwell hopes to bring this topic to Senate at a future date.

Senator Alexander asked if the building projects would be phased in or is the plan for construction to be happening all at once. President Maxwell indicated the projects would be phased in, yet this depends on funding. Senator Sleister asked a question concerning the renovations being done by department or by floor of a building. Vice President Deb Newsom replied the work would be done by floors.

Provost Jones report:

Deputy Provost Raylene Rospond offered the Provost's report for Dr. Jones. Ms. Rospond started with encouraging faculty participation on committees and subgroups regarding the new construction areas and renovations. The Deans and faculty will be asked for their continued engagement in all these projects.

A call for proposals has been sent for the Learning Symposium which will be held on August 15th. It is being planned as an all event covering six strands. August 22nd in the afternoon will be the Convocation in the Knapp Center. Please save these two dates.

Friday, March 14th, there will be an informal gathering hosted by the College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences (CPHS) having the theme of internationalization. This event is being brought about as a result of many who have engaged with the Provost concerning communication. Please bring your lunch and CPHS will provide beverages.

President DeLaet report:

Olivia O'Hea, Student Senate Liaison, reported they are working with the Advising TIG and are looking to showcase the Fine Arts outside of the Fine Arts building. There will be printers in the residence halls soon.

Kevin Saunders, Director of Institutional Research and Assessment and Stephanie Majeran, Assessment Coordinator, presented information concerning NSSE (National Survey on Student Engagement) and curricular assessment efforts, including a Wabash Report. Mr Saunders indicated that Drake is a part of a group which has its principle investigators housed at Wabash. Drake asked for the consultant visit and as it is a prime time for Drake to look at the teaching and

learning environment. Since the Drake Curriculum is complex and its assessment is complex, he titled the presentation: NSSE Plus.

Ms. Majeran gave background on the administration of the NSSE instrument since 2000, noting that this has not always been the same set of questions, yet consistently administered to first year and senior students. The slides offered to the body included a review of the peer group data and the fact that this year the comparison group of institutions is smaller and different than last year. Mr. Saunders indicated the conversation is grounded in Strategic Plan Goal #1. The subsequent slides displayed NSSE supplied outcomes with performance indicators. The presenters suggested three questions: 1) Is this important, 2) Who should know and 3) What actions should be taken.

Mr. Saunders summarized a number of groups which he has met with concerning this data. President De Laet announced that the data is available by programs and departments, which she has been provided for her group. Senator Pisarski shared that within her school, the presentation and data made them concerned about the First Year students.

Additionally, there are themes from the conversations which Mr. Saunders summarized as including a call for action for a system wide approach which is curricular and co-curricular. The student experience is holistic and Drake needs to know and be able to prove, that students are receiving these quality outcomes.

In conclusion, Mr. Saunders stated the Wabash team did sit with students and found some powerful examples of learning experiences. His office and Student Senate Academic Affairs Committee have had student focus groups to further the conversations. President De Laet indicated that results of the focus groups, once concluded, will be shared with Senate.

Senator Swilky asked if there is data from peers concerning their general curriculums. Mr. Saunders in reply referenced he had with Senate Executive Committee done some of that review. Senator Vitha commented there were several with check-the-box programs. He would send the set of links which they compiled. Senator Swilky asked if there was data on the peer institution faculty development programs. Mr. Saunders indicated this had not been compiled, but would be done.

Senator McCrickerd asked if some of the outcome is due to the strength of the majors, as students are so well versed in their discipline. Mr. Saunders indicated this aspect could be probed a bit more with the remaining focus groups. Senator Soltis asked if the national organization which collects the NSSE data also provides analysis concerning other schools which do certain these practices well. Ms. Majeran indicated that information is available and also on how other schools have used the NSSE data.

President De Laet announced the UCC Drake Curriculum review is on track and she expects they will finalize their recommendations in time to meet with Senate Executive committee in a couple of weeks.

Unfinished Business: none presented

New Business:

Senators Pisarski and Wright moved and seconded **Motion 14-6**:

Endorse changes to the Code of Student Conduct

It was announced there were not changes from the previously presented materials.

The motion passed without discussion or dissent.

Senators Wright and McCrickerd moved and seconded **Motion 14-7**:

Add language to the Catalogs (Undergraduate & Graduate) concerning Academic Attire

located in the General Information section; within the Commencement heading (*in italics*):

Honor medallions are worn by students graduating with college or university honors. Kente stoles also are approved ornamentation. *The stoles shall display no organizational insignia, such as Greek letters of fraternity/sorority or other social groups*

Senator Wright shared an image of a kente stole. He offered that the motions intent is to clarify the description. Drake strives to have a balance between ceremony and celebration at the commencement ceremonies. He was asked if he had been in contact with students. Senator Wright indicated he had not spoken with students on the matter; he had spoken with Provost Jones who supported the change. When asked, he indicated he would take the matter to the student group.

The motion was made and passed to table 14-07 motion.

Senators Wright and Simpson moved and seconded **Motion 14-08**:

Confirm the 2015-2016 Academic Calendar And Approve the proposed 2017-2018 Academic Calendar

President DeLaet noted the future calendar, 2017-2018 includes two dates which are beyond the stated guidelines, by one day, and Senate Exec determined these were appropriate exceptions to make within the boundaries of other portions of the calendar.

Without discussion, the motion passed.

The meeting closed at 4:35 p.m.

Secretary, Nancy Geiger