

Minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting April 18, 2012

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, Gilbert, Leroux, McCarthy, Nelson, Reed, Sanders, Schaefer, Simpson, Summerville, Urness, Vitha, and Wrenn

Absent: Evans, Frazer, Freeman-Miller,

The March 2012 minutes were accepted.

President Maxwell Report:

The Board of Trustees will meet next week and receive the 2013 budget at that time, stated President Maxwell. He indicated the meetings will include two plenary sessions: 1) on strategic planning and 2) future leadership challenges in higher education. The leadership challenge conversation will be a broad discussion of the national trend for institutions to desire to hire a sitting president yet those individuals are in finite supply.

The campus strategic planning process is proceeding and the Planning Council will meet again this week. A rough set of five goals have been developed as well as a Vision 2025 (2.0) document. Feedback will be gathered on the goals and Vision document and a communication plan will soon be unveiled which will inform the campus of the planning process. Please place June 15, 2012, on your calendars as this will be an all campus meeting on the documents created by the Planning Council. President Maxwell continued that it is the goal to have a plan which will come to the Campus Governance bodies in the Fall 2012 semester for a vote. He encouraged the body to view the Planning Council web site and express their comments.

Provost Wright

Provost Wright announced that the Vice Provost for Academic Excellence and Student Success search has not yet been completed. The search committee is looking at another candidate from the original candidate pool. She thanked the committee for their work.

Ms. Wright shared that some federal financial aid changes will be implemented in the upcoming academic year. These changes affect Drake's eligibility for Title IV funds if Drake does not comply with new compressed courses withdrawal rules. While understanding this change is being addressed by Student Financial Planning, the Council of Academic and Administrative Departments (CAAD) and Links administrative personnel mainly, the change makes the first day of the course validation process even more important for faculty to perform.

Senator Clapham asked if the course validation process could be done via a MyDUSIS class roster. While no specific timeframe was stated for implementation, the idea was met with positive non-verbal motions from both Senators and administrators.

Provost Wright also encouraged faculty to participate in the upcoming Commencement Ceremonies on May 12 and May 13. She hoped for strong faculty representation to help make the student centered events successful.

President Simpson Report

Amanda Laurent, Student Senate representative, shared that their Senators are set for next year, except the New Student representative who will be elected in the Fall semester. She also reminded the body of the Last Lecture by Wanda Everage which will be held on May 2nd in Sheslow Auditorium. The presentation will be streamed to the web and recorded.

Ms. Laurent also noted a student effort is underway to learn more about the newly announced change in student payment options including credit card handling changes. President Maxwell offered that the institution, after careful examination of fees which Drake pays, decided to outsource a portion of the payment processing. This will help to control the overall handling costs which Drake pays. He added that one reality that Drake is not happy about is that Visa does not allow this vendor to handle its cards. He stressed this is a Visa rule not that of the vendor or Drake University.

Associate Provost Art Sanders presented an update on the JTerm implementation. He highlighted some points from a report which was recently sent to the Senators. He noted that there had been some registration changes yet he fully expected travel courses to be at capacity. The residence hall sign-up has caused some slight changes to their rules concerning the capacity of JTerm registrants in Goodwin-Kirk rooms. Mr. Sanders again thanked Kevin Moenkhaus and Lorissa Lieurance for their continued exhausting work on these new elements to registration and housing. He closed by noting that he and others are beginning on 2014 J-Term planning.

Senator Bruce Gilbert gave an update on the faculty survey concerning implementing a plus/minus grading scale. He noted this there was a high participation percentage (70%). He noted there is interest to continue to explore a grading scale change. He offered there is a plan for a student survey for Fall 2012. Senator Chesnut offered that the College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences will be performing some analysis of student transcripts in relation to gpa's with and without the plus/minus grading scale. Senator McCarthy wondered how graduate school admissions offices review the student transcript with and without the plus/minus grading scale. She would not want Drake students at a disadvantage.

Senator Chesnut asked if any follow up is planned on the discussion regarding Drake's current course repeat rules as her concern is the method Drake uses to display grades on courses which have been successfully repeated. Senator Wrenn indicated it is a back burner issue compared to the plus/minus grading scale issue.

Assistant Vice President of Business and Finance and Director of Human Resources, Venessa Macro and Dean of Students Sentwali Bakari presented for informational purposes Drake's formal response to the Federal Office of Civil rights Dear Colleague letter (April 2011) concerning Sexual Misconduct. Two main points and three minor points were highlighted by Ms. Macro.

1. the institution needed a clear designation of a Title IX Coordinator. Previously Drake had operated in a dispersed responsibility model utilizing both the Dean of Students and the Human Resources Director. Now, the Human Resources Director is the named Title IX Coordinator.
2. the timeliness of investigations needed to be more exactly articulated of which 60 days is now the stated length.

The minor points surround explicitly citing internal and external resources by name, title and full contact information. At Drake the internal resources include Alysa Mozak, Coordinator for Sexual violence Response and Healthy Relationship Promotion.

Debra Lukehart, Executive Director, Marketing and Communications, presented the body with an update on the upcoming changes to the Content Management System (CMS). She indicated she is joined in this project with Ann Kovalchick, Chief Information Technology Officer. While this project started over two years ago and had a kick off this past February, there is renewed effort to examine vendors and web constituencies following a consultant's report. Currently a small working group, which has faculty representation, is evaluating the report and vendors. Decisions are expected within weeks and web changes will begin being made late in the Fall 2012 semester. The current CMS product will be fully de-supported in October 2012.

Ms Lukehart offered that Drake's central web site project is addressing various issues of design, architecture and audiences to be served.

Senator Gilbert asked is this process will accommodate WordPress. Ms. Lukehart did not expect there to be a change in the current allowances. Senator Clapham asked is there will be thought given to training for persons beyond information technology personnel and main Drake web page content. The response was shared by Ms. Lukehart and Ms. Kovalchick that a plan does exist and an individual is desired to join their team to assist with content and design training. Senator Summerville asked about the target audience as perceived by the consultant. Ms. Lukehart indicated that while the main audience includes perspective students and faculty, there will be a two tiered approach which would then include the internal web audience at Drake. Senator Alexander stated he hoped that a perspective person would be interested in a wide range of Drake aspects rather than being a consumer of only a localized web constructed presence.

Senator Alexander offered an updated of the work being done by the Board of Student Communications (BSC) Task Force. He offered that a multi-year concern has been the funding of organizations without bias. He hoped there would be a solution yet this academic year.

OLD BUSINESS

Senators Gilbert moved and Wrenn second tabled motion **12:18**

Endorse the Responsible Use of Information Technology Resources Policy

Senator Alexander asked about the monitoring activity mentioned in Section 7.c. Chief Information Technology Officer Ann Kovalchick offered that while the IT area can monitor the network and view various activity logs, their resources are not totally devoted to monitoring all activity. The ‘odd’ traffic is what would be noticed.

The motion passed without dissent.

NEW BUSINESS:

Senators Gilbert moved and Cramer seconded Motion **12: 19:**

Accept the LMS Committee report (url for full report:<http://researchguides.drake.edu/lms>)

The motion passed without discussion.

Senators Beisser moved and Chesnut seconded motion **12: 20:**

Amend the Honorary Degree & Drake Medal Committee description

This committee reviews nominations for recipients of an Honorary Degree and the Drake Medals. The committee recommendations are presented to the Faculty Senate for their consideration.

The members of this committee are appointed by the Executive committee for staggered two-year terms. Membership should represent a broad spectrum of academic discipline and should also include emeritus representation.

A currently serving Board of Trustees member will be appointed to serve staggered two year term. The Trustee member will be appointed by the Board of Trustees leadership.

One faculty member ~~person~~ shall be designated chair and another chair-elect.

Senator Alexander asked what the rationale was for this addition. Senator Beisser indicated that a Board of Trustee member would be joining the committee this spring in their deliberations. President Maxwell shared that from his perspective two streams of consciousness were being brought together in this one action. (1) The recent desires to build more intellectual involvement with the Board of Trustees (Board) on campus yet maintain responsibility borders. And, (2) this is perceived as a realization of shared governance their direct collaborate rather than serial communication and governance. Also, recently the Board declined to approve a recommendation and this committee membership is expected to ease the communication from the Board to the faculty who deliberate on the nominations.

Senator Gilbert expressed a concern about number of persons on the committee as the description does not include a limit or minimum. The body also asked what portion of the organization was referenced by the wording of Board of Trustee leadership. The answer was given that the Board of Affairs Committee sets the memberships for Board committees and that group would be charged with assigning an individual to this committee. Language was offered and accepted, in a friendly fashion, to update the motion. The updates are noted in italics and strikethrough:

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One faculty member ~~person~~ shall be designated chair and another chair-elect.

Senator Gilbert moved an amendment and Alexander seconded to insert:

Membership should include at least three faculty of instruction and at least one staff member and ~~represent~~ a broad spectrum of academic disciplines and should also include emeritus representation.

The amendment was tabled

Previous question was called and passed.

The main motion, with the friendly updates, passed on a voice vote.

The meeting ended at 4:56 p.m.

Secretary, Nancy Geiger