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MINUTES OF MEETING #508, 13 MAY, 2010
APPROVED 25 AUGUST, 2010

Present: Mok, Fong, Stewart, Rountree, Kovacs, Bollinger, Neff, Gyasi, Johnson, Sanders, Hawk, Sitaraman, Banish, Gaede, English, Milenkovic, Coe, Gholston, Cassibry, Wessling, Lin, Vaughan, O'Keefe, Warboys, Boyd, Scholz, Zhang, Etkorn, Newman, Ravindran, Wu, Miller, Lieu

Absent with Proxy: Gupta, Evans, Bao, Johnson, Sears, Smith, Heikes, Gholston

Absent without Proxy: Anderson, Lin, K. Newman, Baird, Zhang, Aygun, Kunin, Lieu

Dr. Etkorn called the meeting to order at 12:47 p.m.

President—Dr. Williams reported a memo was sent thanking everyone for this year and the achievements—selected list—great accomplishments of faculty, staff and students. All achieved in tough times.

Heard from the Governor and he will be here on campus next Thursday to make an announcement. He will announce \$8M toward a Systems Study Building.

Question: Is there a New Sorority on campus—no answer yet.

Question: Where will the new building be located? The plan is down by the lake on the right side hiding VBRH from Sparkman Drive.

Provost—Dr. Karbhari thanked the faculty for the semester—it has been rough for all and he thanked everyone for the extra efforts made and the students got the attention needed and will graduate on time.

He encouraged everyone to attend the Commencement ceremonies Friday and Saturday.

Dr. Karbhari requested the assistance of the faculty on a topic he stated he would rather not bring up but rumors cause the need to request assistance. The topic is treatment of women faculty on campus by male faculty and faculty- student relationships. There are no formal complaints. If we had received formal complaints we would take action but there is significant activity to cause concern and we would like your assistance on it. Some faculty believe we are

still in the 18th century and that is not appropriate. All faculty male and female should be treated the same. Also students being told they should not be here because they are female is not appropriate.

There is a section in the Handbook, Section 7.20 that addresses faculty-student relationships. There will be relationships that might develop but a person in authority should not be having such a relationship. Things have been brought forward that faculty are looking, gawking, keeping track of notches, counting, getting students to do things. Look at clauses in 7.20 and make sure all faculty are aware and make sure all faculty understand seriousness of this. We are very short on patience for anyone caught in this area. Asking all to help in making sure people across the board understand appropriateness. The policy is strong but could be strengthened. We need to pay attention to how we talk to colleagues—if things are being said that are inappropriate make sure it is stopped and stopped quickly.

What procedures are followed if someone makes a comment in class—report it to the Provost office and start procedures. Not appropriate and should never be.

Are there other areas in books to deal with speech—only that dealing with appropriate behavior. Some things done in fun but do not take further. Student contact is Dean of students. Dean of students talking to groups of students and assuring nothing is done to a student who reports such activity. Educate across campus. Anything you can do to tighten rules and better educate would be appreciated. Drop email or drop by and help stop now.

Senate: The Realignment Processes have excited a great deal of unhappiness and unrest—what is the current process. The two committees are ongoing—CS and ECE and the committee has been meeting quite a while—no report yet but will receive the report when it is ready.

LBAR and SCI when committee is ready to give recommendations will receive. Not really deadlines. One Committee has been working for a while and the other just started. No strict deadline—but would prefer that it is not 10 years from now—when the work is completed.

Senate: Passed resolutions on realignment—13 months ago—Do not have response—Provost: It was handled by campus counsel. Will check.

Minutes—Moved to accept Executive Committee Report. Dr. Wessling moved seconded by Dr. Banish to change to receive. Vote was Unanimous

Moved by Dr. Rountree, seconded by Dr. Warboys to receive the report—Vote was unanimous

Executive Committee Report—Request for clarification of discussion statement in report about post tenure review. Change to Handbook Committee supports instead of Faculty. Those

present at Handbook Committee came to consensus regarding post tenure review. Those in attendance at meeting supported.

Vote was Unanimous

Dr. English moved seconded by Dr. Boyd to receive the report—vote was unanimous

Dr. Etzkorn stated she invited Ray Pinner to the meeting but he could not be here—will call him at some point for a discussion so he can discuss the budget with the Senate.

Governance and Operations—Dr. English reported the President Elect for 2010 is Dr. Newman. Did not have a majority vote for Ombudsperson. Top two vote getters were Dr. Scholz and Dr. Seemann—run-off election for position as soon as ballot is constructed. Trying to fix Macintosh problem and will have to ask for alternative ballot until repaired. Committee Chairs need to be elected by the end of this meeting.

Senate Bill 337—Benefits for Shooting Victims. Dr. English moved, seconded by Dr. Rountree to call the question—the vote was Unanimous. The Vote on the bill was unanimous.

Senate Bill 336—Senate Membership Exceptions. Dr. English explained the bill—clarification of membership—director to serve—Dr. Sanders was going to lose her seat and wanted her to be able to serve. Call the question Dr. English moved, seconded by Dr. Rountree—1 abstention, 34 in favor.

Vote on the Bill—1 abstention, 2 against,—32 in favor

Dr. Newman moved, seconded by Dr. Rountree to 3rd reading, the vote was 32 in favor, 2 against.

The vote for the bill was 31 in favor, 2 against, and 2 abstaining. The Bill passes at 3rd reading

Senate Bill 335: College/Department Combination Process

Dr. Newman—spoke stating the bill has a strange history—started as a bill Dr. Newman introduced—survey 40% responded –100% opposed to merging at this time—the bill has 6 “whereas” but the “now therefore be it resolved” is not mine and do not think it is strong enough—problem with statement of committee endorsement—no need to process without procedures in place. Should have what other sister campuses have. Committees illegitimate and Senate should not charge anything. Have substitute bill. Introducing amendment to “now therefore be it resolved” words. Read amendment to bill. Wessling seconded. Asked for ruling from Parliamentarian.

Discussion of amendment being appropriate. Problem with point 3 being universal ruling. Friendly amendment to unfriendly amendment. Dr. Banish called the question, seconded by Dr. Rountree

Call the question—majority in favor

Vote on amendment—3 abstaining, 29 in favor

Vote on the bill—6 abstaining, 28 in favor

Dr. Timothy Newman moved to 3rd reading, seconded by Dr. Banish—the vote was 29 in favor, 3 against, 2 abstaining

The vote for the Bill—with the friendly amendment- academic units- 9 abstaining. 26 in favor

Senate Bill 334 : Information Security Regarding A-Numbers. The vote was Unanimous.

Senate Bill 332: Program for Teaching Excellence—Lynn Boyd explained she wrote this and it was voted down before—Dr. Jeet Gupta wanted to bring it back

Passing bill involves faculty in process—Rich Miller clarified sentiment that thought the bill was asking permission and we should take lead and provide information instead of asking Provost to form committee to provide information. Dr. Michael Banish—would you accept that Committee (Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs) develop plan and present to the Provost? Already handled by Faculty and Student development---not appropriate for Undergrad Scholastic Affairs. Junior faculty could benefit from this. Doing it now allows it to be put in the budget.

Vote—28 in favor, 6 abstaining

Dr. Rhonda Gaede moved seconded by Dr. Ina Warboys to 3rd reading, vote was 34 in favor, 1 abstaining

Vote for the bill was 7 abstaining, 27 in favor

Senate Bill 333—Course Buyout Policy: This was Jennifer English’s bill resurrected. Finance and Resources Committee tried to look at this but were not making headway. Sent emails to deans and did hear from Science and Engineering and Liberal Arts but Liberal Arts not really under buyout issues. Made announcements in Senate to contact me and put email on board and received no emails and accomplished nothing. Rich Miller talked about tabling and that Committee present plan after research. Dr. Francis Wessling seconded the motion to table. 18 in favor, 3 against, 12 abstaining.

Senate representative to Research Council ask Vice President for Research to form Committees to look at integration of centers and academics.

Dr. Rhonda Gaede moved, seconded by Dr. Francis Wessling to adjourn.

Vote was 12 in favor, 16 against adjourning.

Emergency Bill from Dr. Timothy Newman—Realignment—friendly amendment to have positive spin. The rationale and ongoing processes not been communicated to faculty hence. Change to “Whereas any process of realignment will require the engagement and support of the affected units.” Discussion. Dr. Lynn Boyd moved seconded by Dr. Roy Magnuson to call the question on bill as amended. Vote was 35 in favor

Vote on Bill-25 in favor, 3 against, 2 abstaining

Dr. Timothy Newman moved to second reading. Vote was 26 in favor, 6 against, 1 abstaining

Vote on the bill was 28 in favor, 7 against

Dr. Richard Miller moved, seconded by Dr. Timothy Newman to 3rd reading. Vote was 28 in favor, 6 against.

Vote for the bill was —7 against, 28 in favor. Bill passed

Dr. Rhonda Gaede moved, seconded by Dr. Clarke Rountree to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.