



Faculty Senate Meeting

April 14, 2011

12:45 p.m. SC 107

Present: John Burnett, Eric Fong, David Stewart, Clarke Rountree, David Neff, Sam Thomas, Kathy Hawk, Eric Seemann, Bhavani Sitaraman, Mohamed Ashour, Laurie Joiner, Jennifer English, Alekasandar Milenkovic, Paul Componation, Louise O'Keefe, Ina Warboys, Roy Magnuson, Letha Etzkorn, Peter Slater, Donsheng Wu, Richard Miller, Max Bonamente, Ramon Cerro for Mike Banish

Absent with Proxy: Jeet Gupta, Laurel Bollinger, Michael Banish, Seong Moo Yoo, Kristen Herrin, Carmen Scholz, Tim Newman

Meeting called to order at 12:52 p.m.

Provost's Report

- Two proposals received preliminary approval at the last Board of Trustees Meeting, The Master of Science in Earth Systems Science and the Individualized Bachelor of Science. They will go to ACHE and back to the Board. We received final approval for the Masters and PhD in Aerospace and Systems Engineering and it goes on the ACHE list. We will start taking students. The Faculty in the Department has been collaborating with Auburn and Alabama and formed a consortium in order to have independent programs. The faculty are doing a great job on collaborating. We hope to use this model in other areas as well.
- Honors Convocation took place on April 5 with individual programs in the colleges. Thanks to all for a wonderful event. Nursing had more faculty there than any other College.
- Senate resolution 10-11-2 regarding Research—We had a meeting with a valuable conversation and have not had the other meetings. We hope to set up a meeting for the next couple of weeks. We would like to have the Executive Committee include John Horack in the interim to give a report at that level and come up with steps to improve. I received a resolution last night and have sent it to the Deans and hope to come back to you in a week or so. Working with Ray Pinner regarding hazardous waste and hope to have a resolution on that quickly. It is a problem in areas and an even larger problem in some areas.
- Commencement is Friday May 6 and Donna Shalala will be here and all are encouraged to attend and to attend the ceremonies the next day at 10 and 1:30. Thank you for your work so far in the semester and hope to finish the semester on a high note with these ceremonies.
- Bhavani Sitaraman asked about the Search Committee for the new President. How was it done? And what is the time frame? Many of the faculty are away in the summer. What sort of input will be solicited. Dr. Karbhari responded these are all good questions and I cannot give you a definitive answer. The Board picked the Search Committee and I am guessing there would

be some form of discussion with faculty and faculty from each college are on the Committee and you can give input through them but that does not prevent you from giving other input.

Bhavani Sitaraman stated that they have had forums in the past. Dr. Karbhari stated you will have to wait for the Chancellor to give the timeline on that. Ramon Cerro stated he was hoping Dr. Portera would be here because he wanted to ask him these same questions and stated that no one was consulted before hand. We found out from the newspaper. We have a problem with communication. Can you let the Board know we need to do things in a different way. Dr. Karbhari stated he did not think telling the Board how to do their job will be a good thing. Just reaching out would be better. The Board has picked the Committee with their own rationale. There are members from each college and they have representation in one form or other, but telling the Board how to do their business is not a good thing. Ramon Cerro stated he heard the Deans were not even consulted. Dr. Karbhari stated one Dean is on the Committee. It is not necessary to consult everyone for a Committee or we would not form any committees. Bhavani Sitaraman stated that faculty want to let them know what we want for a President. We want a balance. We want the person hired to be concerned for academics not just fund raising. Dr. Karbhari stated these are all valid concerns and they would be best answered by Chancellor Portera. I will convey this to him.

- Peter Slater asked for clarification on the new programs in Aerospace. Are they independent and not joint or shared? Dr. Karbhari stated we formed a consortium that allows faculty to work with other institutions and share resources and allows courses if appropriate. The Program is faculty driven rather than by a set of guidelines with stipulations. Peter Slater stated if viability is independent it could be a problem. Dr. Karbhari stated that at this time we already have students in the program and we are above the viability standards.
- Roy Magnuson asked about Ray Pinner and dealing with hazardous waste. Who pays and when it is picked up is a concern. Dr. Karbhari stated that they are trying to make sure academic departments do not get charged for what they are not given in their budget.
- Richard Miller asked a question regarding the Biology Chan Chair. Dr. Karbhari stated that we have about \$1.5M right now and that is not enough to fund a Chair. The Chans have promised another \$600K over the next few years and it will take a few years to get to a level to fully fund a person.

- ✚ Jennifer English reported she will email her written comments so you will have them. She assumed everyone knows who is on the Search Committee now but if not Jennifer listed all those who are on the Search Committee (Finis St. John, Tommy Battle, John Burnett, Jennifer English, Ronald Gray, Jonna Greer, Kathy Hawk, Ingrid Hayes, Fay Raines, Joe Ritch, John Severn, Gary Zank). Kathy and Jennifer will still be on the Senate and can report next year. The first meeting is April 21. We will get our marching orders then as to how things proceed.
- Jennifer English reported that the Chancellor expressed short term goals: stay on the current trajectory, fiscal responsibility, pursue enrollment, increase research. Admits are up about 12%. Promote and cultivate optimism and research in the Departments. It was a relatively benign Board meeting.

- Tim Newman and Jennifer English are putting together a group to talk about post award procedures outside the purview of OVPR. Tim Newman or Jennifer English will send an email to ask if you are interested. Let Tim Newman or Jennifer English know if you have interest.
- The Executive Committee will meet Tuesday to discuss proposed changes to the Bylaws and hope to bring to you at the next meeting. We will send something out before the meeting.
- If you have a proxy please make sure the person will be there. Please keep this in mind when you do a proxy.

✚ Approval of Minutes of Executive Committee. Richard Miller has a problem with item 4. It is far from resolved and violates 3 bylaws and needs to be addressed at this meeting, if we are not going to hold up existing bylaws then we should disband the Senate. Want to talk about now—election of Senator in Physics. Raise issue now or later but would hate to run out of time. If not electing appropriately—important issue. Max Bonmente-what discussion took place. Jennifer English, Tim Newman and Paul Componation had emails from Richard Miller, Gary Zank and the Administrative Assistant. Met and found Dr. Zank sent an email through the Administrative Assistant asking for nominations and Jim Miller responded to the email and ask for a nomination. Administrative Assistant argued about whether the candidate could be nominated. Richard Miller read from the Bylaws and said "the Chair violated the Bylaws—Gary Zank is rarely in the Department and does not do his job. He gave faculty 5 hours to respond—the department received numerous nominations—all correspondence was through the Administrative Assistant. Should not be held against faculty in the Department and easily resolved to hold another election as per Bylaws and has been communicated to Gary Zank." "Might as well disband because this is a joke—this crap has to stop." Carolyn Sanders is in agreement with Richard Miller and "these are independence for faculty and if voice is taken away might as well not have a Senate—hold elections again as per Bylaws." This would be 17 days late. Jennifer English said no one was elected by March 1 because the Governance and Operations Committee did not do the election by March 1. Emails did not go to Chairs until a few days before spring break. Bhavani Sitaraman-asked has anyone else complained—Jennifer English stated that a few did. Bhavani Sitaraman—stated then it is a problem. Gary Zank is in Hawaii and because the email was through the Administrative Assistant then reply to Administrative Assistant. Gary Zank said when he received the nominations there was only one viable and no need for election because there was only one candidate. Soon after that J. Miller said he tried to nominate someone. Based on the emails from J. Miller and Gary Zank. Richard Miller—email was to give heads up there was a problem. Jennifer English contacted J. Miller and ask for information. Richard Miller—maybe the Chair should spend time in the Department so he could get some @!# information. Dr. English stated "We all agreed the election was not perfect but there was no real problem." Paul Componation stated it is a timing issue, whether it violates the Bylaws or not—not a good practice. Bad procedures—multiple flaws—best way to resolve is to request redo this. Bhavani Sitaraman—As minutes state cannot put nomination as yes, elected. Max Bonmente asked what procedures are used when there is one candidate—Jennifer English stated there are not any but argued last year to have senate run the elections—not a good set of rules for the Department—spent two hours with Tim Newman and Paul

Componation discussing not in best interest of the Department and Senate. Richard Miller read again from the Bylaws—there were multiple nominations whether Gary Zank believes it or not. Paul Componation sent an email—have not received a response. Jennifer English does not believe have the right or power to disallow someone the Department put forth. Richard Miller—stated the Department did not select—the Chair did. Paul Componation—stated realize it went to the Administrative Assistant and it was only one person. Ina Warboys—asked did a notice go to the Chair to recommend an election—Jennifer English—felt it should be dealt with in the department and hope he would do so—no response. Ina Warboys—stated in our elections if only one person is nominated we still hold an election with ballot blank for write in—second thing because no response---the Faculty Senate could request the Department run another election. Carolyn Sanders—stated actually this is a huge issue—what we are fighting here is feeling our voice is being taken away. Paul Componation—agree—administration makes a decision and we feel we cannot participate. Trying to say we want the Department to do their thing and that is why an email went out to try this. Richard Miller stated for the Department to do something requires a Chair who gives @#* and spends time in the department instead of going through an Administrative Assistant and not ignore faculty in the Department. Clarke Rountree—it is inherent in this body to not receive someone—if you do not get a response we will not seat the person. Jennifer English stated if you go that route there are 5 other departments that did not comply—if they complain, we have to do those as well. Richard Miller stated he is not doing this to be self serving or against Gary Zank, but if we are a body and we can argue and don't always agree but if we are not willing to hold up basic principles of this body then we need to go home I don't have time to waste here. If the Bylaws are not worth anything then go home. Ramon Cerro and Paul Componation agree with this. Provost Karbhari's answer to my question was not acceptable—we cannot sit here and allow the Board to decide how the Search is run—be true representatives of the faculty. Paul Componation—all in agreement—how fast do we move. One proposed course of action is to follow up with an email then if we do not get a response that meets our standards then we will not seat the Senator. When did Jennifer English send the email? Jennifer English responded she does not know exactly when the email was sent or if there has been reasonable time to respond. Paul Componation will draft an email—will draft and send to representative Senators. Bhavani Sitaraman stated it might be useful to draft rules and consequences and send to Faculty at large to say take seriously elections. If going to take seriously educate about rules. Anyone who wants to send email Paul Componation will have. Clarke Rountree moved to accept, seconded by Paul Componation, 2 abstained

✚ Minutes of Meetings 513 and 514--Peter Slater moved seconded by Ina Warboys to approve the minutes.

✚ Committees—Finance does not have a Chair—I do this in my spare time so things are moving slow on the REU and Distinguished Speaker. We will get something soon. Bernhard Vogler and John Gregory are running the program and have received applications. Fund 12 at 3K per. Bernhard Vogler went without summer compensation to fund two more.

- Governance and Operations—Will talk about senate office elections when we get to that. Economics does not have a representative and need one more from Nursing.
- Undergraduate Curriculum-no additional information.
- Faculty and Student Development moving to get visit to center of excellence.
- Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs--Clarke Rountree stated there are bills coming up.
- Budget committee—Louise O'Keefe sent an email. Chih Loo gave a good presentation and might consider inviting him to Senate.

✚ Richard Miller reported UAH is competing with other schools on Arthur Clarke Center. UK wants to set up Center for imagination here in the states. We are competing with 4 others and trying to figure out what the Center will do and how to leverage expertise here at the University. Think this is a neat idea.

✚ Carolyn Sanders announced about humans versus zombies —games.

✚ Senate bill 351—Second Degrees—leftover from last meeting Clarke Rountree stated it goes with Senate Bill 353 and they should be considered together—the idea is to help students who want a second degree to encourage them to do so. Flexibility—now have to complete GERs in both Colleges—now the Dean will wave some and this formalizes that to make it easier. Theme of interdisciplinary and want to encourage does not require to do anything but allows students to petition. Could be more than GERs required in Department. Be flexible where we can. Roy Magnuson is concerned on 353 it says can complete within 3 semesters... Clarke Rountree—stated currently they have to take 25% if they leave and come back and just waving that and asking them to take the minimum number of classes here. Students are here. Advantage to our numbers in getting graduates. Roy Magnuson—make more permissive—no time limit. Clarke Rountree—like the way it is because it encourages students to get done and not wait. Eric Seemann moved seconded by Ina Warboys to second reading.

Vote unanimous. Clarke Rountree moved to 3rd reading seconded by Richard Miller. 1 opposed

Unanimous at 3rd reading becomes Senate Resolution 10-11-9

✚ Senate Bill 353 Clarke Rountree moved seconded by Bhavani Sitaraman. Vote-- Unanimous

Clarke Rountree moved, seconded by Eric Seemann to 3rd reading. 1 opposed

Vote —unanimous becomes Senate Resolution 10-11-10

✚ Sense of Senate Resolution: Faculty and Staff Clinic Louise O'Keefe, Louise O'Keefe gave a talk about the status of the Clinic and services the Clinic provides and support from faculty for

increased funding—The Executive Committee agreed to sponsor the Sense of the Senate Resolution—Clarke Rountree stated this is a win- win bill. The Clinic saves us money and supports faculty. Louise announced we will have a spot on the website. Peter Slater—asked about the 7:30 -11:30 hours and is there any demand made for additional hours—is there a demand for it—Louise O'Keefe answered yes we do have calls and we do have to tell people we are not there. We have 1200 employees—772 is a pretty good demand—if there is more advertising there will be more demand. Normal work hours would be good. —Requires unanimous vote to go. The vote was Unanimous. It will go forward as a Sense of the Senate Resolution.

Senate Bill 352—Eric Seemann moved seconded by Ina Warboys the bill to the floor. Clarke Rountree prefaced the bill with we are terrible at submitting midterm grades—trying to figure out what to do about that—suggest that faculty only submit S and U and this will be quicker and easier to calculate and the default would be to S and you would choose U. We think this is possible to do in Banner –trying to make it easier. Richard Miller asked at what rate of what need to be and aren't. In Liberal Arts almost everyone does theirs but in other colleges not true. This is how we let students know they are in trouble. Carolyn Sanders stated there is an amazing set of academic coaches—information goes to them and they want to do their job and they are dependent on faculty to get this. Can go look at midterm grades—if we don't submit we can't know students are in trouble and can't do anything about it. Students should have an advisor and especially students not doing well. SSC-with Engineering does something called academic progress and they get a letter and then seen and on the list and coaches pull midterm to see how they do and students flagged the second time. Cannot know if midterm is not there. Faculty can report to SSC. So easy to turn in grades—not sure understand people waiting who want to help. Bhavani Sitaraman stated some students don't know what midterm grades are. Define this in the syllabus and what midterm grade means—added to bill—depends on faculty member how to define. Carolyn Sanders stated enlist help to say how to make this easy for you to do. Max Bonamente— Would be nice to be reminded a few times about midterm grades. Amendment—remind faculty a few times prior week etc. Registrar - remind 5 days prior.

Dr. Jeet Gupta-will run for office –so Paul Componation will handle elections. As soon as possible.

Lost quorum—2:05

Current and new senators can run for office. Ombudsperson has to be a new Senator.