

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

May 1, 2007
2:30 p.m.

Assembly Room
Mc Fall Center

Absent: Belzer, Callen, Carr, Colprit, Currie (Retired)-(Substitute-Glaviano), Guenther (Substitute-House), Messer-Kruse (Substitute-Bhalla), Muego (Substitute-Garcia), Redmond, Saenz, Simon, Weinsier, Williford, Kulbis, Lehman, Little, Pontious, Towns

A Faculty Senate reception was held between 2:00 and 2:30 p.m. in the Gallery of McFall Center. The reception was to thank departing Faculty Senate members and to welcome newly elected Faculty Senators.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hebein called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

Chair of Faculty Senate

Chair Hebein acknowledged the newly elected Faculty Senators and encouraged them to stay for the Faculty Senate meeting.

Chair Hebein called for a moment of silence in recognition of the recent shooting tragedy at Virginia Tech.

President – Ribeau

The semester is about to end. We will have over 2,000 students graduating at our Spring commencement. It has been a good year, despite the shortages in finances and the changing financial picture for higher education. I have just returned from the Frazier Reams Fellowship Luncheon. Student scholarships were awarded to outstanding juniors who would be seniors. (Thomas Bethany from Political Science, Lisa Halberstadt from Journalism, and Corrin Skaggs from Political Science). These students talked about their career aspirations and also mentioned faculty members at BG who had made significant differences in their lives. We have great students and faculty members here at BGSU. This year's Outstanding Master Teacher at BG is Jeffrey Gordon, from the Geography Department. Dr. Neocles Leontis received the Olscamp Award for Outstanding Research for 2006. We have excellence among our students and excellence among our faculty.

We are currently interviewing three candidates for our Provost's position. One candidate is the Dean of Arts and Sciences from Western Michigan University, one candidate is the Dean of the College of Human Ecology from the University of Minnesota, and the third candidate is Mark Gromko, our current Interim Provost at BG. Please take the opportunity to meet with these candidates during the open forums and help us in the selection process for this very important position at our university.

Executive Vice President – Dobb

This coming Friday at 4:00, there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of the Community/ University Art Project at the corner of Poe Road and North College. I would like to thank the Art students and Art faculty who contributed to this project.

Graduate Student Senate – Vatan-Woodhouse

GSS conducted a survey in March and we will be disseminating the results to Senate and others within this coming week. We are working with the Graduate College to develop an end of the year recognition program for graduate students. The General Assembly passed two pieces of legislation. The first piece of legislation was the Inclusion of Gender Identity and Expression terminology into the current gender and harassment policies. The second piece of legislation was to voice continued concern over the issue of the Dunbridge Road Building Project. The legislation asks that the Board of Trustees refrain from voting on the Dunbridge Project until there is a clear academic and environmental plan offered that would project the sustainability of such a project. Additionally, it is requested that no further action be taken on the project until the academic components have been funneled through the appropriate Faculty Senate academic program channels. Representative Randy Gardener spoke to GSS on the state government updates relative to campus safety and relative to the new OBOR chancellor's position. Dr. Roger Thibeau spoke to GSS on a process to field complaints from graduate students relative to the College of Arts and Sciences. The Shanklin Awards have been given out by GSS to graduate students for outstanding research. GSS has held its election for new officers for next year. I would like to thank Faculty Senate for its support of GSS this year. I would also like to thank Dr. Chris Dalton for all of his support to BGSU over the years. Best wishes to Faculty Senate.

Undergraduate Student Government – Lewis

My name is Johnnie Lewis and I am the newly elected President of Undergraduate Student Government. Over this next coming year, USG plans on improving its communication with Faculty Senate. We have passed some new legislation. One piece of legislation relates to the Dunbridge Project. We oppose any further development of the Dunbridge Project until students have more specific information on the project. A second piece of legislation calls for an increase in the "greening" of the campus.

Retiree Representative – Cormier

The next meeting of the Bowling Green Retiree Association will be held on May 15 at the First United Methodist Church. Our guest speaker will be Mary Alice Powell, former food editor for the Toledo Blade newspaper. On behalf of the Retiree's Association, I would like to extend congratulations to all of our new graduates. The Retiree's Association is in the process of conducting elections for next year's officers. This will be the last meeting I attend at Faculty Senate as my 6 year term comes to an end.

Chair Hebein recognized Dr. Cormier for her many years of service to Faculty Senate.

Ohio Faculty Council Representative – Bernhard

The next meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council will be held on May 11th. The newly appointed Chancellor will be joining us at that meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Hebein reordered the Faculty Senate Agenda to accommodate for a special election.

Election of Faculty Senate Secretary

Yacobucci: We have two candidates for the position of Faculty Senate Secretary, Dr. Rich Hebein and Dr. Ben Muego. (Statements were made on behalf of both candidates). Faculty are allowed to vote on this election, but students and administrators are not allowed to vote in this election. (Ballots were disseminated for this election.) Rich Hebein was elected Faculty Senate Secretary.

REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

Committee on Academic Affairs (CAA) – Border

CAA reviewed the Dual Degree Policy changes that had already been approved by Undergraduate Council. The second review was of the Undergraduate Council modification of the existing policy on Change of College or Major. CAA recommended that both policy changes be treated as minor changes by SEC. CAA also reviewed the proposal for the Center for International Comparative Education. CAA forwarded the proposal to the Faculty Senate Chair with the following recommendation: SEC should consider how the new Center for International Comparative Education and the existing International Democratic Education Institute will avoid duplication of efforts. There is also a concern that CAA was circumvented in the approval process of this new Center. CAA completed its annual review of the VPAA and met with President Ribeau to discuss the review. CAA disseminated a Faculty Survey on line to establish faculty priorities for funding. There was a 40% response rate. The survey results will be shared with faculty.

CAA has also been in contact with Becca Ferguson in Human Resources to discuss the Emergency or Pandemic Response Review being conducted on campus. CAA advocates that any change in policy regarding course continuation during a Pandemic or Emergency Response should be done on a course by course basis in accordance with the framework of faculty approved departmental-based guidelines.

Amendments and Bylaws (ABC) – Pauken

ABC will be looking at potential charter language changes in the newly adopted NTTF Policy. ABC was also asked to look at charter language regarding the definitions for centers and research centers. ABC felt that current language in the definitions was sufficient.

Committee on Committees (Com Com) – Yacobucci

The new electronic balloting for University Standing Committees worked very well in its first attempt. We more than doubled the amount of returned ballots compared to previous years.

Faculty Senate Budget Committee (FSBC) – Evans

FSBC recommended approval of the Miscellaneous Auxiliary Budgets, and is presently reviewing the Dining Hall and Resident Hall Budgets. We will then start the review of the General Fee and related budgets and the Academic Budget. Our work this year will extend through the month of May, partly due to the uncertainty regarding the level of State Share of Instruction. FSBC wants to emphasize to Faculty Senate that the Governor's proposal of a 5% rise in SSI coupled with a 0% change in tuition actually amounts to a 1.5% increase in revenues (because the SSI is only 30% of our revenue). There is a very real possibility of significant public misunderstanding of this point and all of us should be proactive in explaining this situation. To that end, FSBC has endorsed the Resolution (on Sustainability of Higher Education in Ohio) initiated by Senator Keith Bernhard. Looking forward to next year, FSBC would like to improve interaction with other Senate committees. We believe it would be mutually beneficial to exchange ideas and information with FWC prior to the Faculty Salary Resolution coming forward. We appreciate the recent CAA faculty survey to establish funding priorities, but would like to work more closely with CAA to clarify the issues for faculty.

Faculty Personnel and Conciliation Committee (FPCC) – Zickar (for Muego)

An Annual Report on Disposition of Cases for Academic Year 2006-07 was disseminated to faculty. The report included information of the nature of the grievance, date of the hearing, findings and recommendations of the FPCC Board of Appeals, and the Final Action of the Provost/ VPAA. FPCC will be analyzing this data to determine the FPCC batting average in leveraging support for the faculty. Elections were held and Dr. Guy Zimmerman will be the new chair of FPCC and Dr. Laura Lengel will be the Vice Chair.

Faculty Welfare Committee (FWC) – Weinsier

No Report

Committee on Professional Affairs (CPA) – Zickar

The Committee on Professional Affairs has been discussing the Governor's proposed allocations for higher education. We are in agreement with FSBC that the current budget allocation should make us somewhat skeptical about the future state funding for higher education.

NEW BUSINESS

Senate Standing and University Standing Election Results

Yacobucci: You have in your Senate packet, the election results for Senate Standing and University Standing Committees. There are still some vacancies which can be filled through nominations including self nominations.

Gender Identity and Expression Resolution

Yacobucci: I am speaking to you as Chair of the BGSU Human Relations Commission. You have in your Senate packet, a copy of the Gender Identity and Expression Resolution. Our current policies discuss sex discrimination. The courts have now ruled that sex discrimination also involves gender identification and gender expression. This resolution impacts on three different existing university policies: the BGSU Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, the BGSU Equal Educational Opportunity Policy, and the Anti Harassment Policy. Undergraduate Student Government and Graduate Student Senate have already approved similar resolutions. Are there any questions about this resolution? **Rockett:** What is the difference between gender identity and gender expression? **Yacobucci:** Gender identity is how you identify yourself (male or female) and gender expression is how you express your sexual identity (e.g. how you dress). **Hebein:** We will vote on the Gender Identity and Expression Resolution. Motion passes.

Dunbridge Project Resolution

Hebein: Since I have a partisan viewpoint on this issue, I will turn the gavel over to Pat Pauken to conduct discussion on the Dunbridge Project Resolution. As you have already heard, USG and GSS have passed similar resolutions opposing the Dunbridge Project. In your Senate packet, you have a copy of the Dunbridge Project Resolution being proposed by Faculty Senate. Are there any questions on the resolution?

Shields: What evidence is there that there is an informal agreement not to increase the number of beds on campus? Are there other reasons why Rodgers Quadrangle might be demolished other than the possible adoption of the Dunbridge Project? **Vatan-**

Woodhouse: Mayor Quinn has expressed this agreement not to add additional beds on campus. This was mentioned at a constituent meeting to review the Dunbridge Project.

Evans: I will confirm that. **Scherer (Guest):** I would like to speak on behalf of the Dunbridge or Calderon Project. This Project would allow BGSU to engage in entrepreneurial options with the landowner, the Calderon's.

Hebein: I have been involved in a constituent committee called together to discuss the Calderon or Dunbridge Project. This project does not match up with the University Master Plan. The Master Plan indicates that no academic space should be more than a ten minute walk. The specifics of the proposal seem to be lacking in academic information. The more specific details of the project seem to be "tear down Rodgers and build a dormitory on Dunbridge." **Nichter:** GSS has been waiting to hear more about the academic plan connected with the project. We are also concerned that students would have to be bussed to the main campus. **Pauken:** We will vote on the Dunbridge Project Resolution using a paper ballot. The motion passes. (For the Proposal = 48; Against the Proposal = 2; Abstentions = 3.)

Support of State Funding Resolution

Bernhard: I would like to speak in support of the Faculty Senate Resolution on the Sustainability of Higher Education in Ohio. This resolution expresses Faculty Senate appreciation to the Governor and legislative leaders for their initiatives to increase the State Share of Instruction for higher education. In this resolution, Faculty Senate also expresses its concern that a freeze or decrease in tuition costs from public universities can only be sustainable when increases in State Share of Instruction (SSI) are at least 10% per year.

(Tornado sirens sounded and the Senate recessed to the first floor of McFall Center.)
(After the recess, Faculty Senate reconvened.)

Hebein: We will vote on the resolution on Sustainability of Higher Education in Ohio. Motion passes.

Awards and Passing of the Gavel

Chair Hebein presented an award to Ellen Williams for having served as Faculty Senate Secretary.

Chair Hebein passed the gavel to the new incoming Chair of Faculty Senate, Pat Pauken.

Chair Pauken expressed his thanks to former Chair Hebein for all of his hard work on behalf of Faculty Senate. Pat expressed his thanks to Julie Barnes, former Senate Secretary and to Ellen Williams, one of the professionals in this university. Pat also expressed thanks to Terry Herman, who has agreed to serve as Parliamentarian this next year. Pat expressed appreciation to Diane Whitmire and to Barb Garay who have offered so much support to Faculty Senate. Finally, Chair Pauken expressed thanks to all who served on Faculty Senate.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Pauken adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen Ursula Williams
Secretary, Faculty Senate
July 30, 2007