

**SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

October 17, 2006  
2:30 – 4:30 pm

Senate Conference Room  
140 McFall Center

Present: Barnes, Bernhard, Currie, Hebein, Lee, Little, Orel, Englesten, Vatan  
Woodhouse, Williams

Absent:

Guests: Patrick Pauken (Ad Hoc Ethics Committee), Phil Weinsier (Chair, Faculty  
Welfare Committee)

Faculty Senate Chair Hebein called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

No Report

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Current Status of the Ethics Code and Ethics Officer**

**Guest: Dr. Patrick Pauken (Ad Hoc Ethics Committee)**

Dr. Pauken was asked to provide a brief overview of the work of the Ad Hoc Ethics Committee. The Ethics Code was accepted in June, 2005. The Ad Hoc Ethics Committee met at the end of Fall Semester, 2005 and in the spring of 2006 to discuss the proposed Ethics Code. The biggest discussions dealt with: Purpose; Wording; and Where the Policy/Code would be housed. **Hebein:** The concerns from Senate previously dealt with passing a policy without approval of constituent groups. Also, there seemed to be concern about "over whom" the policy would govern. In the spring, President Ribeau announced the appointment of a part time Ethics officer. Also, the President had indicated that this policy would only govern issues that were fiscal in nature. At a Faculty Senate Executive Committee Officers meeting with the President, he advised against any change in this code as it was a motion that was made by the Board of Trustees to have such a policy. **Vatan Woodhouse:** Does the Ad Hoc Ethics Committee concur with Dr. Ribeau's comments? **Pauken:** The policy appears to be written in terms far broader than "fiscal issues." For example, there is one provision that discusses "off campus conduct." **Williams:** When the policy refers to ethical issues related to "off campus conduct", is there any reference to anything of a fiscal nature? **Pauken:** No. **Lee:** Was our policy modeled after any other university's policy? **Pauken:** It appears to be modeled somewhat from the policy from Howard University. **Vatan Woodhouse:** How does this policy apply to the Board of Trustees? **Hebein:** The ORC governs the ethics of the Trustees. **Pauken:** There does appear to be some confusion on the intent/coverage of the Ethics Policy. Thus, there is a reasonable concern for the Ad Hoc

Committee. **Hebein:** Since the President has agreed to address Senate on this issue, could the Ad Hoc Ethics Committee convene and develop a set of questions for the President relative to the Ethics Code? He would be given these questions prior to his speaking to Faculty Senate on the issue. **Pauken:** I believe that the committee would agree to this. **Hebein:** We could ask the President to address these questions at the December Faculty Senate meeting.

### **Current Status of the NTTF Policy**

**Hebein:** We welcome Phil Weinsier, Chair of the Faculty Welfare Committee. We had asked both the Chair of the FWC and the Chair of CAA to come to SEC to provide an update on the status of the NTTF Policy. **Weinsier:** We just finished meeting with FWC and some members of CAA to discuss the issues related to the NTTF Policy. It appears that CAA feels that the NTTF Policy is more global than the proposal that we presented last year for NTTF. What FWC was looking at was providing more security for NTTF who are already employed at BGSU...that would involve defining roles and rights. CAA would like to see the review of the policy expanded to look at the percentages of tenure track faculty to the percentages of non tenure track faculty. This is pretty much where we disagree. The question is...should we attempt to pass some part of the proposed policy for NTTF? Should we address the percentage caps on NTTF hires...since many units on campus appear to be exceeding the 25% cap of NTTF hires? **Lee:** Doesn't the 25% rule apply only to lecturers, not instructors? **Weinsier:** That is correct. **Barnes:** Part of the problem in determining numbers is in the nomenclature used. You may call it a lecturer and I might call it a continuing faculty member. **Williams:** While the issues that CAA is bringing forward may be justified, are we not going beyond what the original request was...and that was to determine if the NTTF Policy should be brought to the floor of the Senate for a vote. **Hebein:** The reason that this continues to be SEC business, is that last year, one of the Senators (Rippey) came to SEC with this resolution regarding NTTF (Hebein disseminated copies of the Rippey Resolution regarding NTTF, May 2, 2006)...I would draw to your attention the resolve ... that SEC asked Senator Rippey to withdraw his resolution and that Senate committees review the proposed policy for NTTF and bring it to the floor of Faculty Senate at the October, 2006 meeting. Since the October Faculty Senate meeting has passed, it would appear that SEC has failed in living up to its commitment to Senator Rippey. **Weinsier:** I believe that until the issues related to the percentage of NTTF hires are addressed, it will be difficult to gain closure for this proposed policy. **Hebein:** It would seem that we need to address the question of whether or not proposals coming from FWC should be held up until another committee such as CAA addresses related issues to your proposal. **Lee:** It would seem to me that while CAA may want to look at broader issues relative to the NTTF policy, that we should not allow that to delay the forward movement of a policy that would provide some level of security for NTTF. I think we should include this issue on the agenda for Faculty Senate. **Hebein:** Let me ask Chair Weinsier if a majority of your members of FWC stand behind the proposed NTTF policy. **Weinsier:** Yes, all but one. **Hebein:** The issue of voting rights for NTTF also seems to be somewhat problematic because practices seem to vary from unit to unit. Would it be possible for your committee to remove the amendments of your proposal that deal with voting rights? **Weinsier:** Yes. **Hebein:** Let the record

show that it is the consensus of this group that the Chair of Faculty Welfare ask his committee to consider the amendments they would like to send forward to SEC. Let the record also show that SEC encourages CAA to work on its concerns. **Williams:** Are we suggesting a date for submission to Faculty Senate. **Hebein:** Let's project the timeline for the NTTF Proposal from FWC for the December Faculty Senate meeting. If CAA wants to send us something later to address items relative to the NTTF issues, SEC will consider those as well.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **ISSUES AND CONCERNS**

### **Next SEC/VPAA Meeting at Firelands on October 31, 2006**

**Barnes:** It will not be possible to video conference from Firelands to main campus for those SEC members unable to attend. **Hebein:** Are there any attendance policies for SEC members? **Barnes:** Yes, just as in Senate, you are allowed two absences. You could send a substitute but the Senator is still counted as absent. **Lee:** Has anyone ever questioned the wisdom of this? **Hebein:** You could send your vote with a substitute. **Lee and Williams:** We believe that removal from a committee for justifiable absences, especially if a substitute has been sent, does not seem appropriate.

### **Faculty Senate Blackboard Community**

**Barnes:** We have two presence on two web pages as Faculty Senate. We have the official Faculty Senate Web Page. Several years ago, it was proposed that we have a Blackboard Community. Barb Garay makes sure that official minutes/ notices get posted on the official Faculty Senate Web Page. We are at somewhat of a loss as to what to do with the Faculty Senate Blackboard Community. Several of the faculty who had proposed this are no longer on Faculty Senate. Having been Faculty Senate Secretary last year, I did not have time to deal with the Blackboard Community. The question remains who should be taking care of the Faculty Senate Blackboard Community. Should it be the responsibility of the Faculty Senate Secretary or someone else? For what purposes does Faculty Senate want to use the Blackboard Community? **Bernhard:** How could we get some additional resources to staff the Blackboard Community? **Williams:** Keith, who uses the Faculty Senate Blackboard and for what purposes? **Bernhard:** It was set up so that committees could post their reports and so that we could have some dialogue on Senate topics. It could be a huge commitment to staff this. **Barnes:** Neither the Faculty Senate Secretary (Garay) nor the Faculty Senate Officer/Secretary (Williams) would have the time to devote to keeping this Blackboard Community up to date. **Hebein:** The majority of faculty who want to engage in dialogue on university issues seem to use the old faculty list proc (Rao). Why should we have someone maintain it if we aren't using it? **Little:** I do see the advantage of posting university committee names and also the minutes from the committee meetings. **Hebein:** I just know that having a web site that is

not being updated makes us look bad. **Vatan Woodhouse:** Could it be offered for people to enroll for the Community Web Page? **Barnes:** We could send out a notice and ask people again to sign up for the Blackboard Web Page. **Little:** You could eliminate it.

**Barnes:** We could make it unavailable to people. **Hebein:** It would appear that the consensus is to eliminate the Faculty Senate Blackboard Community web site. **Barnes:** I can do that by making it unavailable.

### **Definitions of NTTF**

**Bernhard:** There still seems to be ambiguity in defining non-tenure track faculty.

**Hebein:** This is a concern that has also been expressed by CAA in its efforts to get an accurate count of NTTF. Would you be willing to share any concerns/ suggestions regarding NTTF with CAA. **Bernhard:** I would be willing to do that after I confer with you.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Next Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting with the VPAA**

**Hebein:** The next Faculty Senate Executive Meeting with the VPAA will be held at Firelands Campus on October 31, 2006. We will set the Faculty Senate Agenda at that meeting. We will also have a guest at that meeting, Larry Weis who will be speaking on Issue 3 in the upcoming state election.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Williams  
Faculty Senate Secretary  
October 31, 2006