

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 29, 2013
2:30 – 4:30 pm

Senate Conference
140 McFall Center

PRESENT: David Border, Michael Buerger, Mark Earley, Rachelle Hippler, Paul Johnson, Sarah Rainey, David Sleasman, Alex Solis, Sheri Wells-Jensen, Elizabeth Wood

PRESIDER: Senate Chair, Mark Earley, presided.

CHAIR'S REPORT None.

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

E-Textbooks: John Ellinger, Jeff Nelson Chief Information Officer, John Ellinger, and University Bookstore Director, Jeff Nelson, previewed for SEC information about how the option of an agreement with CourseSmart would work and how it could benefit both faculty and students as a partial solution to the problem of the escalating cost of textbooks.

If Senate feels this is worthy of pursuing, Ellinger is committed to user testing and to building a support structure around the software to make certain that what this vendor offers will work optimally for BGSU students and faculty.

Ellinger and Nelson thanked SEC for raising questions that will need to be clarified before any such agreement can be put into place. If Senate endorses the idea, a target date for implementation is Fall 2013.

BGSU-FA Resolution The consensus among SEC members was that the resolution put forward by Lawrence Coates on behalf of the BGSU Faculty Association is appropriate for Senate consideration. It was approved as an agenda item for the 2/5/13 Senate meeting.

Enrollment Management Council Representative Faculty Senate has been asked for a representative to the newly-constituted Enrollment Management Council. Vice Chair, Sheri Wells-Jensen, provisionally volunteered to represent Senate on this body, in part to ensure that the international students' interests are recognized.

ISSUES AND CONCERNS

- Graduate Student Senate President Sleasman announced that the BGSU strategic plan for graduate education currently being implemented garnered a NASPA award for excellence.
- SEC member Buerger noted that he (in his capacity as an Amendments and Bylaws member) and A & B Chair, Erin Labbie, will be meeting soon with Dean of Students, Jill Carr, to clarify the role of Student Affairs in articulating what can be categorized as "official university business" for the purpose of granting students an excused absence from class.
- Chair Earley mentioned that he is gathering information about the process to follow in removing the Academic Honesty Policy from the *Charter* into a more easily updated document -- per an SEC recommendation -- and will report to SEC what the correct process is.
- At the behest of SEC, Earley will also bring to the next SEC meeting information about the two separate paths that an honorary degree nomination currently can follow.
- Earley reminded those present about the February 15th deadline for Faculty Senate Awards submissions and shared that he will remind deans to encourage nominations of qualified individuals from their respective colleges. He announced that the full SEC will select recipients of these awards from the pool of nominees at the February 26th meeting.

SENATE AGENDA

The following items were approved by SEC for the Senate agenda. NOTE: In order to accommodate anticipated interest in a dialog following the Provost's remarks to Senate, Chair Earley intends to seek agreement regarding re-ordering the agenda.

- eTextbooks: John Ellinger
- Teaching and Learning Fair: Karen Meyers
- Presidents' Day 2013 Volunteers: Terrell Johnson
- BGSU Faculty Association Resolution: Lawrence Coates

ADJOURNMENT 3:35 PM

Respectfully submitted, Elizabeth J. Wood, Faculty Senate Secretary