2005/2006 Academic Senate

MINUTES April 3, 2006

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. and attendance was taken. Forty Senators were present.

Ex Officio:

CASA Representatives:

Present: Veregge, Nellen, Van Selst,

Absent: David, Fee, Perry, Hooper

Our fall admissions look very good. We are up almost 12% on applications, and 17% on admits. That is good work on behalf of the Provost and AVP Marshall Rose.

The President thanked the Senate for the changes to the Selection and Review of Administrators policy at the last meeting. The President said the Senate would be debating a resolution on fingerprinting today, and he looked forward to that discussion.

The President has asked Interim VP of Advancement, Fred Najjar, to stay in the position through the end of his term as President, about another 15 or 16 months. The President would prefer not to have to do a search right now. The Executive Committee supported the President's decision at today's meeting.

Questions:

Senator Norton said that he has given several substantial donations to the university through the Tower Foundation, but he never gets any reports to show what they are doing with the donation. Senator Norton suggested that donors should received acknowledgement and regular reports on the usage of the donations. Provost Sigler said one of the goals of the Tower Foundation this year is to report to donors in a different way.

IV. Executive Committee Report -

A. Executive Committee Minutes -

March 13, 2006 – Senator Buzanski asked about item 8. He did not believe the bookstore could go bankrupt due to competition from another textbook seller. Chair Veregge said that this particular bookseller only carries books for classes with a high volume of students, whereas the bookstore sells books for all the classes. This would be unfair competition for them. Senator Glove

VI. Policy Committee and University Library Board Action Items (in rotation):

A. Organization and Government (O&G) Committee:

Senator Parsons presented AS 1322, Policy Resolution, Merging, Dividing, Transferring, Eliminating Academic Departments (First Reading).

Questions:

Senator Campsey said, "In the 2nd Resolved clause it talks about the temporary faculty voting, but their vote is advisory only. Who would their vote be advisory to, and could the vote be ignored?" Senator Norton said, "This language is borrowed from the department chair policy that was passed last year."

Senator Nellen said, "In the Resolved clause under item 5, what was the thought process in having O&G be the hearing board." Senator Norton said, "Someone has to be the hearing board, who else?"

Senator Bros said, "I have a question about the Resolved clause under item 2, what happens in a department where the vast majority of the faculty are temporary and have been there for some time?" Senator Norton said, "There is that problem and it is not solvable. There are only a few departments like that. The only other way to do it is to have the part-time faculty vote proportionate to their appointments."

Senator Sabalius said, "Does this resolution assume there won't be any layoffs of tenure or tenure-track faculty, and if it doesn't shouldn't that be addressed? Senator Norton said, "Only termination of programs involve the layoff of faculty."

Senator Hegstrom said, "What is the definition of a department, for example is a department in a receiving college an affected department?" Senator Norton said, "That depends on how they would be impacted."

Senator Peter said, "If a department wanted to move from one college to another, would the Deans of both colleges need to consent under this policy, or just the receiving college or exiting college?" Senator Norton said, "The Dean of any college affected would need to consent." Senator Peter said, "That pretty much rules out any involuntary moves." Senator Norton said, "You are right."

Senator Van Selst said, "What is the purpose of having the last sentence of item 5 of the Resolved clause? Aren't all decisions ultimately up to the President or the Provost in the best interests of the college?" Senator Norton said, "Someone has to make the final