

2010/2011 Academic Senate

MINUTES
May 9, 2011

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. and roll call was taken by the Senate Administrator. Forty-one Senators were present.

Ex Officio:

Present: Sabalius, Van Selst,
Lessow-Hurley, Kaufman
Absent: Kolodziejak, Kassing

Administrative Representatives:

Present: Lee, Selter
Absent: Laker, Bussani

Deans:

Present: Parrish, Stacks, Merdinger,
Chin

Students:

Present: Khan, Starks, Mansour,
Salazar
Absent: Solorzano, Beilke

Alumni Representative:

Present: Walters

Emeritus Representative:

Present: Buzanski

B. From the President of the University: No Report.

IV. Executive Committee Report –

A. Executive Committee Minutes –
May 2, 2011 –

Senator Mok said she had questions about item 3 of the Executive Committee Minutes of May 2, 2011, and then introduced Dr. Janet Averett, Assistant Director from the School of Music and Dance. Dr. Averett announced that she had several questions regarding university policy S06-7.

Dr. Averett gave the following background information. Between March 16th and March 25th, the School of Music and Dance conducted a vote to determine whether they should merge with the Radio, Television, Video, and Film Department (RTVF). The Tenured and tenure-track faculty in the School of Music and Dance voted unanimously not to merge with RTVF. The faculty in the School of Music and Dance feel that this vote was entirely in compliance with university policy S06-7, even though it may not have been done exactly as Dean Toepfer would have liked.

Dr. Averett asked if the School of Music and Dance was opposed to this merger, would the upper administration still force this merger upon them, and if so, didn't this violate university policy S06-7?

Senator Backer responded that the Organization and Government Committee would be the committee that would deal with this.

Dr. Averett then noted that on May 5, 2011, she requested a formal hearing with the Organization and Government Committee (O&G) regarding this merger. Dean Toepfer responded in writing to Senator Michael Kimbarow, Chair of the O&G Committee. Dean Toepfer indicated that he felt that the O&G Committee was premature in requesting a hearing, because an election on the proposal had not yet taken place college-wide. Dean Toepfer commented that the vote by the School of Music and Dance did not include all faculty in the college that would be affected by the merger, and therefore was incomplete. For this reason, Dean Toepfer announced that he would not comply with the School of Music and Dance's request that he cease all activities related to the merger. Dr. Averett asked whether a Dean could reinterpret a policy and choose not to comply with the request for a hearing.

Chair Kaufman responded that this was not a question that could be answered by the Senate today, and he suggested that a meeting be held with all interested parties to see if a plan could be worked out to move beyond this.

Dr. Averett expressed her concern that the Dean had no right to tell the School of Music and Dance what sort of format was appropriate to express their collective view. The

School of Music and Dance did take a vote. It is the opinion of the faculty in the School of Music and Dance that the Dean's actions violate the principles of academic freedom, and joint governance, and indicate a serious lack of respect with regard to university procedures. Dr. Averett noted that the situation had become very hostile, and had created mistrust in the entire process from the School of Music and Dance's point of view.

are disturbed by the procedure and the manner in which it had taken place. The faculty are now very hostile to this idea. If the Dean had told the faculty in the college that they needed to merge because of budget issues, and had then asked the faculty to come up with solutions, Senator Mok feels it would have been a very different situation. Provost Selter indicated that he would not make administrative decisions on the floor of the Senate, but he that he would take the concerns of the faculty from the School of Music and Dance under advisement.

Senators Van Hooff and Frazier expressed their support for their colleagues in the College of Humanities and the Arts, and urged the Provost to suspend the voting calendar until after the summer. Provost Selter responded that he, “could not speak for the Dean, but would speak to the Dean.”

Additional Questions about the Minutes of May 2, 2011

Senator Buzanski asked if item number 4 referred to February of 2012, and Chair Kaufman responded that it did.

Senator Stacks asked for an explanation as to how Senate seats are filled that remain vacant after the general elections in the spring. Chair Kaufman responded that if a Senate seat goes unfilled during the Spring General Elections, the Executive Committee solicits the names of qualified and available faculty after consulting with the sitting Senators from that college. The Executive Committee then selects a new Senator from among those recommended to fill the seat until the next spring’s General Elections.

B. Consent Calendar – None

C. Executive Committee Action Items:

1. Chair Kaufman presented certificates of service to departing Senators.
2. Chair Kaufman presented *AS 1463, Sense of the Senate Resolution, Honoring and Thanking Rose Lee for her Service to the Senate and the University (Final Reading)*. **The Senate voted and AS 1463 passed as written with No Nays or Abstentions.** Senator Lee received a standing ovation from the Senate. Senator Lee was presented with a plaque thanking her for her years of service to the Senate.
3. Chair Kaufman presented *AS 1464, Sense of the Senate Resolution, Expressing Our Appreciation of Don W. Kassing Again (Final Reading)*. **The Senate voted and AS 1464 passed as written with No Nays or Abstentions.**
4. Vice Chair Von Till presented *AS 1462, Sense of the Senate Resolution, Honoring and Thanking Dr. Michael Kaufman for his Service to the Senate and the University (Final Reading)*. **The Senate voted and AS 1462 passed as written with no Nays or Abstentions.** Chair Kaufman received a standing ovation. Vice Chair Von Till presented Chair Kaufman with a plaque thanking him for his two years of service as Senate Chair.

V. Unfinished Business - None

VI. Policy Committee and University Library Board Action Items. In rotation.

A. Instruction and Student Affairs Committee (I&SA) - No report.

Senator Gleixner presented *AS 1457, Policy Recommendation, Required Enrollment for Report in Progress (RP) Units (Final Reading)*.

Debate:

Senator Stacks expressed concern about enforcing or implementing the policy and suggested a motion be made to return it to the committee for additional work with her office in this area.

Senator Buzanski presented a motion to return the resolution to the I&SA Committee to

contemplating a more limited schedule of office hours should consult with their department chair.” The Senate voted and the Van Selst Amendment failed.

Senator Lessow-Hurley presented an amendment to strike section II.D. entirely. Senator Von Till called the question. The Senate voted and the Von Till motion passed with 1 Nay. The Senate voted and the Lessow-Hurley amendment failed.

Senator Sabalius called the question on AS 1456. **The Senate voted and the Sabalius motion passed with 3 Nays.**

The Senate voted and AS 1456 passed as amended with 2 Nays.

D. Curriculum and Research Committee (C&R) –

Senator Heiden presented *AS 1460, Policy Recommendation, ABC/NC Grading, Amends University Policy S09-7 (Final Reading)*. Senator Buzanski called the question. The Senate voted and the Buzanski motion was approved. **The Senate voted and AS 1460 passed as written with 1 Nay and 6 Abstentions.**

Senator Heiden presented *AS 1461, Senate Management Resolution, Designation and Continued Designation of First-Year Experience (FYE) Courses (Final Reading)*. **The Senate voted and AS 1461 passed as written with No Nays or Abstentions.**

E. Organization and Government Committee (O&G) -

Senator Kimbarow presented *AS 1458, Policy Recommendation, Membership, Student Success Committee (Final Reading)*. **The Senate voted and AS 1458 passed as written.**

VII. Special Committee Reports – None

The