

**Faculty Senate Executive Board  
September 2, 2008  
107 Lab of Mechanics  
MINUTES**

Present: Clark Ford, Arnold van der Valk, Sedahlia Crase, Michael Martin, Gregory Palermo, Max Porter, Suzanne Hendrich, Steve Freeman, Ann Marie VanderZanden, Mike Owen, Paul Anderson, Martha Selby, Margaret Torrie, Robert Wallace, Gary Osweiler, Elizabeth Hoffman, Susan Carlson

Not present: Skip Walter, Dave Holger

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by Ford at 3:12pm. Board agreed to begin meetings at 3:00 henceforth.

**II. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Agenda, Executive Board Meeting, September 2, 2008**

Ford introduced agenda

**B. Minutes, Executive Board Meeting, April 22, 2008**

Meeting minutes from 4/22/08: Porter moved that they be approved, after making corrections as follows: Items **D** and **E** were not “tabled for further discussion”, but rather were “sent to Senate by consensus”. Anderson seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

Ford introduced consent agenda. Freeman moved for approval, Crase seconded; motion carried unanimously.

**III. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS**

**A. President**

Ford welcomed the EB back for AY 08/09.

Ford noted that the meeting room (107 LoM) has new air conditioners—with remote controls no less!

Ford noted that the room would be remodeled/redecorated, and that wall art will include historical photos as well as rosters for past faculty senate bodies.

Ford noted that the EB retreat in June 08 was successful, thanked participants.

Ford noted other events of the summer, including a Knoll breakfast, a welcome-for-new-faculty event, and a meeting between Ford and Provost Hoffman.

Ford appointed himself as liaison to the Graduate Council.

Ford noted his appointment of Van Der Valk to chair a welfare and benefits committee (committee reports to RPA Council) that focuses on faculty compensation.

Ford noted particular goals for the coming AY, including: establish new policies (as needed), monitor the effects of the new budget model, and raise the visibility and prestige of the senate among the faculty.

## **B. President-elect**

van der Valk noted that he has been working on three ventures:

1. Exploring Spring conference themes; possibilities include ISUComm, compensation policies and procedures, and the “living green” initiative (VDV favors the compensation issue)
2. The Committee on Committees
3. The aforementioned welfare and benefits committee

## **C. Provost**

### **1. Update on searches, modified duties policy, NTER implementation and Work-Life Advisory Committee**

Hoffman noted that searches underway for VP for Research and Economic Development as well as for three deans (Design, Engineering, Human Sciences). Thirteen candidates identified for VPRED, with interviewees here in November. Second forum for Design dean search occurred earlier today (9/2); other two searches underway as well, with some calendar-staggering to avoid overlap.

Hoffman noted that we have a net increase of 30-40 tenure-eligible faculty over AY 07/08; an enrollment of almost 27,000 students for AY 08/09, and that full funding had been requested (of the legislature) for various budget elements.

Carlson noted that a task force had been appointed to study implications of the proposed “modified duties policy”, which is a bit of a political hot potato, as our friends to the east (U of I) discovered. Crase noted it was a sensitive PR issue and that press treatment of it would influence public perceptions.

Carlson noted the upcoming “ISU Advance” conference (10/10-10/11/08) as well as an ISU Advance networking event on 9/10/08. Information sheets on both events distributed to EB.

van der Valk asked for clarification of “full funding” mentioned by Hoffman; also noted that the archaic \$2000 maximum buyout for sick leave policy was outdated and inadequate due to inflation. Hoffman agreed but suggested that the emphasis should be on salary increases rather than bargaining on relatively minor benefits policies, and that faculty should prioritize desired benefits. Crase noted that “buyout” itself was a problematic word in PR terms (public perception of state largesse). Palermo agreed, noting that ISU faculty salaries are perceived as high, relative to median income in Iowa.

#### **D. Council/Caucus Chair Reports**

**FDAR Council:** VanderZanden notes that this council is beginning to discuss the modified duties policy as well as the tuition reduction policy for faculty families. Hoffman says that support for these ideas may hinge on their being revenue-neutral.

**J&A Council:** Freeman notes that this council will be looking at the effectiveness of the existing time allotment for appeal filings; also notes that four appeals are likely to be upcoming this fall

**RPA Council:** Palermo notes that this council is focusing on FY '10 planning, and that the council has met three times over the summer with the provost.

**Governance Council:** Porter notes that this council has not yet met, and will meet for the first time on 9/12/08. Immediate focus will be on review of the smoke-free campus policy wording, and upon review of the “authority to hire” policy language.

**Academic Affairs Council:** Hendrich notes that catalog review looms; and that the council will be reviewing proposed accountability measures for certain programs that may involve standardized testing.

Ford then called for a meeting on 9/30/08 among council chairs (the Administration committee); also, he called for a meeting among caucus chairs on 9/16/08.

Ford noted that there was insufficient time for full reports from caucus chairs, but asked whether there were salient issues worth noting. Wallace noted that LAS caucus finds the present form of the proposed modified duties policy to be too narrowly focused.

**V\*. OLD BUSINESS** (\*recording secretary’s note: there was no item **IV** on agenda)

#### **A. M.S./Ph.D. Wildlife Ecology (Hendrich)**

Hendrich noted the proposed merger of masters and PhD programs in Animal Ecology and Wildlife Biology into “Wildlife Ecology”. Discussion ensued concerning whether appropriate documentation has been provided detailing the voting/approval process for the venture at the departmental (NREM) level. Owen moved that the EB send the proposal to the Senate with the proviso that approval dates be provided for all levels of review (department, college, FSCC, Grad Council; Wallace seconded, motion carried unanimously.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Authority to Hire Employees Policy**

### **B. Employment Verification and Background Check Policy**

### **C. Smoke-Free Campus Policy**

Ford moved that items **A**, **B** and **C** on the consent agenda be forwarded to the Governance Council; VanderZanden seconded, motion carried unanimously.

### **D. Task Force to Examine Limits on Percentage of Non-Tenure-Eligible Faculty**

As for Item **D** Ford proposed a task force that would assess how particular limits affects particular programs, since programs vary widely in their use of NTE faculty; Hoffman notes that the 15% limit would impact certain programs negatively, and Palermo pointed out the long-term downward trend at ISU (and not so much at U of I nor UNI) in proportion of tenure/tenure-eligible faculty. Ford invited emailed nominations from those willing to serve on the task force. Carlson asked that the task force include at least one member from a high NTE-using program.

### **E. Faculty Lounge**

Ford noted that the establishment of a faculty “lounge” was an old issue recently resurrected. Some discussion ensued about facilities at other institutions, the viability of such a facility at ISU, and whether “lounge” was an appropriate name. Ford asked that FDAR take this on as a feasibility study, or to create a task force to accomplish such a study.

## **VII. APPROVAL OF SENATE AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 9, 2008**

Ford introduced the consent agenda for the Senate meeting on 9/9/08; Wallace moved to approve, Anderson seconded, motion carried unanimously.

## **VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

No comments

## **IX. ADJOURN**

Wallace moved to adjourn at 5:00pm, Crase seconded, motion carried unanimously.