

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 3, 2009
3:00-5:00 p.m.
107 Lab of Mechanics**

Present: Torrie, M; Ford, C; Crase, S; Freeman, S; Martin, M; Hendrich, S; Selby, M; Owen, M; Sapp, T (for Palermo); Anderson, P; Porter, M; Walter, S; VanDerZanden, AM; Wallace, R; Van der Valk, A; Carlson, S; Holger, D. **Not present:** Osweiler, G; Hoffman, E.

I Call to Order – 3:07 p.m.

II Consent Agenda

A Agenda, Executive Board Meeting, February 3, 2009

B Minutes, Executive Board Meeting, January 13, 2009

Consent agenda approved following a motion by Owen and a second by Wallace.

III Announcements and Remarks

A President

Ford noted that the Board of Regents (BoR) had met earlier this day, and the Council of Provosts (CoP) had convened the previous evening. We await comments from the Regents on the recently-passed Modified Duties Policy (MDP). Noted that the CoP is in no hurry to deal with the MDP, what with budget woes. It does appear that differences between the ISU and U of Iowa MDPs are not substantial, and the two schemes could be reconciled as needed. Ford noted that the new research policy is now ready to be translated into Faculty Handbook language by the governance council. Ford noted that the NTER task force will have a report and recommendations by the end of the semester. Ford noted further that a variety of initiatives including the MDP, the teaching academy, the faculty dining facility (f/k/a faculty lounge), and tuition benefits for employee dependents could all reappear for consideration when budget issues stabilize. However, any such new venture would probably have to be budget-neutral in order to gain the necessary support from Regents. The overall reversion thus far during the current fiscal year is 9%, or about \$25 million. Ford asked EB members to consider the many avenues that faculty have to contribute ideas for dealing with the budget problems. He noted that President Geoffroy is committed first and foremost to protecting the financial health and viability of students.

B President-Elect

Van der Valk noted that the faculty productivity committee (soon to have a different name) is looking at options for increasing teaching loads and for increasing teaching efficiencies (larger classes/more large classes, e.g.). This committee is also considering how the post-tenure review process might be modified to make senior faculty accountable for increased teaching responsibilities in cases where research activity is not significant. Van der Valk also noted that the faculty compensation committee was attempting to study compensation trends, but because there are such inconsistencies of pay level even within departments, it is difficult to evaluate or make comparisons or to assess what constitutes “overpaid” or “underpaid” conditions.

C Provost

Carlson noted that the Design Dean search had arrived at finalists, with candidates on campus in late February/early March. Holger noted that the Human Sciences Dean candidates would be on campus in early March, and that Engineering Dean candidates would follow. Carlson noted that 75 promotion and/or tenure cases were going to the provost, with a schedule similar to that

of recent years. Candidates will get the news before spring break. Holger noted that the dossier submittals process seemed to have gone more smoothly than in the past.

D Council/Caucus Chairs

Freeman stated that revisions to the timeline for appeals cases may get through the Senate this semester. Ford asked that the EB see something on this from the J&A Council at the next EB meeting. Porter circulated a draft of the governance documents checklist, to be considered under old business.

IV Old Business

A Governance Document Checklist [S08-14]

<http://www.agron.iastate.edu/~loynachan/gov/GovDovChecklist.htm>

Porter noted that the CDDR committee had generated this amendment to checklist, and that it was now their final version. It will be considered as new business by the full senate.

B Policy on Selection of External Reviewers [S08-15]

C Policy on Content of External Letters [S08-16]

Freeman noted that he will delete the “best practices” segment from the guidelines that the Senate will vote upon at its next meeting.

V New Business

A Discontinuation of M.S. in VDPAM

Hendrich noted that this discontinuation is consolidation of two degrees, and was apparently non-controversial. The to-be-discontinued degree program has no enrolled students, and approval to discontinue has been obtained already at all levels of review. Hendrich will provide dates of those approvals as needed.

Holger inserted a comment about the Regents’ recently expressed desire for a more standardized set of forms and processes for making academic program changes at the Regents level.

B Resolution to extend Faculty Senate meetings to 110 minutes

Ford asked the EB for comments on his proposal to increase the time limits for a Senate meeting to 110 minutes (current limit: 90 minutes). He stated that more time was needed because of larger-than-normal agendas (recently), because this would enhance productivity (more accomplished at any one meeting), would enhance due process because of more time for deliberation/comments, and anyway, the P&S council already has two-hour meetings, so why not us. Ford suggested that the meetings could run 3:10-5:00 in lieu of the current 3:30-5:00 time slot. Porter spoke in favor of the concept. VanDerZanden cautioned that whatever else we do, meetings should not run beyond 5:00 because of child-care responsibilities on the part of many faculty members. Ford noted that for some faculty members, a meeting beginning at 3:10 would be a problem because of teaching schedules. He noted that would-be Senator Veronica Dark, for example, always teaches until 3:20 on Tuesdays. Much discussion ensued, with a definite trend toward opposition to the idea of lengthening the time limit. An informal poll (show of hands) revealed withering support, and Ford decided that upon the advice of the EB, he would withdraw his proposal from the upcoming Senate new business agenda.

C Children in the Workplace Policy

Now to be called “The Protection of Children in the Workplace Policy”, in order to emphasize the safety focus of the policy. General agreement to add the phrase “review and endorsement” to

the language presented to the Senate, to clarify the Senate's role. Discussion ensued about the Senate's role in endorsing university policies.

VI Approval of Senate Agenda for February 10, 2009

Following motion by Owen and a second by Van der Valk, agenda approved with two changes: name change to "The Protection of Children in the Workplace Policy", and withdrawal of Ford's proposal to lengthen maximum Senate meeting time.

VII Good of the Order

Freeman suggested that the Senate investigate the possibility of buying used classroom clickers from academic units that may have surpluses, to be used to facilitate voting.

VIII Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Wallace, seconded by Anderson, on the very Campanile-tolling stroke of 5:00.

NEXT MEETING – March 3, 2009

Minutes assiduously recorded and respectfully submitted by Michael David Martin, duly elected Recording Secretary of the Iowa State University Faculty Senate, upon this twenty-fourth day of February in the year two thousand and nine *Anno Domini*.