

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING minutes
December 1, 2009
3:00-5:00 p.m.
107 Lab of Mechanics**

Attendance: Torrie, M; van der Valk, A; Ford, C; Freeman, S; Martin, M; Hendrich, S; Selby, M; Loy, D; Palermo, G; Anderson, P; Porter, M; Walter, S; VanDerZanden, AM; Wallace, R; Owen, M; Carlson, S; Holger, D; Hoffman, E; substitute for Osweiler, name illegible.

I Call to Order

II Consent Agenda

A Agenda, Executive Board Meeting, December 1, 2009

B Minutes, Executive Board Meeting, November 10, 2009

Spelling of Tom Loynachan's name to be corrected for previous EB minutes; minutes/agenda approved as amended.

III Announcements and Remarks

A President

Van der Valk noted that the tenure track comp. report done, and that it was a good year (2008-09). Noted that the NTE task force is still working on data. Noted that the Senate blog is now functional for moderated comments. Noted President Geoffroy's letter of 11/30/2009 identified the Provost's budget-cutting task force; also noted that the letter addressed the fact that the faculty handbook does not address guidelines or procedures for eliminating departments or faculty positions, and there is but one line regarding financial emergencies.

B President-Elect

No comments.

C Provost

Hoffman noted disappointment at the "Policies and Procedures for the Termination of Faculty...version 1.52" generated by the Governance Council and dated 11/20/2009, as it seemed to undermine the principle of shared governance, and had been assured the document would not have yet been put before the full Senate. If declaration of financial emergency activated AAUP guidelines (which do not allow for strategic action), then such emergency should not be declared, because this would generate a governance crisis. Restructuring must happen, but this document will not allow doing anything bold. Urged tabling this document and for the Governance Council to work with Carlson and Tanaka to develop a mutually satisfactory plan. Noted that if ISU gets a 20% cut but does not close any departments, the institution could appear to be out of touch with economic realities.

Van der Valk noted that the document is similar to that of the U of I, and that it follows recommended AAUP guidelines. Hoffman noted that the recommended termination procedures that eliminate NTE positions and tenure track positions prior to termination of tenured positions would destroy the university. Freeman noted that if we move forward with no strategy, ISU would become bogged down in appeals cases. Hoffman re-emphasized the need for shared governance, and that even with a 10% cut there may be departments closed. With a 20% cut, we will surely need to terminate faculty positions. Selby asked about current rules regarding faculty positions when programs are cut. Hoffman noted that if a program is cut then faculty can be terminated, but that typically ISU attempts to find a new “home” for faculty in such cases. Noted that in 1995, Speech Communication was eliminated, but all faculty was relocated to other departments.

D Council/Caucus Chairs

Freeman noted that J&A needs a secure location for electronic files. Wallace noted that we need more time for budget discussion (as opposed to presentations) in senate meetings; van der Valk agreed. VanDerZanden noted that FDAR is working on the NTE % report. Hendrich noted that AAC is working on approval procedures for academic programs.

IV Old Business

A Changing Names of Majors in AESHM

B Merger of Majors to form Supply Chain Management

V New Business

A Policies and Procedures for the Termination of Faculty and Discontinuance of Academic Programs and Departments –Governance Council (Porter)

Van der Valk noted that ISU seemed unprepared to deal with the budget crisis, in terms of policies in place. Noted that Governance Council had discussed the notion that if ISU bases its promotion and tenure policies on AAUP guidelines, then it's consistent to look to AAUP for guidance on termination policy. Noted that the U of I has AAUP guidelines for termination embedded in their faculty handbook, and circulated copies of the relevant portions of the U of I handbook. That handbook stipulated that faculty can be terminated for 1. policy violations, 2. unacceptable performance of duties, 3. financial exigency, or 4. programmatic changes. Noted that ISU has nothing comparable in its handbook. Noted that if we don't want to imitate this policy, we still need to develop our own. Asked whether we should adopt the term “financial exigency” and substitute it for ISU's term “extraordinary financial crisis”.

Selby noted that the aforementioned “Policies” document submitted by the Governance Council seemed extreme, and not a good place to begin discussions on establishing ISU's policies. Palermo suggested that we go to the full senate with the issue. He noted that while there is no clear definition of what constitutes “financial exigency”, we do at ISU have a reorganizational policy, and this would be a good starting point. Palermo further noted that while the Governance Council's document read as “inflammatory” (the

word had been mentioned a few times during discussion), it was much less so when presented orally at this meeting.

Hoffman noted that President Geoffroy has planned forums for early next semester to allow faculty input on reorganization. Noted that discussion of reorganization has taken place among administrators, but nothing proposed or decided. Ford suggested that the Governance Council's (controversial) proposal be sent back to the Council to massage it and make it seem less like a "declaration of war". Palermo suggested that more background be provided, and that the document's substance be discussed on the floor of the senate. Hendrich agreed, suggesting we not wordsmith the document further, but rather put the issues directly in front of the full senate. Freeman suggested that the controversial document in question be taken down from the senate's website until it can be edited for clarification. Unclear at present as to what is AAUP guidelines and what is background, history, etc. Freeman made a motion to this effect; VanDerZanden seconded; motion carried.

Hendrich made a motion to send the controversial document back to the Governance Council for clarifications noted by Freeman and to remove "inflammatory" language in order to make it more palatable; noted that the U of I document seemed a good model for substance and tone. Suggested as part of motion that the term "exigency" be used. Walter seconded; motion carried.

VI Approval of Senate Agenda for December 8, 2009

Palermo suggested the Senate repeat the "Committee of the Whole" format for discussion, with time devoted to free-ranging budget discussion rather than formal presentations. Suggested that New Business be taken off agenda, due to time constraints. Owen made a motion to accept the agenda as modified. VanDerZanden seconded; motion carried.

VII Good of the Order

Van der Valk reminded about the Giving Tree in Senate office.

VIII Adjourn

Owen made a motion to adjourn, Wallace seconded; motion carried.

NEXT MEETING – THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2009

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