



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 5, 2023 – 3:00–5:00 P.M. – Lab of Mechanics 107

Attending (14): Bennett-George, S. [President], Parsa, R. [Pres-Elect], Perkins, J. [Past Pres], Wallace, R. [Sec], Bigelow, T. [RPA & ENG CC], Butler, A. [LAS CC], Frank, M. [Gov], Freeman, S. [J&A], Gillette, M. [HSC CC], Hornbuckle, B. [FDAR], Janvrin, D. [BUS CC], Schieltz, J. [Acad. Affairs], Smalley, S. [CALC CC], Wheeler, A. [DSN CC].

Absent (1): Day, T. [VET CC] - A quorum was determined to be present for the meeting.

Provost Office (3): J. Wickert [Provost], D. Bratsch-Prince [Assoc. Provost], A. VanderZanden [Assoc. Provost]

Guests: Knief, A. [Parliamentarian]

1. Call to Order – President Bennett-George called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm

2. Consent Agenda

a. EB Agenda December 5, 2023

b. EB Minutes November 7, 2023

The Consent Agenda was adopted by voice vote without dissent.

3. Special Order: Resolution on Educational Materials Policy

- Senator Butler presented background information for a resolution to move the Educational Materials from the Policy Library to the *Faculty Handbook*, Chapter 9.
- The Policy Library Advisory Committee (PLAC) has reviewed the Educational Materials policy and chose to keep the recently revised policy in the Policy Library.
- Senator Freeman provided context and discussed the point that the PLAC has faculty representation on it.
- Senator Gillette asked about the possibility that the policy residing in both the Policy Library and the *Faculty Handbook*. Discussion continued, and questions were raised about the lumping of all educational materials in one format or type (as to how materials are defined).
- It was noted that the comment period is open at present for providing feedback to PLAC over a period of 2 months. The comment period closes on 15 February 2024.
- The question was asked as to how to proceed with the resolution, and whether the resolution should be sent to the Governance Council.
- A motion was received from Senator Butler, seconded by President-Elect Parsa, to place the resolution on the floor of the Senate. Discussion continued regarding possible modification of several components of the resolution (First ‘Whereas’, points 2 and 6, etc.). A show of hands vote was conducted; the motion did not receive sufficient affirmative votes and the motion failed.

4. Unfinished Business

- a. FH 7.2.5.1.4 Interim Action – modification [23-5] – Freeman
 - Senator Feeman noted that he had not received any additional comments since the November Senate meeting. The item will be included on the agenda of the December 12th FS meeting for its second reading.
- b. FH 7.2.6.1 Appeals to the University President [23-6] – Freeman
 - Senator Feeman noted that he had not received any additional comments since the November Senate meeting. The item will be included on the agenda of the December 12th FS meeting for its second reading.
- c. Master of Applied Statistics [23-7] – Schieltz
 - Senator Schieltz noted that she had not received any additional comments since the November Senate meeting. The item will be included on the agenda of the December 12th FS meeting for its second reading.

5. New Business –

- a. ISU Catalog Proposed Policy: Grading as it Impacts Repeating Courses [23-10] – Schieltz
 - Senator Schieltz stated that this is a proposed policy change involving how credits are handles for repeated courses taken at other institutions. This involves including the most recent grade to be credited toward satisfying degree requirements, but it does not erase the grade earned at ISU from the transcript. The item will be included on the agenda of the December 12th FS meeting for its first reading.
- b. Name Change: B.A. Scientific Illustration and Visualization [23-11] – Schieltz
 - The proposal is for a name change for the current Biology and Pre-Medical Illustration major that was recommended by an external review of the program. The new name will better reflect the diversity of forms of illustration taught the current curriculum, will include a broader range of science disciplines beyond the biological sciences, and is anticipated to attract students with a broader range of interests to program. The item will be included on the agenda of the December 12th FS meeting for its first reading.
- c. Undergraduate Minor Applied Mathematics [23-12] – Schieltz
 - The minor will differ from the current Minor in Mathematics that the curricular content of the proposed new ‘Applied’ minor does not include the requirement to take a ‘proofs’ class, and can satisfy the new minor’s requirements with a different array of courses. The item will be included on the agenda of the December 12th FS meeting for its first reading.
- d. Master of Digital Health [23-13] – Schieltz
 - This proposal is for a new on-line Master’s degree program which focuses on various technologies including ‘wearable technology’ and digital applications in health-related areas.
 - Several new faculty will be hired to develop on-line courses, and it will take some time to have all new faculty hired.
 - It was noted that this program is the first example of one of the “Degrees of the Future” initiatives; the intention is to move this proposal forward and to have program start in the Fall of 2024. The proposal will be included on the agenda of the FS meeting of 12 December for its first reading.

- e. B.A. Sports Media and Communication [23-14] - Schieltz
 - Senator Schieltz stated that this was a new bachelor's degree program being proposed by the Greenlee School. The proposal contains details of the proposed program, and includes letters of support from University of Iowa and the University of Northern Iowa. The proposal will be included on the agenda of the FS meeting of 12 December for its first reading.

6. Announcements

- a. President - Bennett-George
 - President Bennett-George gave a brief summary from her activity at the APLU conference; she noted that many other universities are discussing and dealing with the same issues that we are, including the relationship and role of Term Faculty, and that we are somewhat 'ahead of the curve' on these issues.
 - She is aware of the many concerns faculty have with the report of the Board of Regents Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and the 'Adopted Recommendations', with respect to how those recommendations affect their teaching and scholarship.
 - She noted a communication from the ISU Retirees Association from its president Max Porter who asked that the Faculty Senate assist with recommendations and providing reminders to retiring faculty to join the organization.
 - President Bennett-George concluded her announcements by reminding the EB that there is an ongoing vote by Graduate Faculty to endorse the movement of the academic components of the Graduate College to the Faculty Senate under the Academic Affairs Council.

- b. President-Elect - Parsa
 - President-Elect Parsa noted that "the Spring Symposium is set", with great speakers, input from Microsoft, a notable Michigan State speaker, and with 6 break-out sessions. There will be an organizational meeting held on January 16th to finalize arrangements.

- c. Past-President – Perkins
 - No announcements at this time

- d. Senior Vice President and Provost - Wickert
 - The Provost had no announcements.
 - Senator Butler asked a question about Winter Session, and if it is doing what was originally intended. The Provost answered that no formal review of Winter Session was conducted last year, and relied on input from faculty participating in teaching during Winter Session. There are still students who are registering for courses taught during winter session. There has been a shift from more basic/foundation courses to Junior and Senior more advanced courses. At present it appears that the 2023-2024 Winter Session will be about 10% larger in enrollment than it was last year.

 - Sen. Frank asked about Prep Week Policy. In general students approve of how Prep Week is currently functioning. A recent meeting with Student Government representatives was conducted to discuss the issue; there were only 4 complaints received that were handled individually.

- e. Council Chairs Reports

- Academic Affairs – Schieltz – The AAC discussed the point that proposals for interdisciplinary programs must have governance documents, a defined curriculum committee, and documentation of approval from the managing college. A question was raised regarding how funding support would flow to the program. Assoc. Provost Vander Zanden replied that financial concerns would have to be dealt with by the relevant college dean’s office. This would include operating expenses for the program and how expenses will be divided and shared.
- FDAR – Hornbuckle – The council is still working on Extension scholarship topics.
- Governance – Frank – The Governance Council is continuing its work on several sections of the Faculty Handbook and revising language relevant to several issues related to Term Faculty. Some of these issues include how years of prior service can be used for advancement, and the policies involving how Term Faculty can serve in administrative roles.
- J&A – Freeman – No report at this time.
- RPA – Bigelow – The council discussed how to formalize the procedure on how to move proposals forward and to improve organization and efficiency of various processes.

f. Caucus Chair Reports

- BUS – Janvrin – Reported that at present there are no major issues being discussed.
- CALS – Smalley – The CALS caucus discussed the debate guidelines and are generally supportive of the concept.
- HUM SCI – Gillette – The caucus discussed the debate guidelines. Issues discussed included following Robert’s Rules, concerns about timing of those speaking on issues, and that there is general support from the caucus for the limit of individual senators to speak only twice on any specific issue.
- DES – Wheeler – The College of Design caucus met on Dec. 1st, although only 3 members were in attendance. Sen. Wheeler noted that the CoD faculty have problems with service obligations. She noted that Sen. John Cunnally would represent the CoD on the RPA Council. The Dept. of Architecture requests to regain its department senator position; the EB discussed the procedure on how to re-establish this position for the department, noting that the department chose previously to give up its senate seat several years ago.

Point of Order: ‘Motion to Extend for 5 Minutes’ received at 4:58 pm by Parsa; second by Perkins. Motion was adopted without dissent.

- ENG – Bigelow – No report at this time,
- LAS – Butler – Five topics were presented from the LAS Caucus:
 - The caucus discussed debate guidelines and had different thoughts on concerns raised; would potentially stifle discussion and presentation of alternative ideas,
 - The caucus had a brief discussion of governance procedures.
 - With respect to graduate students, discussion was held about the need for departments to cover stipends; this is essentially an unfunded mandate, and will create hardships for many graduate programs. There is also significant concerns from faculty about the intent to no longer fund Master’s students.
 - The issue of salary compression was raised, especially for Term Faculty.
 - There are significant concerns by faculty with regard to the ongoing response to the Regents’ ten Diversity Equity and Inclusion Adopted Recommendations. Faculty are getting anxious about how they are to adapt their courses and research activity, and the lack of guidance with respect to ongoing DEI policy at ISU.
- VET – Day – No report.

7. Approval of the December 12, 2023 Faculty Senate Agenda

- Motion to approve the December 12th FS agenda as presented by Parsa; second by Perkins; motion was adopted by voice vote without dissent.

8. Good of the Order

- None

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert S. Wallace, Secretary - ISU Faculty Senate
