

Approved\* Minutes of the  
SU Faculty Senate Meeting  
21 October 2003  
HH 119

Senators present: Curtin, Diriker, Hopson, Hutchinson, Marshall, Mathews, Muller, McCallops, McDermott, McKezie, Mullins, O'Loughlin, Parker, Pereboom, Shannon, Rieck

Senators absent: Long, Rotondo

1. David Rieck called the meeting to order at 3:32 PM.
2. David had several brief announcements:
  - A. The Faculty Senate will meet next week to continue discussion of the draft SU Strategic Plan.
  - B. Nominations for the Regents' Faculty Awards need to be submitted soon.
3. Dave Buchanan announced:
  - A. SU did a good job last year with the Regents' Faculty Awards.
  - B. The President would like to use the Forum to explain the Facilities Master Plan. She would like to change the dates of the Forum and Senate so that she could do this on 11 November. There will likely be a press conference earlier in the day.
  - C. He discussed the budget.
    - i. Our budget for next year is projected to be "even," even though we have increased expenses.
    - ii. A 2.5% merit pay increase has been suggested by the Governor.
    - iii. SU will have a 10% increase in tuition next year. We were second to UMCP which asked for - and received - an 11.4% increase.
    - iv. On the Special List the USM is also requesting another \$61 million.
      - a. This is tied to enrollment growth
      - b. Health care costs are increasing.
      - c. Other unknown costs.
      - d. Regents might raise tuition again if the \$61 million is not approved. This would raise tuition about another 10%.
  - D. SU is again listed in Kiplinger's 100 best buys in the US. In spite of our tuition increase this year, we only slipped to about 75<sup>th</sup> place. Four of our 5 aspirant peers are on the list.
4. Approval of minutes:
  - A. The minutes of 30 September were approved as corrected and distributed.
  - B. The minutes of 14 October were approved with one minor correction.
5. Victoria Hutchinson announced that the display ad for the Registrar's position, to appear in the Chronicle, has been approved. The search committee consists of 10 people, chaired by Jerry Waldron.

6. Natalie Hopson announced that the search committee for the Vice President for Business and Finance is completing its work. The finalists should all be visiting campus over the next couple of weeks. There will be open meetings for faculty and staff with these candidates.
7. The draft Strategic Plan was discussed.
  - A. The Long Range Academic Planning Committee prepared it.
  - B. Feedback is desired by 15 November.
  - C. Priorities are not indicated.
  - D. While Goal I is a priority, the goals themselves are not in priority order.
  - E. Question: What happens to the plan when we are in fiscal crisis? Presumably the plan will guide those making the difficult choices about what to cut.
  - F. Several individuals had concerns about the plan. It aspires to mediocrity by maintaining too much and not aspiring to do more. They asked if the goals are set too low. The library should be a top priority. More specifics are needed.
  - G. At the next Senate meeting the LRAPC will attend. Issues should be sent to Dave Rieck or to the committee.
8. David Rieck adjourned the meeting at 4:24 pm

The next meeting of the Faculty Senate is scheduled for 28 October in HH 119 to further discuss the Strategic Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Parker, Secretary

\*Minutes approved at the 4 November 2003 Meeting of the Faculty Senate