**Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting**

November 14, 2013

Bump Conference Room

**I. Call to order**

Chair Ed Corwin called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM.

**II. Roll call**

Senators present: Drs. David Boyles, Al Boysen, Robert Corey, William Cross, Marius Ellingsen, Adam French, Patrick Gilcrease, Jason Henry, Travis Kowalski (late arrival), Timothy Masterlark, Frank Matejcik, Charles Tolle, Purushotham PT Tukkaraja, and Frank Van Nuys.

Also attending: Dr. Carter Kerk, Spencer Ferguson.

**III. Approval of agenda**

The agenda was approved.

**IV. Approval of minutes**

The minutes of the October 10, 2013 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved after two corrections were made.

**V. Report from the chair**

* Dr. Corwin has nothing to report.

**VI. Committee reports**

* The Finance and Personnel Committee met to discuss the proposed emeritus policy. Its recommendations are presented as Old Business.
* The remaining standing committees had nothing to report.

**VII. Old Business**

1. *Emeritus policy*. Dr. Van Nuys presented the proposed emeritus policy, and noted three major points of discussion
2. Should the Senate be involved in a decision on what amounts to academic rank?
3. Where, precisely, does the Senate fit in the *emeritus* procedure?
4. The section on “responsibilities” of *emeritus* rank should be struck down.

On the first issue, Senators generally felt that the Senate’s role in the *emeritus* process should be to provide an avenue of recourse for dedicated faculty to seek *emeritus* status if, for some reason, that process was not initiated by his or her department head; it should never be one of *rejecting* the recommendation of a department. After further discussion, it was moved that the Senate *should* have a role in the *emeritus* nomination process. The motion carried 15 to 2.

On the second issue, Senators addressed the ambiguity of the policy wording and discussed where in the *emeritus* process the Senate acted and whether it made a recommendation or nomination. Senators also discussed the appropriate initiator for the request (The retiring faculty member? The department head? Any member of the faculty?) It was moved that the faculty member’s department would make a *recommendation, either yea or nay*, which would then come to the Senate. The motion carried unanimously.

On the third point, the Senate was unanimous in its agreement that the rank of *emeritus professor* should **not** imply new or continued responsibilities. Senators agreed with Dr. Van Nuys that the responsibilities section in the document should be struck. A final motion was made to accept the proposed changes to the *emeritus* policy document language as discussed during the meeting. The motion passed.

**VIII. New business**

1. *Graduation lists*. The Degrees Committee met and approved the B.S. graduation list, contingent upon completion of graduation requirements. The Senate motion to approve the list passes unanimously. Similarly, the Council on Graduate Education met and put forward the graduate student graduation list, contingent upon completion of graduation requirements. The Senate motion to approve the list passes unanimously.
2. *Curriculum requests*. Acting on behalf of the Curriculum Committee, Dr. Cross moved to approve all November curricular requests. All requests passed without discussion.
3. *Faculty webpage enhancements*. A sample faculty page was handed out to Senators. One area of concern for Senators regarding it: can faculty members make changes to their webpages, or must all changes be affected through the office of University Relations? The University Relations committee was charged with further investigation of the matter.
4. *Policy on students with deficiencies traveling for campus activities.* The Vice President of Academics forwarded concerns from faculty about students with academic deficiencies traveling for non-athletic competitions and conferences. The VP would like the Senate’s opinion on whether students with academic deficiencies should be allowed to travel for such activities. The matter is referred to the Student Affairs Committee.

**IX. Executive Session**

No minutes taken during Executive Sessions.

**X. Adjournment**

The Senate adjourned at 12:35 PM.