**Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting with Dr. Paul Turman**

December 2, 2014

Bump Lounge Surbeck

**Attendees**: Drs. Rod Rice, Marius Ellingsen, Mengyu Qiao, Zhengtao Zhu, Pat Gilcrease, Tim Masterlark, Robert Corey, Frank Van Nuys, Richard Sinden

**Purpose**: Dr. Turman went over the current System General Engineering Policy Review.

Primarily this was a presentation (available at <http://www.sdbor.edu/services/academics/documents/Campus_Visit_Presentation.pdf>) and a discussion with the faculty present.

**Main Points from Presentation**:

Dr. Turman indicated that it has been over ten years since the last General Education Review and emphasized that the proposed current review was not a BoR request. Rather, it was initiated from the campuses and connected to concerns with Institutional Graduation Requirments (IGRs) and a desire to keep General Education requirements focused within general BoR requirements. As a result, a system wide committee had been formed to work on the issue. The review will discuss the benefit of engaging the campus faculty and administration in the following areas:

1. A review of the student learning outcomes that result in unique Institutional Graduation Requirements.

2. The continued value of the CAAp examination for assessing system General Education and establishing student academic proficiency.

3. Alignment of system General Education policy with national efforts to establish a coordinated foundation for liberal arts education.

**Key Issues**:

*Transfer and Swirling Students*: Fewer than 25% of graduates in the Regental system have coursework that is exclusive to their home institution. As a result, current requirements for minimum semester hours at home institutions may be overly restrictive and require reconsideration in light of the academic environments in which our students live now.

*Joint Degree Programs*: Institutional Graduation Requirements vary among universities in the system, a problem that makes coordinating the increasing number of joint and dual degrees more difficult

*General Education Assessment—CAAP*: Currently, the CAAP test correlation to learning outcomes is not clearly established.

*Competency-based Programs*: In the future such programs will be on the upswing and transfer of

General education requirements from these programs is not well understood at the current time. As well, the lack of community colleges in South Dakota makes acquiring some of the Gen Ed requirements more difficult.

*Distance Learning*: This is a growing trend at many system institutions and may offer an additional route to fulfilling the general education requirements.

**Questions**:

1. With the change in the number of hours needed for graduation, has the number of hours over which the Gen Ed requirements are to be fulfilled changed?

No. The CAAP exam is still administered after students complete 64 hours.

1. Will there be other opportunities for feedback during the review process?

Yes, through the website at <http://www.sdbor.edu/services/academics/GenEd.htm>; also, one can talk to campus representatives (Linda DeVeaux in CABS and Jim Feiszli in Music). Presentations from our representatives to the Faculty Senate should be available when needed/requested.