Faculty Association

March 20, 2014
Approved minutes

Present: Ed Miller, Chair; Brian Fonnesbeck, Past Chair; Alex Bezzerides, Chair Elect; Amy Canfield, Secretary; Lynne Bidwell, Webmaster; Tony Fernandez, President; Lori Stinson, Provost; Chet Herbst, Vice-President for Finance and Administration; Andrew Hanson, Vice President for Student Affairs


I. Call to order at 3:18 by Ed Miller.

II. Consent Agenda
A. Approval of draft minutes from November 7, 2013
There was a move to approve the consent agenda from Brian Fonnesbeck, seconded by Lynne Bidwell. There was no further discussion and the motion passed with two abstentions (Rhett Diessner and Laura Earles).

B. Budget Report
There will be a full budget report at the next Faculty Association meeting in April.

III. Remarks
A. President Fernandez

President Fernandez discussed the guns on campus bill, noting that the bill has passed and the governor has signed it. The Idaho State Board of Education (SBOE) and the institutions of higher education are working together to prepare a uniform policy that will give all the institutions all the rights that they can have under the law. The law goes into effect on July 1 this year. President Fernandez reminded faculty that all leaders of higher education institutions opposed the bill, as did faculty senates, and he noted that it is not a second amendment issue.

President Fernandez briefly discussed another bill that did not pass that would have given Boise State more freedom to do purchasing.

President Fernandez then discussed that the Northwest Commission changed its procedures for our third year accreditation process. We will have a campus visit this fall, but the Commission will be assessing our Standards 1 and 5 and the relationship between the two.
We thought the visit would be virtual and the Commission would be looking at Standard 2. The Commission will let us know by end of the month what they are looking for. Program Prioritization process and the Unit Action Plan process both continue.

B. Provost Stinson

Provost Stinson discussed the mid-cycle visit of the Northwest Commission more, noting that it is a surprise change. We wrote a 113 page document in preparation for what we thought the Commission was looking for on Standard 2, but hopefully much of this document can be used in the year seven assessment.

Provost Stinson thanked faculty for getting assessments done a bit earlier than we usually do them for the new Program Prioritization process. She attended meetings where different programs shared their assessments and their processes, and she thinks that improved the final documents (giving each other ideas for assessments and benchmarks). Faculty groups will present to the President’s Cabinet on Wednesday, April 9, and the Cabinet will then put things into quintiles. Chet Herbst and Provost Stinson will meet with the SBOE on April 15 to see what the next step is, such as determining what programs need more resources and if some programs could possibly be consolidated. She is very interested in how we can streamline documents for Program Prioritization for instruction and non-instruction programs. Provost Stinson is looking for interested faculty to work on ideas for using documents, streamlining them, and improving them. Dave McCullough asked if all schools did it the same. Provost Stinson said no. Dave also noted that internally here it was different. Provost Stinson said the questions everyone answered were the same, but different programs used different objectives and methods to answer the questions.

IV. Invited Reports
None.

V. Old Business
None.

VI. New Business

A. Presentation of Constitutional Amendments

Ed Miller handed out documents on the proposed changes to Senate size and standing Senate committee make-up (see proposed changes on the Faculty Association website: [http://www.lcsc.edu/faculty-association/](http://www.lcsc.edu/faculty-association/)).

Ed noted that when the college’s constitution was first written and Senate numbers were decided to be based on numbers of faculty in each division, there were 10-13 faculty members in each division, on average. Now those numbers range from 12 to 27 faculty members per division, and Senate size has swelled. In the proposed changes, the voting members would decrease to 18, plus 3 ex officio members (which increases from 2). Brian Fonnesbeck asked if the change in numbers would include appointees from administration. Ed replied that those were Faculty Association appointees and wouldn’t affect Senate. Brian
asked about Registrar and others, and Ed said that was *ex officio* (currently Registrar and President’s representative), and he is proposing to make the chair of the Curriculum Committee *ex officio*. Lynne Bidwell asked if committee chairs would be required to be senate members. Ed said no. Laura Earles asked what the current threshold was, since the handout noted that with some new hires, two divisions would most likely be pushed over the threshold for receiving a new senator.

Ed discussed the proposed changes in committee structure. There are currently eleven standing committees listed in the Constitution: Hearing Board, SPRC, STPRC, Administrative Procedures, Budget Liaison, Curriculum, Faculty Affairs, Faculty Development, General Education, Student Affairs, and Technology Advisory. Hearing Board, STPRC, and SPRC will not be affected by the proposed changes. The proposed changes will affect the other 8, reducing them to 5. Ed noted that most committees have divisional representation. One of the proposed changes is to combine Faculty Affairs and Faculty Development. Another is to delete Administrative Procedures and distribute tasks to Faculty Affairs, Student Affairs, or the officers. The goal is to reduce duplication, and everything would still be reviewed by a committee and by Senate. TAC would be deleted as most original functions have become redundant. Ruth Lapsley noted that there is an annual report from TAC to go to the President. Ed asked if that was in Constitution and Ruth said yes. Ed said if we delete that committee, that report would go away. Ed discussed renaming the Budget Liaison Committee to Budget, Planning, and Assessment Committee and expanding its role.

Ed discussed the issue of chairing committees. With the proposed changes, we would continue to have Faculty Chair chair the newly-renamed Budget, Planning, and Assessment Committee. The newly-consolidated Faculty Affairs Committee would be chaired by the Chair-elect. The past-chair previously chaired the Administrative Procedures Committee, and Ed suggested the past-chair could potentially chair Student Affairs. General Education currently elects its own chair, and that would remain. Hearing Board, STPRC, and SPRC all have their own mechanisms for choosing their chairs, and that would remain the same. The Curriculum Committee chooses its own chair, and that would remain but the chair would become *ex officio* for Senate.

The basic idea, Ed noted, is to cut down amount of work. Brian asked then if Divisions would then have their own representatives for all committees, since there has been concern that there aren’t enough service opportunities for newer faculty. Ed noted that there are a number of other committees and opportunities on this campus. Wendy Shuttleworth echoed that she had heard concern about limited service opportunities. Alex Bezzerides said that service should be meaningful, and just attending a meeting may not do achieve that. This paries it down to meaningful service. Alex brought up service on search committees if newer faculty members are having difficulty finding service opportunities. His plan would be that any tenure-track faculty member who feels that there aren’t enough opportunities should forward his or her name to division chairs asking for service, and this would allow for ad-hoc committees to also be filled. Laura Earles noted that these changes should make chairs have more oversight on who is serving and would hopefully allow for more rotations. Ed reminded faculty that service to the college is only one area of service for promotion.
Ed discussed changes in quorums for Faculty Association, change in officer titles, and editorial changes as clean-up. The proposal would reduce quorum requirements for the Association from 1/3 of faculty with voting privileges to 1/5. Officer titles would be changed from “Chairperson,” “Chairperson-Elect,” and Past Chairperson” to Chair, Chair-Elect, and Past Chair. Leif Hoffman asked why the quorum change was from 1/3 to 1/5, instead of to ¼. Ed said it was based on usual attendance of meetings. Alex noted adjuncts have faculty voting privileges, and this makes it hard to achieve quorum since very few attend Association meetings. Ed also said that UI uses 1/5. Ruth asked if these proposed changes would be emailed out. Ed said yes, he just wanted to run through meeting first to explain so it would all make sense when the email came through. We will vote on the proposed changes at the next Faculty Association meeting on April 10.

B. Review of Spring Election Opportunities

We need nominees for Chair Elect, General Education (it is a three year term, and the nominee must be from BTS, BUS, LIB, SS, or T&I), SPRC (4 positions open), STPRC (five positions open), Hearing Board (2 positions open).

Alex Bezzerides noted that the Education Division and Social Sciences Division haven’t had anyone serve as Faculty Chair in recent years. Ed pointed out that DONSAM has had two chairs in a row. Alex noted that the Chair gets ½ release, and chair-elect would get ¼ release. The chair also gets an extra month’s salary (divided into 9 months).

Laura Earles noted that for the General Education committee, someone who was deeply engaged and with a passion for it should be nominated. Samantha Franklin asked how long service was for SPRC and STPRC, and Ed says it depends on rank (1 year or 3 years). Wendy Shuttleworth asked if we could clean that up in the Constitution to make it less confusing. Rik Brosten noted that the Faculty Association has to elect the chair for STPRC. Lynne Bidwell asked how frequently STPRC meets. Ed said that they meet to review tenure and promotion, so typically twice per year.

Alex noted it is meaningful service as chair-elect, and that compensation is fair now with release and money.

VII. Good of the Order

Lynne Bidwell reminded faculty about the Author Recognition program. There are links on both the Faculty Association and Faculty Senate pages.

VIII. Adjourn

Alex Bezzerides moved to adjourn, Teri Rust seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 4:09.