

Minutes

Faculty Senate

Thursday, September 4, 2008

11:30 a.m. in Science 102

1. Call to order and roll call. The meeting was called to order at 11:31 a.m.

Members excused: Heidi Storl, Mike Schroeder, Peter Kivisto, Amanda Baugous, Chuck Hyser, David Ellis, Lisa Seidlitz, Kirsten Day, and Jon Clauss. Members absent: Charles Mahaffey, Jayne Rose, Dan Corts, Mike Wolf, Reuben Heine, Carolyn Hough.

- a. Comment regarding a senator's change in rank. The chair indicated that there is an update to be made on the senate roster—Kirsten Day was elected as instructor, but is now an assistant professor. The chair announced the plan to use the "one time speaking" policy used in senate last year. Before a senator comments, the chair asked each person to announce his or her name and department, for the time being to help folks to learn names.

- c. The calendar of meetings had mistakes, so there is a new one—full faculty meetings are actually on Thursdays, not Tuesdays. The final senate meeting is May 7, not April 27, 2009.

2. Approval of the minutes from the May 1, 2008 Faculty Senate meeting. Minutes from May 1, 2008, meeting were approved as they stand.

3. Report from EPC

- a. Abernathy reported that EPC set goals for the year, in an effort to be more strategic in terms of demographics and program development. The committee is talking about the foreign language requirement and travel abroad. Any suggestions about these issues should be sent to Abernathy. EPC had no new items to bring to senate this time, just the unfinished business from last spring—THEA 410 course – Contemporary London Theatre for a PA - currently being taught this term. Last spring, there was a concern as to whether there was enough reading incorporated. The instructor, who is not an Augustana faculty person, but a contracted teacher living in London, agreed to additional reading. Abernathy begged for senate's approval, as the course is currently underway. The motion was seconded by Jeff Coussens. The motion to approve THEA 410 for a PA passed.

- b. There was no consent agenda for this meeting.

4. Report from Academic Affairs.

Abernathy reported that he felt the retreat offered good conversations about the Augie story, but that we need to continue to engage in conversations about these questions. How can we better convey that story? There is a prospect of a forum to discuss it further.

In terms of recruitment, we have 646 students and 680 was the goal. We had 62 transfers, and the goal there was 50. Record retention helped our numbers a lot. Expected 10th day count of 2524 students. Recruitment will be a goal this year to work with admissions and department chairs. There is a schedule for the entire year. Hoping to avoid the empty tables of last April...which didn't look good for prospective students.

The Website: We have a new director of web services and we have a new site for faculty under academic affairs on the website. Farrar put together a listing of grants and it is available to faculty on the website.

5. Other business

The shared governance task force being chaired by Jon Clauss. Clauss couldn't be here today and he will present next time. Readings will be posted on MOODLE for people to read before the October meeting.

6. Announcements

a. The anonymous feedback form to contact Steering Committee members will be available on MOODLE, just like last year, starting on 9/5/2008. Any notes posted there will go to the members of the Steering Committee. If you are going to be absent from senate, you can just go to MOODLE and contact Kristen Douglas or Katie Hanson (co-secretaries of senate) about that.

b. Board of Trustees' objectives will be posted on MOODLE. There is a one-page list of their objectives and they have given their permission to post it on MOODLE. We can talk about it at the next meeting.

c. Board of Trustees' five-year review summary will be sent through regular mail to all faculty and staff soon.

d. The chair asked the senate to consider possible forum topics for this academic year. Steering is looking for possible forum topics—one forum per term. Possible topics—HERI data (select responses that may be at issue), shared governance, salary, recruitment, the Augie story. If you have opinions and suggestions, let the steering committee know before they meet on Sept. 26.

e. re-dedication of Carlsson. There will be two of them: ribbon cutting at 10:30 and a blessing at 5:00 on Oct. 2. A descendent of Emmy Evald will be at the 10:30 ceremony. Bengston asked how we can get people to quit calling the building Carlsson and start calling it Evald Hall (pronounced “A” as in Aviator-“vald.”) Why? Evald raised the money for it, there was a falling out and the college instead named it after her father.

Ann Boaden will tell the story at 10:30 that day. Hill noted that Boaden has a play about this very moment in Augie history.

Moline commented on the shared governance task force and a request from Abernathy asking department chairs what they want to be doing in the next five years. Abernathy said he was asking dept and program chairs to comment what they feel the needs are. Moline commented that the deadline in Sept. 19th. Why is that committee asking for dept agenda for five years and so soon? Abernathy noted that a board member on the committee thought knowing what the issues of the departments would be useful to the committee. Abernathy thought it could be a few pages of thoughts so the board can better understand what departments need. The chair noted that her understanding was that this request comes out of the desire of the board to have better communication with faculty, so that the board can get to know the departments a bit better. Chairs can just tell them what they are doing now to give the Board a picture of each department. Jakielski didn't hear the board ask for a five-year plan, more a "let's get to know you better." The board is trying to get to know the faculty better and consider ways for faculty to get to know the board better so they know what we are doing and thinking about here.

Vincent noted that an announcement went out to the entire campus about the college partnership with metro-link. This is a really important time when students are establishing their transportation habits. Vincent encouraged faculty to model the use of public transportation for students.

f. next Senate meeting: Thursday, October 2, 2008, in Science 102

7. Adjournment... 11:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Hanson

Kristin Douglas

Senate co-secretaries 2008-2009