

Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting

December 8, 2011

I. Call to Order

II. Roll call

Chairman Howard was present. Senators present: Boyles, Gilcrease, Tolle, Stetler, Boysen (arrived 11:29), Matejcik, Cross, Kowalski, Ellingsen, Dreyer, Both Dr. Fontaine and Dr. Kliche were absent with regrets.

III. Approval of Agenda – agenda was approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes - 10 November 2011 minutes – minutes were approved (Ellingson, Dryer 2nd)

V. Report from the Chair.

- Dr. Gary Aguiar, COHE state president, is coming Tuesday, December 13, 4:00 p.m. to CB 203.
- Boyles reports the he anticipates current negotiations to conclude with an imposed contract to end on June 2012. Major points of contention are intellectual property rights, Reduction In Force (RIF) rules, and classification of librarians as special faculty. The Board of Regents has made its last best offer. Some discussion followed.
- On December 14, at 4PM The Senate will meet with the BOR in the Dorr room of Surbeck Center. Salary Policy may be discussed. Governor Dennis Daugaard has suggested one time 5% bonuses for all state employees, and a salary increase of 3% to base for all state employees.

VI. Report from Student Association President

- Student Association President, Carlos Beatty, was introduced. Beatty began by mentioning the campus tobacco free policy. Beatty said that SDSM&T is at the forefront of tobacco restrictions among SD BOR schools. A student survey concerning tobacco restrictions indicated that 64% of the students wanted something stronger than the old rules. Students have not had many complaints, yet. Beatty added, "It is just getting cold." And, he suggested that colder weather may bring more complaints from student smokers.
- The Regents have proposed a 1% tuition increase to support salary enhancement for the faculty. Beatty mentioned that a salary enhancement fee for faculty is supported by students. Beatty also personally supports it. Boyles mentioned salary enhancement would be based on market, merit, and institutional priority.
- Beatty stated SDSU's student association had proposed that the South Dakota state universities join a national organization of state university student associations. South Dakota will not be part of the national organization. Beatty indicated that the focus and structure of the organization would not serve the needs of South Dakota students.
- Boyles initiated a discussion about the School of Mines logo and mascot. Beatty believes the SMD logo similar to the M-Hill symbol is the most recognized. Some stories about logos were mentioned.
- Dreyer initiated a discussion concerning advising. Dreyer mentioned discussion among administration about an advising center for students. A student survey concerning advising was to be completed on December 8th, the day of the senate meeting. Beatty mentioned that there were 300 responses in 3 hours to the student survey. Requiring

students to see faculty was not supported by the committee. Beatty believes that advisers should help students fit in the school. Beatty stated that he has had fine advisers: Carter Kerk in Industrial Engineering and Jason Ash in Mechanical Engineering.

- Beatty mentioned a proposal to students to have for an additional per credit hour fee for students for the construction of a larger student wellness center. The value of the fee is yet to be determined. A similar fee increase of \$9.99/credit hour in 2005 was directed toward the Surbeck expansion and renovation. Students will mention the idea to the Regents at the December BOR meeting. Plans are for the proposal to be prepared for the March BOR meeting.
- Beatty invited Howard to attend a Student Association meeting.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Academic Affairs

1. Dr. Antonette M. Logar, Interim Dean of Graduate Education, brought forward a proposal from the Council on Graduate Education (CGE). The proposal was a revision to the residency requirement for Ph.D. students, which is stated below...

Residence Requirements At least 2 consecutive semesters of residence as a full-time student are required at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. The comprehensive examination may not be taken before the last half of the second semester of residence. The final defense of the dissertation will not be permitted within the first five months following the successful completion of the comprehensive examination.

CGE's proposal was that the Dean of Graduate Education may waive the requirement. Logar mentioned that this does not conflict with Board of Regents requirements. There was some discussion. Stetler moved Logar's proposition. Cross seconded. Tolle mentioned that he believed that CGE may recommend that the requirement be removed in the near future. Following some friendly amendments the senate approved the following policy.

Approved

Residence Requirements At least 2 consecutive semesters of residence as a full-time student are required at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. In exceptional circumstances, a waiver to the residency requirement may be granted by the Faculty Senate upon receipt of a request from the Dean of Graduate Education.

The comprehensive examination may not be taken before the last half of the second semester of residence. The final defense of the dissertation will not be permitted within the first five months following the successful completion of the comprehensive examination.

2. Under this newly revised policy, Logar requested that two students have their residency requirements waived. These students are working with Dr. Jan Puszynski at the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) in Alexandria, VA. Boyles formally moved Logar's request, and it was seconded by Tolle. Stetler requested information about ERDC. Senators and Logar assured the senate that ERDC was an appropriate facility for Ph.D. research. The requests for wavier of the residency requirement were approved.

3. Logar explained that CGE has a two vote rule. A vote is taken at one meeting and then approved motions voted on at the next meeting. This allows discussion of CGE motions to be discussed among departments, and thereby allows CGE representatives to vote consistent with the wishes of their departments. Logar also stated that she intends to bring graduate education policy changes “even tangentially” related to curriculum to the faculty senate.

VIII. Old Business

- A. Student Opinion Surveys** - Kowalski mention many things are being suggested.
 - B. Dec 13, Tuesday, 4:00 pm meeting in CB 203 with Gary Aguiar, COHE - Reminder**
 - C. Dec 14, Wednesday, 4:00 pm meeting in Dorr Room with the Regents - Reminder**
- B. and C. were discussed jointly. Many items were considered including intellectual property, salary, General Education completion by 64 credit hours, reduction in credit hours, handling of the reduction in credit hours decision, and effect on electives due to reduction in credit hours.

IX. New Business

A. Nominating Committee Appointments

The nominating committee for the chair of the faculty is comprised of senators: Cross, Stetler, Dreyer, Kowalski, and Gilcrease. Howard mentioned that the chair of the faculty is an interesting position. The chair of the faculty can be any faculty member. Generally, chairs have had many years at the university.

B. Parking Committee

Ellingsen made a motion that the recommending that another faculty member be added to the parking committee. Dreyer seconded the motion. The motion passed with little discussion.

- X. Adjournment** Tolle made the motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 12:50PM.