



SENATE MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 11 2015
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM, ROOM C-120

Call to Order: Luis Martinez

ROLL CALL:

Elizabeth Becker, Jessica Carpenter, Mary Elfring, Diane Flahaven, Sue Ford, Patrick Gordon, Clark Hallpike Loretta McCallister, Christina Marrocco, Dawn Munson, Patricia O'Brien, Mary O'Sullivan, Joel Peck, Warren Peto, Roger Ramey, Tammy Ray, Joyce Ross, Howard Russo, Danielle Straub, Eleanor Swanson, Kimberly Tarver, Scott Vaszily COPE: Joyce Fountain

Absent: Heidi Brelsford, Liddy Hope, Jennifer Jeschke, Terri Martin, Luis Martinez

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & GUESTS: ARMANDO TREJO, KRISTEN CAMPBELL, CINDY HUTMAN, PAT BRUTCHIN, BOB TREADWELL, JAMIE PANG, CHRIS MCCOY

- Faculty Evaluation Handbook: **Cindy Hutman and Tammy Ray** are available to answer questions regarding **evaluation tool for Online Instruction**. Efforts were made to ensure the tool is analogous with the classroom observation tool and it was determined that a separate form was necessary.. Faculty are supportive of ensuring online instruction standards demonstrate quality and effectiveness. "Module" was used to reflect a "lesson" or classroom equivalent versus the entire course. It is optional that the review can be done with the observer and the faculty member viewing online materials together. The dean may request to observe an online lesson/module or a face to face classroom session. Question regarding section F addresses communication and may be done via webmail, g-mail, and is not limited to D2L. The committee feels that the work was very productive and beneficial.

The librarian evaluation form includes the embedded librarian components. Librarian faculty members have had opportunity to review and reports are that they are happy with the proposed tool. Flexibility is important as faculty members may limit access to specific components of the online course.

- **Pat Brutchin:** Sue Ford and Tammy Ray moved and seconded to approve Pat Brutchin to serve as UA2 senator. The motion passed.
- **Joyce Fountain:** SSECCA leadership is invited to attend the discussion with each of the candidates. Joyce reviewed the questions generated by SSECCA. Bob Treadwell, Jamie Pang and Chris McCoy in attendance.

Howard Russo and Sue Ford moved and seconded motion to adjourn to COPE.

Board of Trustee Candidates: Following an opening statement, each candidate was invited to respond to the approved questions.

3:15 Donna Redmer, incumbent BOT candidate, was welcomed to the meeting. In an opening statement, Donna Redmer shared that she is focused on student success. Taxes, finances and diversity issues are of concern but she is focused primarily on education. Her background includes restructuring 3 schools that were on probation. She would like to increase graduation rates and increase dual credit offerings. District 300 is very

focused on this initiative and envisions earning high school and college degrees simultaneously. She believes dual credit supports completion and graduation. In addition, the academic advisors need to advise students that there is an accelerated plan to complete their degree, to save time and money, recognizing that it is not for every student.

Question regarding experience working with unions. Answer: Every district she has worked with has been represented by a union as was her husband's business which she managed

Question regarding State of IL finances as Governor Rauner shared we should expect 20% cuts. What does that mean for ECC? Answer: He held community colleges harmless, at this point. We know the budget is not yet final. So far, concerns are more focused on pensions and shifting the burden to the college and that would require reviewing the budget. Much is unknown but potential crisis. 10-12% of our funds are from the state; Howard Russo shared that faculty have been asked to cut budgets by 20%, emphasizing a burden on our classrooms. In light of the \$5.00 tuition increase, what is happening? She discussed the 5 year projections reflecting deficits if we continue with current practice. They keep 4 ½ months' worth of expenses on hand. They do not expect the last 2 payments from the state this year. She is not aware that departments have been asked to cut 20%. She discussed another place submitting 3 plans as "back-up."

Question regarding experience or opinions with outsourcing. Answer: Specific to custodial outsourcing, none of the trustees were in favor of the outsourcing and they were surprised by the proposal. She has experience when they outsourced food service and transportation. It was a very rocky transition. 10 years later, it's working. Rationale was that food service and transportation is not their area of expertise. She hopes to never do that again.

Question regarding Presidential pay and perks, what is your stance. Answer: We have a good contract now. She referenced an editorial. The BOT followed those recommendations. It is difficult. It is not what your neighbor is doing. We really are a Chicago suburb, compare student bodies, and other elements. He is 3rd or 4th in IL. He has two 457 retirement accounts that were underfunded. The clause that is most interesting, if he leaves by choice, if we don't owe him. If we want him to leave, there is no golden parachute. He is very well educated comparatively. He is talented and ethical.

Question regarding Governor Rauner eliminating Fair Share. Opinion? Answer: Some feel it is union busting. I am not in favor but I don't think it's going to go anywhere. Patrick Gordon asked, where do you see community colleges 5-10 years in future? Answer: Reverse transfer agreement with NIU. We are increasing online offerings as 20% of our students are involved. Most are hybrids. She thinks that will grow. She thinks there are some places that we need face to face; she referenced PARCC assessment is challenging and college work is very intense. It's great for some and there is a place for it. We have students who are not ready for college and may be due to students being put in front of computers and computer driven instruction. She thinks we will always need bricks and mortar, increase relationships with 4 year institutions but also sees need for more online instruction. Face to face is important, especially for 2 year college. Sue Ford asked for clarification regarding her Union experience response referencing K-12 experience. What about her ECC experience with unions? Answer: She felt the BOT should be at the table as much as possible to hear everything. Especially with Obama care; she was concerned about healthcare. She did not get to observe the SSECCA negotiations; the goal was to ensure the lowest paid member make over \$10. That was a goal the table was directed to achieve.

The senate thanked Donna Redmer for her time.

3:45 Jeff Meyer, candidate for BOT was welcomed to the senate. In an opening statement, he shared that he attended Larkin HS, NIU, earned JD, with a degree in Political Science. His law practice is in Sycamore. His wife and mother are ECC Alums; his dad was an instructor in the paralegal program. Last fall, he ran unsuccessfully for Republican State Representative. Problems he sees include unfunded liabilities, decrease in revenue, inability to fund services, as these are all problems for the community and the college. He is focused on economic development. He stated that Dr. Sam, Donna Redmer and Ellie McKinney recruited him to run for the BOT. He decided to give it a try. He has some awareness of collegiate governance as he was a graduate assistant to student affairs and served on search committees at NIU.

Question regarding experience with unions. Answer: His mom is U46 teacher and he worked with union members at NIU. Graduate students were not organized during his time.

Question regarding Governor Rauner projecting up to 20% cuts, how do you prioritize or make up? Answer: ECC and Community Colleges are not on the chopping block yet; he is targeting 4-year institutions. Community College Districts and ECC have 3 revenue streams. Tuition, property taxes and state aid; reduction is difficult to shift to property taxes so increase tuition or make cuts to existing budgets. He would prefer to avoid but there is limited flexibility.

Question regarding outsourcing as a cost saving measure. Answer: Multi-dimensional perspective; not always saving money, provide same level or quality, then consider it. We have a duty to review the lowest responsible offer with contracts and services.

Question regarding Presidential Pay & Perks. Answer: His experience with determining compensation is looking at benchmarks and do comparisons; he has problems with that approach and does not presume that neighbors have it right. He doesn't see what happened at COD happening here. He stated that Mr. Goetz disagrees with him. We will not have sweet heart deals and golden parachutes. (Howard stated that a few years ago, Dr. Sam had a 33% increase.) It was very clear that pension abuse and sweet heart deals are not in alignment with his philosophy and principles.

Question: Governor Rauner is moving to eliminate Fair Share. Answer: He supports it. He does not think that participation should be obligated. Is it your contention that non-members benefit from the negotiation? There is a residual benefit and benefits all persons in the institution. Question regarding a previous BOT member who was an attorney and is now a judge; what is your commitment? Answer: Judge Dalton was in a different position. He has no intention of seeking another office at this time or in the near future. He got his butt kicked last time.

The senate thanked Mr. Meyer for his time.

NOTE: Mr. Goetz was extended an invitation but his schedule did not permit him to attend.

Details of discussion following question and answers with the candidates are recorded in COPE minutes.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: KIMBERLY TARVER- APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25, 2015 MEETING

Pat O'Brien moved to approve and Sue Ford seconded. The motion passed. Loretta McCallister abstained.

TREASURER'S REPORT: ROGER RAMEY

Financial report was accepted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: LUIS MARTINEZ

1ST VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: JESSICA CARPENTER

Attended President's Conference on Luis' behalf, and learned about prohibited political activities; bulletin board in process.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: SUE FORD

No report.

3RD VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: HEIDI BRELSFORD

COMMITTEE REPORTS -

Faculty Evaluation Handbook Negotiations: (Ellie Swanson, Mary O'Sullivan)

Ellie shared summary page. Comments from the senate include an item relating to the syllabus on the student evaluation form, and it is in conflict with the contract. The matter is referred to online vote after the changes discussed are made and shared with senators.

Negotiations- (Howard Russo)

The smoking policy discipline issue is ongoing.

Grievance- (Sue Ford)

Planning to file related to faculty development and expense money; waiting for decision under appeal.

Elections Committee- (Ellie Swanson)

Elections will take place toward the end of April

Membership Committee- (Mary Elfring)

Lists of constituents dispersed to help with getting signatures.

COPE (Joyce Fountain)

ELECTIONS & COMMITTEE REQUESTS

- 1) Sentinel: Kris Campbell has volunteered to serve as editor of the Sentinel, Academic Year 2015-2016. Welcome to Kris Campbell. She has some great ideas and recently earned tenure.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Congratulations to newly tenured faculty: Kristen Campbell, Math, and Nicholas Obradovich, English.
- 2) Congratulations to Sabbatical recipients: Johanna Cummings Bernard, English, Colleen Stribling, English as a Second Language, Jessica Carpenter (summer), Psychology, and Tammy Ray, CIS/Graphic Design/IT & Distance Learning
- 3) OLAS Banquet March 13, 2015, 7:00 pm at ECC Dining Bay. Contact Alina Ayala by March 11 to RSVP
- 4) ECC's Big Event, Friday, May 1, 2015 8:00 -2:00; www.eccbigevent.wordpress.com; the senate is encouraging members to participate and wear blue.

DIVISION ISSUES

Adjournment Howard Russo and Elizabeth Becker moved to adjourn. Motion passed at 4:58 PM.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, April 1, ECCFA Meeting 3:00-5:00, C-120

2015 SPRING SEMESTER

Monday, March 23- Sunday, March 29, Spring Break

Wednesday, April 1, ECCFA Meeting 3:00-5:00, C-120

Wednesday, April 15, ECCFA Meeting 3:00-5:00, C-120

Wednesday, April 29, ECCFA Meeting 3:00-5:00, C-120

Wednesday, May 13, ECCFA Meeting 3:00-5:00, C-120

Wednesday, May 13, ***Semester Ends***

Thursday, May 14, *Grading Day*

Friday, May 15, *GED Graduation*

Saturday, May 16, *Graduation*