

Minutes
Meeting of the Faculty Senate
March 9, 2005
4p.m.

Call to Order—4:04p.m. by President, Denis Nissim-Sabat

- Approval of Minutes of December 1, 2004—approved
- Approval of Minutes of February 2, 2005—approved with J. Davidson’s request for more detail regarding some discussions in future minutes

Reports

- **Academic Affairs Committee**—approved without comment
- **Campus Academic Resources Committee**—no report
- **Curriculum Committee**—approved without comment
- **Faculty Affairs Committee**—approved with comments being deferred until motion under Old Business
- **Faculty Development and Grants Committee**—approved with correction (should be 2005-2006 **not** 2004-2005)
- **Faculty Organization Committee**—approved with comments below
 - C. Garman questioned I.e.; too vague; would like for chair to speak to Fac. Senate
 - D. Long re. II.b. (balance of disciplines is necessary/people should not “make a Career” of serving on this committee
 - Other comments by W. Rochelle, J. Pollack and W. Attwel-Vassey
 - A. Pitts reminded all that the faculty elects these members.
 - Chair will be asked to come to the next Faculty Senate meeting.
- **Bachelor of Liberal Studies Committee**—approved without comment
- **Global Awareness Committee**—no report
- **Race and Gender Intensive Committee**—approved without comment
- **Writing Intensive Committee**—no report
- **Environmental Awareness Committee**—approved without comment
- **President of the Faculty Senate**—approved with comments
 - The BOV is supportive of class release for the President of the Senate (will be acted upon formally at April meeting).
 - The BOV encourages the Faculty Senate to pass the motion regarding the extending of the probationary period.
 - Re. Child Care—considerable comment (M. Liss, J. Davidson, H. Housley, G. Stanton, A. Pitts, J. Degraff). Issues include where the center would be located, the number of children allowed at one time, and the implementation of a child care center as a positive factor in the decision of new prospective faculty.
 - Honor System—J. Degraff asked if we are going to trust the student to run their honor system or do we need more faculty as active participants. R. Barra commented that “there is no intent to bypass the honor council”; authority is ultimately in the hands of the BOV.

Presidential Search Committee—should we elect someone now(R. Gratz). The Rector will be sending out emails on a regular basis; search firm hired by the end of March; search committee then will be formed.

- **Interim Dean of the Faculty**—comments below

Searches have filled 16 of the new positions; D. Nissim-Sabat requested a statistical report at our next meeting. Comments from S. Fuller, J. Davidson, D. Long regarding whether we are getting first, second or third choices. R. Barra said that she would try to get this data. A. Cervantes-Carson said his department did in fact acquire and keep this kind of information.

Questions about children in the workplace. R. Barra commented by giving the Human Resources answer which was given to her: there is nothing in the Handbook which allows or gives you permission to have your children in the workplace. Comments from a number of Senate members (J. Degraff, D. Nissim-Sabat, M. Liss, B. O'Brien, J. Davidson, A. Cervantes-Carson) regarding what was the proper forum to discuss this issue. R. Barra reminded the Senate that the University must be very concerned with liability issues.

- **Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs**—comments below

The five changes previously passed by the Faculty Senate, were presented to the BOV at its last meeting. They will be on the agenda for the April meeting at which time formal action can be taken. Changes regarding the tenure clock will also be included on the BOV April agenda if the Faculty Senate takes action on this pending change to the Faculty Handbook.

The Faculty Handbook needs overhaul.

Banner and advising email regarding Fall 2005 Registration has been sent out. A. Pitts question about “pin” numbers. J. Morello: these are actually registration permission numbers.

- **Student Representative to the Faculty Senate**—no report

Thanks from Lynn for a great year. This is her last meeting.

- **Other Reports**—none made

Old Business

- **Motion from the Faculty Affairs Committee on Extension of the Probationary Period**

This motion has been passed by the State Attorney General's Office and found to contain no legal problems. D. Nissim-Sabat commented that the motion has been revised to reflect the fact that this is a “request” on the part of the faculty member. (The entire motion is included below. These sections are all underlined in the Agenda for this meeting.)

3.5.9 Extension of Probationary Period. Tenure-track faculty members have the option of requesting an extension of the probationary period, with or without taking a leave of absence, for reasons coinciding with faculty leave policies on sick leave (§3.5.1), disability leave (§3.5.2), and infant-care leave (§3.5.3). Requests for extensions other than these may be

granted at the Dean's discretion. The department chair and the Dean of the College must be informed in writing, prior to or during the semester in question, of the request to extend the probationary period. The Dean shall inform the faculty member within two weeks of his or her recommendation to approve or disapprove the request. All requests for extensions must be forwarded to the President of the University, who will forward his or her recommendation to the Board of Visitors for final action. Faculty may choose to extend the probationary period for a period of up to one year per request. When they become eligible to apply for tenure, faculty members whose probationary is extended shall be considered for tenure at the next regularly scheduled evaluation period. Faculty members who have requested to extend the probationary period may not subsequently elect to return to the original probationary period. Faculty members who request to extend the probationary period shall be evaluated for tenure and promotion in accordance with the standard criteria (not higher expectations). Extending the probationary period shall in no way affect merit pay procedures. If the faculty member's request for extension of the probationary period is denied, he or she may appeal the decision through the Faculty Grievance Procedure of the University (see 4.5).

3.2.2 Probationary (Tenure-track) ...(last sentence)...If the request for an extension of the probationary period is approved (§3.5.9), at the conclusion of the existing contract period a review will take place as specified in this section.

5.3.2.2.2 Probationary Period ...(end of first sentence)...unless a faculty member has requested to extend that period in accordance with §3.5.9.

This motion was approved unanimously.

- **Motion from the Writing Intensive Committee**—approved unanimously
See page 16 of the Agenda packet for complete motion with deletions and additions.

New Business

- **Motion on Release Time for the President of the Faculty Senate**—approved unanimously
 1. **The Faculty President** The Faculty President will serve a two year term, receive a course release for each semester he/she serves as the Faculty President,
etc.
The underlined section reflects new material.

Motion from the Faculty Affairs Committee Re. Consensual Relationship Policies

It was eventually decided that this was actually a report and not a motion. The text of the report is found on page 18 of the agenda packet. The initial charge was to “study” this issue. Comments and questions raised by Pitts, W. Atwell-Vassey, S. Fuller, A. Griffith, M. Liss. Chris Kilmartin made comments on behalf of this issue.

The “report” was accepted.

- **Motion to Elect Faculty Representatives to the President’s Search Committee**
(text of motion) The Faculty Senate directs the Faculty Organization Committee to hold an election to elect three teaching faculty whom they will recommend to the Rector and Board of Visitors as their representatives to the President’s Search Committee.

After considerable discussion about number of faculty representatives and the inclusion of different ranks and departments (speakers too numerous to mention), and friendly amendments, the original number was changed from 3 to 5 (see above).

This motion was approved with 3 dissenting votes.

- **Motion that the section on “Withdrawal from the University – Voluntary Withdrawal”**
in the *Dictionary of Academic Regulations*, be amended

This motion is contained on page 22 of the agenda packet.

It is appropriate to send this motion on to the Academic Affairs Committee—done.

- **Motion to include revised procedures for math and foreign language course substitution (from the Academic Affairs Committee)—accepted as a “report”**

Announcements

Introduction of new Student Representative to the Faculty Senate
Dean’s reception this Saturday

Adjournment—5:44p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Stephen J. Burton, Secretary to the Faculty Senate