Executive Council meeting minutes – January 9, 2015 11 am, 3rd floor library meeting room.

Nancy Colborn, Steven Gerencser, Jerry Hinnefeld, April Lidinsky, Henry Scott, Alison Stankrauff, Dave Vollrath, Chancellor Allison. Not present: Obata, Yuri.

Minutes:

1. Chancellor Allison mentioned that his report was given to the full campus meeting over breakfast. Questions?
   a. Steven asked about the budget reductions in relation to the proposed salary increases. Chancellor: Governor has just released budget, but there is no funding for regional campuses for student support and buildings. More conversations will happen with legislators on that topic. The opportunity is in efficiencies and course offerings, since most of our budget is for classroom instruction. Encourage your colleagues to move more programs through the pipeline that will attract more students. Anticipate that the new Health Sciences programs will help us retrain students. Spring trend is good for retention. Promising news about the new strategy of recruiting international students who cannot be accommodated at IUB.
   b. Steven: Questions about the Fast Facts – surprised that only 2% of our students are from Michigan. Chancellor: We offer resident plus 40% with scholarships to make up the difference (which is less costly than attending other local MI universities) and we’ll be recruiting more.
   c. Jerry: Adjacency study will be shared soon? Chancellor: Yes, by early next week.
   d. Steven: What are the requirements for when campus will close for bad weather? Chancellor: if the country/city declares a travel emergency, we respond, or if there’s extreme cold. Otherwise, we assess conditions and try to stay open if possible. We don’t use the schools as a guideline; we use road safety.
   e. Dennis: Any word on the 2% rescissions from the Governor? Chancellor: It appears that they’re looking at performance-based funding for operations. I still need to look at the information that has just come through.

2. Scott: Any questions about the budget process?
   a. Jerry: it was an improvement last year to have hearings. The budget committee felt that not all the offered budget cuts were realistic. But: good that the process is more open.

3. Recommendations on the proposal of IU South Bend Admissions Committee
   a. Scott: Received an email from the VC about the idea of faculty vouching
for/sponsoring students for admission. Existing concern about the formality and follow-through of such a practice. Scott suggests moving some suggestions closer together – 4 and 2. 

**Question:** Are these recommendations ready to present at the January meeting? 

**General response:** Yes. 

**Suggestion:** send out the recommendations ahead of time for careful reading and then faculty will be ready to vote at the meeting.

Jerry: is this new business, or a committee report? Dennis: either way will work.

b. April: Faculty could use clarification on how to get events on the campus calendar. Scott will find out and announce it as part of his president’s report.

c. Steven: Can we have an update on the formal process of approving sabbatical requests? Jerry: committee has met and has started reviewing proposals. Looking at clarity and precision, promising research, likelihood of success and appropriateness of sabbatical length, and also the benefits (immediate and longer-term) to be derived. Likely to recommend pushing deadline earlier so that deans can offer applicants feedback and the opportunity to revise.

4. UFC Bylaws regarding the election of the Regional Campus Co-Chair

   a. Scott showed proposed amendment to bylaws about regional campus co-chair to the UFC being chosen by the member of the Regional Faculty Caucus. Jerry: likely to be better if someone has served for at least a year on the UFC. There will be three co-chairs.

5. General concerns:

   a. Henry: We still need one more person for Campus Directions committee. Need representation from CLAS. Several people: hearing from several faculty that they don’t always feel free to speak freely and strongly at Faculty Senate. Steven: a hard balance – administrators are there at our invitation, not vice versa. We may need to teach faculty members what the purpose/process of faculty senate is.

   b. Steven: Would be good to hear follow-up on the changing IRB procedures.

   c. Scott: Want to follow up on overloads for adjunct faculty.

   d. Dennis: Perhaps an open forum jointly offered with the budget committee and AAUP to discuss the budget.

   e. Scott: UFC voted to approve the veterans’ policy. Strategic Plan has undergone some change. Some worry about the IRB changes.

   f. Steven: updates on IU Eval and common questions for campus, colleges, and then how much freedom for individual departments? Need to move on this for spring, since new system will be in place for summer.

Adjournment. 12:40.
Respectfully submitted, April Lidinsky, secretary