University Faculty Council Meeting Report to IUSB Senate - February 2015

The UFC met at IUPUI on Tuesday, February 24th.

Presiding Officer’s Business (President McRobbie):
Overall, the University did well with performance budgeting: there’s been $24 million given to the University in a two year budget from the state.

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws of the Indiana University Faculty Council:
Thus, going forward, the UFC Executive Committee consists of 14 members: The President of Indiana University, the three Co-Chairs of the UFC (one from IUB, one from IUPUI, one from the regional campuses). The five other heads of faculty governance bodies are from the remaining regional campuses. Five members elected from the incoming UFC (2 by IUB, 2 by IUPUI, 1 by the Regionals).

Proposed Amendments to the Trustees Teaching Award:
There are two additional stipulations being added to the language of the award description.
They now read:
(a) “The Trustees Teaching Award (TTA) honors outstanding teaching during the previous academic year. Awardees and review committees (e.g., P&T committees) should not construe that a TTA is sufficient evidence of sustained teaching excellence. Rather, a TTA represents one piece of evidence to include in the teaching section of a P&T or promotion dossier.”
(b) (b) To induce broader participation, we ask that the UFC resolve that a waiting period of 2 years before awardees are again eligible.

We will make this available from the IUSB Senate website.

Update on the Faculty Annual Report Task Force:
The University is in formal consideration with two companies currently for a new annual reporting system. The company discussed at the meeting was Digital Measures. By all accounts it was reported as a vast improvement over the current FAR. It has the ability to find and automatically load people’s scholarly publications into their reports, generate CVs to campus web content and other sites, an intuitive interface. It also is reported to be customizable and have better reporting functions than the current FAR.
**Sexual Misconduct Policy:**
This was discussed at length. The point discussed was the use of the preponderance of the evidence standard (more likely than not) in determining responsibility.
There was an amendment that addressed the standard/preponderance of evidence introduced. The concern in introducing the amendment was representative that some have that the Office of Civil Rights is pressing a standard of evidence upon Indiana University.
The policy – and the amendment – were accepted.

**Bicentennial Strategic Plan Implementation:**
The Plan brings attention to the Trustees’ requirement that the University administration reports on progress toward implementing the strategic plan and that the administration is tracking progress through the Strategic Plan Assignments documentation. The importance here is to bring attention to specific assignments for faculty governance organizations or school or department faculties.
For regional campuses, there particular points of interest in its priorities – including ones that speak to student success, creating a community of scholars, catalyzing research, reimagining education, health science research and initiatives, building a prosperous and innovative Indiana, science and technologies research and initiatives, facilities issues, funding issues.
* The Bicentennial Strategic Plan Assignments will be posted on the IUSB Senate website.