Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of 7 January 2013

Present: Peter Bushnell, Steven Gerencser, Lee Kahan, Susan Moore, Cynthia Sofhauser, Alison Stankrauff, Lesley Walker

The meeting began at 4:00pm.

I. Chancellor Report

Enrollment: The enrollment is down 2-3%, but it varies from day to day and might improve this week.

Budget: The budget advisory committee has been meeting. An announcement about it will go out later this week, and Chancellor Reck will discuss its progress at the senate meeting.

Searches: Both Dean searches are going very well: four people are being interviewed on campus for each position.

Branding: IU has a new branding tag line, which she will reveal at the breakfast and first senate meeting.

Projects: Construction for the Education and Arts Building is going well; there will be a dedication on April 17. Invitations will go out this month. There has been some design change, which reflects the new direction that IU is taking with building design (more open). The building has a more open design that will make it more serviceable. We are trying to bring the cost down to our initial estimate. We have sufficient funds for the building, and naming gifts will be matched and go towards refurnishing.

Salary: Chancellor Reck remains committed to increasing the promotion raise; she is hesitant about summer salary because this depends on the approach that IU will take to summer school and whether they decide to create uniform salaries across campuses.

UITS: UITS will be consolidating all the accounting in Bloomington. This will not effect our budget or reserves but will make IT accounting more like purchasing.

Q: Will the budget committee be reporting along the way or all at once at the end?
A: Their report is due February 15.
Q: That is for next semester, right? What do we do about the shortfall this semester?
A: We may have to hold open [administrative] positions
Q: What are we doing about the summer tuition initiative that we are being compelled to participate in but that will have an impact on the budget?
A: Lesley will find out at the meeting of regional campuses.
A: [Lesley] If it doesn’t work this summer, McRobbie plans to stop the program.

II. Approval of the Minutes
The minutes were approved with minor changes.

III. Discussion of December Budget Meeting

The committee informed President Walker about the budget meeting. At the meeting, Vice Chancellor O’Donnell summarized the state of the campus budget, and Chancellor Reck formed an ad hoc committee to propose strategies for addressing the budget deficit.

IV. The Nominating Committee

The executive committee nominated Gwynn Mettetal, Bobby Meyer-Lee, and Gail McGuire for this committee, with Cathy Borshuk as an alternate should someone decline.

Lesley will use the bulletin board to put out a call for nominations for elected committees. Steven Gerecser suggested that she also promote nominations at an academic cabinet meeting.

V. News from Academic Cabinet Retreat

President Walker informed the committee about the following discussions that took place at the retreat:

1. There is a move to look at faculty teaching loads in terms of the level that they teach. Are we teaching too many under-enrolled upper-level courses? Are tenure line faculty teaching enough lower level courses?

2. ICHE has the authority to terminate degrees if they are not effective. Applegate has suggested that IU set a minimum number of graduates at 10 per year. If a program has under this number of degrees, it would be deemed unviable. One solution that has been discussed is to create different groupings of majors.

3. Regional campuses are going to institute a Chancellor’s Professorship. This is a promotion beyond full, comparable to a Distinguished Professor. The applicant will have to be distinguished in research, teaching and service. IU South Bend will likely award one such professorship a year.

4. The degree audits will now work for undergraduates. FLAGS will begin next year, and there will be orientations for it.

VI. President Walker’s Resignation

The constitution does not allow for an election to replace the resigning president; it mandates that the Vice President assume the position. The committee discussed the following options for handling the election should Vice President Vaidyanathan not choose to accept the position: (1) elect a new Vice President and make clear to the faculty body
that that person would assume the President position; (2) suspend the constitution in order to elect a new President.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15pm