Indiana University South Bend
Academic Senate Minutes –
March 27, 2015
Wiekamp Hall #1001
1:30 p.m.

In Attendance:

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Minutes of February 28th Senate Meeting

3. Committee Reports

A. Distance Education Committee
   - Raman Adaikkalavan Presenting.

   The Distance Education Committee has not yet met this semester.

   Charges of the Committee were presented to the Senate:
   ACTION: Present draft of recommendations with several options to be submitted to administrators, faculty and staff for open discussion at the April Academic Senate meeting and at other campus-wide discussion venues as these discussions need to be ongoing with final recommendations/strategic plan developed before the end of this academic year.
The Committee will hold campus-wide forums, welcoming faculty and students. The aim is to encourage and facilitate campus-wide discussions about strategies for distance education on our campus, raising awareness and making decisions about how we should respond as a campus at this time and in the future. The task force should hold open forums with faculty, administrators and staff to discuss concerns about distance education issues and conduct meetings with various academic and non-academic units, and with students, to gather information and eventually submit informed recommendations to the campus community.

The Committee will be reviewing data and gathering additional information as follow-up to above discussions concerning distance education and its impact on our campus under current competitive conditions.

B. Common Questions for Student Evaluations Task Force
   - Yuri Obata Presenting.

The Office of Academic Affairs asked the Senate Executive Committee to put together a group of faculty to develop a small set of common questions, approximately four to six questions, that would be included in all course evaluations across the discipline and teaching methodology on IUSB campus. The Task Force consists with the current Senate Teaching Committee plus four other faculty members. The total of eight members representing different schools on campus are creating a recommendation to the administration.

So far the Task Force has asked each school, the Library, UCET and SGA to send them their recommendation for their recommended questions. Additionally the Task Force is researching thirty two course evaluation templates currently used on the IU South Bend campus as well as evaluation questions from other universities.

The Task Force welcomes faculty members’ individual suggestions for what these four to six common questions might consist of. The committee needs to release its recommendation by the April Senate meeting. Therefore, the Task Force welcomes any ideas and suggestions to be sent to Chair Yuri Obata or any of the Task Force members by April 3rd.

4. Other Reports
   A. Election Results

   Executive Committee
   Vice President: Lee Kahan (CLAS)
Secretary: Nancy Colborn (LIB)

At Large Members:
  - Catherine Borshuk (CLAS)
  - Peter Bushnell (CLAS)
  - Gail McGuire (CLAS)

UFC Representative: Neovi Karakatsanis (CLAS)

Promotion and Tenure Committee
  - Gary Kern (B&E)
  - Jake Mattox (CLAS)
  - Morteza Shaffi-Mousavi (CLAS)
  - Christina Gerken (CLAS)
  - Ann Grens (CLAS)
  - Non-Voting:
    - Sue Anderson (CHS)
    - Leon Schjoedt (B&E)

Athletics Committee
  - Bill Feighery (CLAS)
  - Sharon Jones (CHS)
  - Alison Stankrauff (LIB)

Faculty Board of Review
  - Anne Brown (CLAS)
  - Terri Hebert (EDUC)
  - Beth Kern (B&E)
  - Monika Lynker (CLAS)
  - Murlidharan Nair (CLAS)
  - Alternates:
    - Marsha Heck (EDUC)
    - Micheline Nilsen (CLAS)
    - Anthony Smith (CLAS)

Faculty Misconduct Review
  - Peter Aghimien (B&E)
  - Peter Bushnell (CLAS)
  - Susan Cress (EDUC)
  - Alternates:
B. Senate President’s Report

First I would like to welcome new member of our community, Director of Student and Community Engagement, Darryl Heller.

The Senate President will soon be asking for faculty to volunteer for Senate committee membership. Please consider participating: nominate yourself or colleagues for positions.

Committee Chairs will need to submit committee reports – please send to Senate President Scott Opasik and campus Archivist Alison Stankrauff.

Question from the audience:
Should the ad hoc committee be included on the Senate Web site?
Answer: Only if they are ad hoc committees of the Senate

Brief comments on the University Faculty Council meeting of this week.

5. Administrative and Officer Reports

A. Chancellor Terry Allison

Budget:
The Chancellor is working to with the budget to achieve the ultimate aims of student success; strategic investment; investment in faculty, staff, student professionals; and to achieve a quality institution.

The Chancellor notes how little money there is to invest in salary raises.

A bonus/plus in our campus’ budgetary stance is that this state is in a good place monetarily – relative to other states – in terms of higher education allotment. The state of Indiana is giving its public universities a slight increase in funding this year
based on performance. Indiana University is requesting more money from the state legislature, and more for regional campuses specifically.

There are some gains made through centralizing functions. Internal to our campus, our Academic Master Plan is using metrics to measure units.

Marketing and Recruitment
Marketing and recruitment efforts for our campus have increased. The campus has added to its grant staff and, for the first time ever, been awarded a Kresge Grant, which focuses on giving monies to universities to help low-income, first-generation, African American, Latino, Asian American and Pacific Islander, and Native American students.

Major Challenges
The major external budgetary challenges are that tuition and salary is not set by the campus.

Campus realities face demographics that reflect the number of high school students and graduates in the area are lowering. The Ivy Tech pipeline is drying up. This being said there could be growth in adult attendees to our campus.

Increasingly our campus is being made more and more accountable for its investment of resources.

Our campus’ productivity metrics are low: our full-time faculty numbers are high in comparison to our current student enrollment numbers.

*Slides shown demonstrating the high number of full-time faculty members compared to enrollment numbers for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the School of Business and Economics, the School of Education, and the School of the Arts. Slides also shown of credit hours per fulltime faculty members comparing IU South Bend, IUPUI, and IU Southeast.

Claims That are Difficult to Make
- The campus is supporting new programs at the expense of existing programs.

- There’s a radical reduction in fulltime faculty positions on our campus.

- Fulltime faculty members are teaching more students.
- Administrative costs are rising.

- Administrators are paid 77% of what our peer institutions are.

What Would We – As A Campus – Like To Achieve?
- More efficient class scheduling.

- Continue adding online classes.

- More selectivity and accountability in non-teaching assignments.

- Continuing successful strategies to promote sustainability.

The Chancellor expanded upon a discussion on being concerned about spending the campus’ reserves to cover campus expenses. There’s hope to increase salaries: in the budget hearings earlier this semester there were presentations of five to ten percent reductions in terms of salaries, but the Chancellor hopes to counteract this with the opposite of this.

Questions From the Senate Floor

Question:
In terms of state expenditures on state institutions, are we competing with other institutions?
Answer:
Yes – but Indiana University in general is faring well.

Question:
With the new Religious Freedom Restoration Act in Indiana, the state is sure to lose money. How is Indiana University figuring ahead for this certainty?
Answer:
The University is looking for other possible student population pools to market to and attract: veterans, adults, etc.

Question:
Perhaps the mailings for high school students are low and don’t go to as many places as they ought to – three different faculty members in the audience who have children who are currently graduating high school seniors either did not receive any recruitment materials from IUSB or only one earlier in the year.
Answer:
Duly noted – the Chancellor’s office will look its marketing plan over and make necessary changes to area high schools in terms of frequency of mailings, etc.

Question:
Teaching loads and time comparisons are being discussed quite a bit. It seems the University is looking at teaching loads in comparison to peers. Could you tell us more about this?
- Discussion of this amongst the audience.

Question:
Why faculty should teach more students – to earn more money, to make more money? Why to make more money, as we’re not like other campuses? Showing how we are like other campuses – when we’re not.
- Discussion of this amongst the audience.

Question:
If we have a 3/3 teaching load plus administrative duties as faculty members, are we different than our peers?
Answer:
No – but we need to draw better data, and the campus administration is working on that.

Question:
There are not lots of research on the size of classrooms plus retention. Our students at this campus are different – this needs to be taken into account as the administration figures data forward.
Answer:
There has been research, and our peer institutions are similar for student income, levels of Pell Grants, etc. Our fulltime faculty members to student ratio is currently something along the lines of 14:1. IU doesn’t keep strong data on this line, but this should be more like 18:1.

Image Survey and Advertising
One time money in IUSB commercials – which are airing next week on television, in the mornings and evenings. All advertisements are based on an image survey, so the ads are tailored to our demographic, and just what that demographic values in schooling.
The image survey underlined that what people who attend IUSB value is their ability to obtain jobs.

Relatedly the ads airing also address a perception that came out in the image survey that IUSB is not rigorous. Therefore the people who appear in the ads – an area doctor, lawyer, and CEO – all who speak about their wish to employ more of the IUSB graduates they’ve hired and had success with as employees.

6. **Announcements**

7. **Adjournment at 3:30 p.m.**