Indiana University South Bend
Academic Senate Minutes –
February 28, 2014
Wiekamp Hall #1001
1:30 p.m.

In Attendance:
Raman Adaikkalavan, Justin Amellio, Mahesh Ananth, Oscar Barrau, Elizabeth Bennion, Vishal Bindroo, Vicki Bloom, David Blouin, Catherine Borshuk, Nancy Botkin, Peter Bushnell, Joseph Chaney, James (Randy) Colborn, Louise Collins, Marvin Curtis, Geoffrey Duce, Robert Ducoffe, Elizabeth Dunn, William Feighery, Julie Feighery-Elliott, Linda Fisher, Bridget Fong-Morgan, Hayley Froysland, Steven Gerencser, Joshua Giorgio-Rubin, Chu He, Sean Hottois, Sharon Jones, Beth Kern, Vincci Kwong, Larry Lambert, Monle Lee, April Lidinsky, Jennifer Loop-Miller, Monika Lynker, Marta Makielski, Deborah Marr, Jessica McCormack, Gail McGuire, John McIntosh, Alex Meisami, Maria Mendez, Gwendolyn Mettetal, Robert Meyer-Lee, Barbara Mociulski, John Murphy, Micheline Nilsen, Mario Ortiz, Anurag Pant, Elaine Roth, Andrea Rusnock, PN Saksena, Anna Savvopoulou, Leon Schjoedt, Zachary Schrank, Mark Schroeder, Carolyn Schult, Henry Scott, Scott Sernau, Dmitry Shlapentokh, James Smith, Cynthia Sofhauser, Eric Souther, Alison Stankrauff, Kyoko Takanashi, Monica Tetzlaff, Susan Thomas, Ganesh Vaidyanathan, Jay VanderVeen, David Vollrath, Joshua Wells, Barbara White, Roxanne Wolfram, Jeffrey Wright, Lisa Zwicker, Lyle Zynda.

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Minutes of January 24 meeting (including Athletics Committee action)

3. Administrative and Officer Reports

   A. Chancellor Terry Allison

   Announcement of the finalists for Executive Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs candidates by Chair of the Search and Screen Committee Dean Mario Ortiz. The committee is working to make logistics perfect for the visiting candidates. There is an invitation for the faculty to meet with each of the candidates. There are three different opportunities for faculty to meet the candidates; candidates are on campus next week.
The Chancellor has been reviewing dossiers for tenure recommendation. He commends the faculty members on our campus for their accomplishments and their contributions to the campus, the community, and beyond. Particularly faculty who are spending significant time doing peer observation: it helps the betterment of teaching on our campus.

The campus budget hearings were held February 10th and February 11th. The Chancellor received good feedback on the process of the budget hearings and appreciation goes to the Senate Budget Committee to help with the process. A part of the process was asking departments to cut at various levels. In terms of revenue coming in: we are driven by what we collect in student fees. We were spending significantly more than our revenues. We need to retain students: it’s easier to get revenue by retention of students rather than by recruiting new students.

The Chancellor is still waiting to hear from IU Bloomington on proposed salary raises that would be permissible on each campus – he should hear by early March. Once this comes out, a budget can be finalized.

Benefits cost: the budget forecast is better than had been proposed earlier. Many are signing up for the high deductible health plan and this is assisting in this.

Deb Marr, Chair of the Academic Master Plan Committee. The charge of the committee is to identify specific programs of the campus that increase enrollment, identify resources for these programs, and then identify short and long term goals for these programs. They have met recently with local business leaders to understand what they’re looking for in interns and employees. This committee has developed a survey for students and an economic forecast for Michiana. This committee has been looking at addressing data on retention, new programs, and accurate information for students.

The Chancellor is now able to offer the Titan Award, a new scholarship program that helps incoming students pay for their college education. The Titan Awards are automatically offered to high school students with a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or above when they apply to IU South Bend for the fall semester. Additionally there are Housing awards for Honors students and for athletes. There is now an endowed scholarship for innovation and creativity.
There has been some concern on the issue of the cancelled East Asian History professor position. This reflects the Governor’s two percent higher education cut and his request of state university campuses to show potential cuts in their respective campus units. The Chancellor wants Deans to answer the question: “What are the cuts that can be made, look at any and all open positions”.

Question by Senate member:
Retention seems to be the way to make money – not by cutting positions.
Answer by Chancellor:
The data is being analyzed. Improving policies to track and retain students are being analyzed.

Question by Senate member:
Will there be any allowance for students that may have registered early if – as the budget is finalized – that the classes will be cancelled?
Answer by Chancellor:
This will be analyzed.

Question by Senate member:
Will there be any further positions cut?
Answer by Chancellor:
Staff cuts were requested in the recent budget hearings.

Question by Senate member:
If there’s a 2.1 million dollar cut, then why were divisions requested to propose ten percent cuts?
Answer by the Chancellor:
Because the cuts won’t be across the board.

Question by Senate member:
What allowance will be made for part-time and adjunct faculty? Stability in the position of this level of our teaching body is shown to increase retention.
Answer by Chancellor:
One way is to attract faculty, but dire financial directives require realities we may not like.

Question by Senate member:
If the dire budget forecast was known, why were we not told and the searches approved (and then subsequently pulled at the last minute)?
Answer by Chancellor:
Data was received at the last minute, and the Chancellor asked the Interim Executive Vice Chancellor to make a recommendation.

Question by Senate member:
Marketing needs to get more focused.
Answer by Chancellor:
New initiatives, particularly in social media, are rolling out and will be implemented for our campus.

Question by Senate member:
Retention comes from the wonderful events we hold. What allowance – in salaries – will be given to support this?
Answer by Chancellor:
Budget realities are real, ideas on retention and revenue generation are welcome.

B. Interim Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs John McIntosh

He has been reviewing faculty members’ Promotion and Tenure packets, and currently there are fourteen recommendations for tenure from his office to the Chancellor. Additionally there are seventy cases for promotion put forward to the Chancellor.

Announcement of campus events, concerts, campus theme events, recitals. Faculty are more than welcome to attend, encourage students to attend.

Question by Senate member:
Proposed sabbatical requests – are they going forward?
Answer by Interim Executive Vice Chancellor:
Sabbaticals are not immediately in danger – this next coming year in particular.

Question by Senate member:
What about funding for adjuncts?
Answer by Interim Executive Vice Chancellor:
The finalization of the final budget is not yet known.

Presentation by Distance Learning Advisory Committee – Raman Adaikkalavan

The purpose of this report is to compare our programs at IU South Bend with programs offered at all the other IU campuses. Only courses that match a subject area offered by a department at South Bend are included in the report.
The recommendations coming out of this report:
* Take part in IU-wide initiatives
* Need to be proactive as the effects may be significant on our campus
  – Class scheduling (e.g., We may have to cancel a course as the course was offered as online the previous (or same) semester at another campus.)
  – Curriculum issues (e.g., Though program level learning outcomes match, course level learning outcomes can differ. This can affect student performance in a course if they took the previous course at a different campus.)
    • Also, student retention may be affected
  – Campus Tuition Revenue loss
  – Student attrition
  – Explore the viability of offering
  – Degree Programs, Minors, Certificates
  – Offer more courses and more higher level courses
  – Resolve discrepancies in course prerequisites between campuses; between departments and Onestart
  – Establish student support infrastructure
  – Placement, proctoring, toll free, tutoring, etc.
  – Involve more faculty

C. Academic Senate President Jerry Hinnefeld

University Faculty Council: The provision to the electoral process, but it should not be so traumatic for our campus.

A common academic calendar between all IU campuses:
The most recent development on this is that what each individual campus does in between a common start and end date is up to each individual campus.

Student Success:
According to the University Faculty Council – there is a good report on this.

There are University-wide disaster plans that are going forward and should be made available soon.

Question by Senate member:
What about the recent data breach of students’ records?
Answer by Senate President:
There was a message sent out to all students this morning that addresses this fully.
4. Committee Reports

A. Nominating Committee
   2014-2015 slate for the Academic Senate Committees, both elected and appointed, announced.
   There is a need for an additional member of the Promotion, Tenure, and Reappointment Committee.
   * Jerry Hinnefeld volunteered – and subsequently accepted.
   * Beth Kern nominated.

B. Academic Affairs Committee (Academic Renewal Policy revisions)
   Given by Registrar Jeff Johnston.

C. General Education Committee (First Year Experience)
   Given by Committee Chair Lesley Walker.
   The First Year Seminar – there are nineteen First Year Seminar workshops scheduled in the Fall for faculty.

   Forty to fifty percent of first year students will be affected by this – substantial.

5. Announcements

   East Asian Minor students have made a petition to be signed by faculty to keep this program and support it with faculty. There is a student waiting for us to sign the petition directly following Senate outside the auditorium. Further, she has petitions that you can distribute to your students in your classes.

   Shakespeare’s birthday/Campus Theme will be celebrated next week by faculty, students, staff on the campus mall.

   Vision 20/20 proposal budgets are due this Monday.

   Michiana Monologues are going forward, and soon to be held here at IU South Bend, the Natatorium, the State Theater in South Bend, and Goshen College.

   Undergraduate Research Conference will be in April – faculty, encourage students whose research, writing, projects are strong to be a part of the URC
experience.

The Library is celebrating the twenty fifth anniversary of the Schurz Library: Everyone is invited to a reception on March 25th celebrate together.

6. Adjournment
   At 2:55 p.m.