

University of Idaho
FACULTY COUNCIL MINUTES

2003-2004 Meeting #12, Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Present: Wagner (Chair), Bailey (Vice-chair), Baillargeon, Burnett, Chandler, Cloud, Dockrey, Exon, Fairchild, Gunter, Hatch (for Pitcher w/o vote), Lillard, McGuire, Morgan, Pikowsky, Rinker, Voxman (w/o vote), Woolston, Young

Absent: Guenther, Stegner, Pitcher, Reese, Zemetra

Observers: 17

Call to Order. A quorum being present, Faculty Council Chair Wagner, called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. in the Brink Hall Faculty Lounge.

Minutes. The council accepted the minutes of meeting #11 of the 2003-2004 Faculty Council, held on January 20, 2004 as distributed.

Chair's Report. Chair Wagner welcomed Mickey Gunter to the meeting as the College of Science's replacement for Tom Bitterwolf. He also announced a request from the Alumni Office for volunteers to work on a Homecoming Task Force. Vice-chair Bailey provided a brief report on the January SBOE meeting where an 8.5% increase in student fees was approved.

Provost's Report. In light of the heavy agenda and having no pressing issues relayed from Provost Pitcher, Charles Hatch declined a report.

Announcements. Vice-chair Bailey, chair of the Committee on Committees, asked for Council approval of four new members to Faculty Council committees as distributed. Approval was granted unanimously.

Committee Reports from the University Curriculum Committee.

FC-04-017. Notice of Intent: College of Natural Resources/Forest Products: elimination of the Pulp and Paper Technology Option coming as a seconded motion was unanimously approved.

FC-04-024. Proposed Changes to Regulation B-7 : freshmen students may not take upper-division courses. Exceptions may be made for students who have fulfilled the prerequisites and who are well prepared in their field of study. In such cases, the instructor may, with the concurrence of the student's advisor authorize the exception. This change coming as a seconded motion was unanimously approved by the Council.

FC-04-025. Proposed Changes: Probation, Disqualification, and Reinstatement: Students on academic probation who attain a semester grade point average of 3.00 or higher during the next or subsequent semester or summer session after being placed on probation, but whose cumulative grade point average is still below 3.00, will remain on academic probation until the cumulative GPA is 3.00 or higher. After a brief discussion, the seconded motion was unanimously approved by the Council.

Special Orders. The Final Examination Schedule for Fall and Spring 2004-2005 submitted by the Registrar, Reta Pikowsky, was unanimously approved.

The Council turned its attention to an ASUI sponsored resolution generated by a recent decision to restructure UI recreational facilities. This topic consumed the remainder of the meeting.

Student concerns and comments as presented by ASUI President Isaac Myrhum and Vice-President Nate Tiegs, included:

- Lack of timely student input in the decision to place recreational facilities and related programs under the direction of the Athletic Department
- Students are opposed to both the process used to reach the restructuring decision and the result of the decision
- How can \$200,000 be saved by the restructuring decision
- Focus should perhaps be on finding additional savings and efficiencies in the Athletic Department (running in the red) rather than in the area of Student Recreation (running in the black)
- Concerns about possible co-mingling of recreation fees with athletic funds
- Why try to fix something that isn't broken

- Could the restructuring decision be reversed in order that an alternative model be adopted in which:
 - Directors of the Athletic Department and the Student Recreation Center both report directly to the Provost
 - Control and oversight of Recreational Facilities R&R accounts are transferred from Auxiliary Services to Student Recreation and the appropriate student affairs officer
 - Scheduling for Sports and Recreation Facilities are conducted through a students affairs office, in cooperation with academic affairs and athletic units
 - Existing ASUI advisory boards are used for student input regarding policy and management of athletic and student recreation facilities.

Administrative concerns and comments by Wayland Winstead and Rob Spear included:

- The restructuring committee was briefed by individuals (non-students) who voiced the same concerns that have been expressed by students
- The President believes hard decisions must be made in a timely manner and is frustrated by the tendency to study and re-study issues
- All facilities in question are currently shared facilities
- There is no intent to use the Student Recreation Center for organized athletic programs, though student athletes, like all students, will have access to it.
- Efficiencies can be achieved by having one manager rather than many and the sharing of resources, i.e. IT support
- Wellness programs will take on increasing importance as a means for reducing UI health costs; shared facilities will be important in this regard
- A good assessment plan must be created to ensure that efficiencies are achieved and a proper balance of competing interests is attained
- The restructuring decision has been made and is unlikely to be changed. Focus should now be on how best to implement it taking into account all interests involved. To this end the following set of implementation committees will be created with the indicated chairs. Winstead will chair a steering committee comprised of each committee chair and a member of ASUI leadership and Faculty Council. Winstead noted that it will be the chair of each committee who selects its members. The committees are as follows:
 - Neutral Scheduling: Rita Pikowsky
 - Intramural and Recreational Programming: Greg Tatham
 - Facility Management and Organizational Structure: Rob Spear
 - Synergies with Academic programs: Jack Morris, Jeanne Christiansen
 - Wellness programs: Hal Godwin.

During the meeting concerns were also expressed regarding the recent rescheduling (without faculty input) of academic space for volleyball practices to accommodate the volleyball coach's scheduling needs. Questions were also raised as to how one can support a management policy that has yet to be developed. Councilor Chandler stated that what has transpired is perhaps another example of how problems can arise from closed-door decisions.

At the behest of Councilor Lillard, the Council returned to a discussion of the resolution brought to the meeting by Councilor Dockrey. Many councilors questioned the strong language of the resolution and whether it sent the right message. A number of modifications to the resolution were suggested. Councilor McGuire expressed frustration with faculty slowness in making decisions, stressing the fact that the UI is in difficult financial times and we need to recognize and accept that fact. He stressed the need to move forward more quickly in making tough decisions as recognized by the President. In response to Councilor Cloud's question about the role of the Council, it was pointed out that the university constitution charged us with advising the president on issues of organization, but that we cannot do that if we are not informed. It was questioned whether language could be inserted into the resolution calling for a reversal of the President's decision. Chair Wagner, recognizing the disparity of viewpoints, suggested that an ad hoc committee take on the task of bringing a revised form of the resolution to the Council at its next meeting. Councilors Lillard, Gunter, and Dockrey agreed to take on this task.

Councilor Lillard returned to form in making her usual motion to adjourn, which the Council duly accepted at 5:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Voxman
Interim Secretary of the Faculty Council