

University of Idaho
FACULTY COUNCIL MINUTES

2004-2005 Meeting #8, Tuesday, November 9, 2004

Present: Bailey (Chair), Anderson, Bailey, Baillargeon, Beard, Bechinski, Cloud, Exon, Greever, Houle, McGuire, McMurtry, Pitcher (w/o vote), Reese, Rinker, Rosholt, Shook (for McLaughlin), Voxman (w/o vote), Woolston, Young, Zemetra

Absent: Gunter, Hammel, McLaughlin, Reid

Observers: 2

Call to Order. A quorum being present, Faculty Council Chair Bailey called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m. in the Michael Board Room of the Albertsons Building.

Minutes. The council accepted the minutes of meeting #7 of the 2004-2005 Faculty Council, held on October 26, as distributed.

Chair's Report. Chair Bailey briefly discussed the next steps in the decision-making process that was initiated with the UVTRF report. He said that the President intends to review all responses and reports between now and the start of the second semester. The President will then communicate his ideas to the university community and after which work will begin to review and eventually implement the desired changes. Bailey said that during the Homecoming weekend he attended meetings of the University of Idaho Foundation and Alumni Association. The Alumni Association is seeking faculty representation on its Executive Committee and Bailey encouraged councilors to contact persons who might be interested in taking on this task. Bailey then announced that there will be a search this semester for a "permanent" Faculty Secretary to replace the current interim Faculty Secretary at the start of the 2005 year. Councilors Bailey, Exon, Woolston, and Zemetra agreed to serve as a search committee for that position. To conclude his report, Bailey distributed a letter from the Provost asking councilors to contact their respective colleges to gather nominations for the University-level Promotions Committee. Nominations must be submitted to Vice-chair Zemetra by November 17.

Provost's Report. Provost Pitcher said that guidelines and other information concerning the forthcoming 2% merit salary increase can be found on the Provost's webpage. The Provost said that the university had been hosting throughout the day the annual legislative tour, which appeared to be going well. He noted that Calls for Proposals for new Core Discovery and Integrated Science courses were to be issued soon and encouraged faculty to respond to these proposals. With regard to the recent University of Idaho Foundation meeting he said that the Foundation was engaged in a best practices study on organization and its relationship to the university.

FC-05-010: NOI: Proposed creation of a combined/interdisciplinary degree (BFA) in Musical Theater between the Department of Theater and Film and the Lionel Hampton School of Music. James Murphy, Director of the Lionel Hampton School of Music, gave a brief description of the proposal and the rationale for creating the new major. He said that there was a definite demand for this type of program. Because existing courses would be the primary basis for the program he did not anticipate that it would entail additional costs to either of the departments involved in the proposal. In response to councilor Greever's question, Murphy said that the departmental library would be the principal resource for library materials and that the two departments have sufficient funds to cover new materials, royalties, etc. Murphy estimated that 15-20 students are now interested in the proposed new major. He anticipates that the program will grow, in part because it is one of the few Musical Theater degree programs offered in the West. After a brief discussion the council gave unanimous approval to the NOI.

Discussion of Faculty Council's Draft Response to the UVTRF Report. The council discussed at some length the draft presented by Chair Bailey for responding to the UVTRF report. There was general acceptance of the spirit and content of the draft, though some changes were made to it. See the Faculty Council website at <http://www.webs.uidaho.edu/facultycouncil/> for the comments that will be forwarded to the President. The council decided it was not in a position to offer additional insights into how programs should be prioritized, but would like to be involved in the implementation of the prioritization tools. The Provost said he hoped that some group would undertake the task of refining and paring prioritization criteria to a relatively few number of concepts; it will also be necessary to determine the optimal way for implementing the prioritization process in a timely fashion.

Chair Bailey said he would incorporate the suggestions made at the meeting into a final response document for the President. He also said that the comments developed by the Institutional Planning and Budget Advisory Committee, would be forwarded separately to the President. To conclude, Bailey said that at its next meeting the council will consider the recommendations of the Faculty Affairs Committee regarding plus-minus grading and the use of decimals in faculty evaluations.

Under ever increasing pressure from an incoming horde of remarkably avid students the council hastily adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Voxman
Interim Secretary of the Faculty Council