

**IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE  
MINUTES**

**VOLUME XXIV, MEMO 14**

**April 11, 2005**

**Vocational Arts Building**

**Distance Learning Room, 117**

**Telecast to ISU – Boise, Room 139**

**Idaho Falls, Room CHE 303**

**4:00 – 6:00pm**

**I. PRELIMINARIES**

- A. Attendance: Allen, Christensen, Crews (via Boise), DeJesus, Delehanty, Devaud, Devine, Frank, Frantz, Hill, Jull, Masserini, Norton, Rodnick, Semenza, and Vik  
*ex officio*: Francis  
Work Study Student: Mary Galindo
- B. The open forum began a year and a half ago by Doug Nilson. It has been conducted once per semester for faculty to share ideas, discuss issues, concerns, or to ask questions.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS & REPORTS**

- A. Chair –
  - 1. The general faculty meeting will be on Thursday, April 14, 2005 at 4:00 in the Beverly Bistline Family Thrust Theatre. Vik encouraged attendance from faculty and to bring any questions for Dr. Bowen.
  - 2. Masserini read a memo from Dr. Bowen regarding the implementation of the soft benefits for domestic partners. Human Resources will begin this process by the end of this week.
  - 3. This year the senate has voted to expand its membership by two; one with a seat in Boise and one as at large distance faculty member to represent the distance sites. Crews reported that the deadline for nominations in Boise is Tuesday, April 12, 2005.
  - 4. This year the senate has begun a Faculty Senate Past-chair advisory board. This benefits senators by facilitating the institutional memory.
  - 5. This year the senate has been more involved with the Foundation Board. Jeri Spinner is the faculty representative to the Board. Also, the senate has created an ad hoc advisory committee that has met with Jeri.
  - 6. A first draft to a workload policy will be finished soon. The accreditation report requires ISU to have a policy to cover all faculty; however, colleges, departments, or units will have to prepare their own for their own needs. This university policy must be completed by the fall accreditation visit.
  - 7. The senate has instituted their Budget Council to articulate financial exigency and financial hardship. The committee will report at the next senate meeting on Monday, April 18, 2005.

8. Barbara Adamcik is researching the tuition for dependant benefits. She is working with Academic Vice Presidents of the other universities, however the Faculty Senate chair of BSU says they are not interested.
9. Nancy Frank stated that the ad hoc committee for Administrative Evaluations is sending out the pilot study this week to all faculty to evaluate their own dean and President Bowen.

### III. OPEN FORUM TOPICS

#### A. Raises for ISU employees for this year –

It has been rumored that BSU and U of I will be getting a 4% raise this year. BSU has a \$25 million surplus that they will most likely use; it is not known where U of I will get the money. The governor proposed a 1% increase for state employees, however the legislators made it dependant on a \$124 million surplus in the state for a one time 1% bonus.

Dr. Bowen is trying to secure a 2% raise from money within the university. ISU faculty are already behind in equity and salary with the other universities.

#### B. President Bowen's retirement –

Vik reminded the faculty that the timing of the SBOE's choice could be hurtful to ISU. This is about the stability of ISU. Dr. Bowen will retire, but when is not yet known. The SBOE asked Dr. Bowen to resign with two Vice President positions unfilled. This is an issue about ISU and the state, ISU and SBOE and ISU and the other institutions.

One member stated that this is an opportunity for change and growth, he is optimistic.

It was noted that faculty would like to be informed about major changes in the university before the newspaper gets the information.

A senator stated that the Interim Academic Vice President, Dr. Wharton, indicated that the hiring of the open positions should be in the order: Vice President for Health Sciences, President, and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

It was noted that ISU must have the continuity of Dr. Bowen for one more year; ISU cannot afford to be headless in May.

#### C. Statement from Faculty Senate –

1. As the elected representatives of the faculty at Idaho State University, the Faculty Senate stands in support and appreciation for the many initiatives Dr. Richard Bowen has accomplished as President of Idaho State University.
2. The Faculty Senate asserts its full support of ISU's mission to deliver health professions and health sciences education to the entire state of Idaho.
3. The Faculty Senate urges President Bowen and other ISU administrators to appoint a Vice President of Health Sciences expeditiously.
4. The Faculty Senate recognizes and supports ISU's commitment for continued development and delivery of educational programming to Idaho Falls and the surrounding community.
5. The Faculty Senate affirms our dedication to research liaisons and collaborations with the Idaho National Laboratory.

Vik will read this to the SBOE as well on April 21, 2005 in Idaho Falls. Vik encouraged faculty to attend the SBOE and speak up during the open forum.

- D. Faculty representation on search committees for the President of ISU - Vik will request from the SBOE that faculty be represented by half of the members on the search committee for the new president. It was noted that the composition of the BSU Presidential search were Boise businessmen. Vik requested faculty to contact all legislators, not just the Bannock 6, and SBOE members so they will realize the negative impact to ISU's future and the discomfort this has created.

It was noted that this is a very political issue and that ISU faculty needs to "defend their turf".

- E. SBOE's request for 8-year plan – The SBOE initiated an 8-year plan for all higher education institutions last year; however, they have not kept a watch on them and are allowing other institutions to begin programs, which is not in their purview.

Christensen stated that she learned in President's staff meeting that BSU is not following the rules that the SBOE has set and is creating programs not in compliance with their 8-year plan.

It has been previously followed that a university may only challenge a new program if it is in their region, however, this is no longer being followed. The SBOE should be held accountable for passing the NOI's that do not fit within a university's mission.

A department chair stated he challenged a new program from BSU as a duplicate, however it was turned down because it was in their 8-year plan.

- F. Faculty Club – There were overwhelming positive comments regarding a faculty club, however, the Pool and Tennis Club is not the right site. It was discussed that a white paper be written on what type of location faculty desire and to put a mechanism in place.
- G. It was noted that over the last four years, ISU's employees have received a total of 1.7% salary increase compared to a 6% increase in the cost of living in Pocatello during the same time. Faculty and staff should make assertive arguments to the public that the economic impact to Southeast Idaho is very negative. Merchants should be made aware that ISU employees' salaries are not keeping up with the cost of living and get the merchants behind the employees to argue to the legislators for salary increases.

#### IV. ADJOURNMENT: 6:00

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Peter Vik, Chair

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Connie Patchin,  
Administrative Assistant I

Approved: April 18, 2005