

**IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES**

VOLUME XXV, MEMO 13

**February 27, 2006
Faculty Senate Conference Room
Red Hill Building
4:00 pm**

- I. Preliminaries
 - A. Attendance: Allen, Beard, Bowen, Christensen (Chair), Curtis, DeJesus, Delehanty, Devaud, Devine, Hill, Kangas, Kantabutra, Klein, Masserini, McCurry, McLaughlin, Miller (via teleconference), Newsome, Norton, Oliphant (via teleconference), Ottaway, Rankin, Reynolds, Rodnick, Semenza, and Sieber, and Woodworth-Ney
Ex officio: Hargraves, and Nelson
Guests: Drs. Barbara Adamcik, Stephen Adkison, and John Kijinski
Absent: Crews and Vik (both excused)
Administrative and Graduate Assistants: Connie Patchin and David Robinson
 - B. Faculty Senate Minutes of February 13, 2006
ACTION: Moved and seconded to approve the minutes of February 13, 2006 and January 30, 2006. **Passed unanimously.**
- II. Open Forum
Accreditation Working Group (AWG) - Drs. Barbara Adamcik, Stephen Adkison, and John Kijinski –

Kijinski gave an overview of the accreditation visit from 2004. Ten recommendations were made by the NWCCU (Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities). At the direction of NWCCU, ISU submitted an Accreditation Progress Report in October 2005 that addressed Recommendations 1, 6, 8, and 10. The NWCCU found that Recommendations 1, 8, and 10 had been adequately addressed. Recommendation 6 (dealing with SBOE setting goals and evaluating its own performance) is still out of compliance; however, it is the SBOE's responsibility to satisfy this recommendation. AWG will be working with the SBOE Chief Academic Officer on a response to Recommendation 6.

On April 17th there will be a one-day interim evaluation visit by a reviewer from the University of Montana. This visit will focus on how ISU has addressed Recommendations 2, 3, 6, 7, and 9.

Because the NWCCU recommendations are interrelated, AWG's approach throughout the process has been to report ISU's actions in addressing all ten recommendations, even though it was not required. That is why AWG's progress reports have included recommendations 4 and 5, although the areas addressed by the recommendations were noted as "needs improvement" and did not require interim reporting.

It was noted that many of ISU's actions in addressing the ten recommendations involve changes that are cultural as well as institutional, and this will help improve communication.

Adkison stated that AWG was formed last January to address the NWCCU evaluation report. They have been shaping and recommending a framework of response. A major NWCCU concern is that ISU must have processes in place and functioning that will address the recommendations and not just a plan on paper. ISU will get NWCCU's response regarding the April visit next fall. If ISU has adequately addressed NWCCU concerns, AWG will have completed its charge. Adkison stated that faculty should be aware of the accreditation visits, the ten recommendations, and ISU's efforts to address them.

Christensen again asked senators to read Recommendation 1, which involves the budget process. There have been real advances made in addressing transparency problems with the budget. Based on a proposal developed by Karl DeJesus and approved by the Faculty Senate executive committee, a budget road map has been submitted to Dr. Vailas, President Gallagher, and AVP Wharton. All parties are interested in significantly revising the process.

Adamcik added that the updated progress report will be available on the website on March 10, 2006, which will contain new material reflecting progress made since the October report. The ISU Accreditation Page is: <http://www.isu.edu/acadaff/accreditation/index.shtml>. AWG will discuss the upcoming evaluation visit during an all faculty meeting on April 5, 2006.

Bowen commented that faculty is receiving a mixed message from AWG. It was earlier argued (last fall) that ISU's accreditation was not at risk and the recommendations were significantly downplayed; yet an interim report within the year, closely followed by a second visit, is not typical. AWG agreed that ISU does have problems, and there is a danger if ISU's actions in addressing the recommendations are not genuine and effective.

Christensen stated that implementation of the new policies and procedures set out in the Accreditation Progress Report will need faculty oversight and monitoring. If shared governance is to become a reality at ISU, faculty needs to become involved and assume responsibility for being informed and for participating in governance.

ACTION: Moved and seconded for Faculty Senate to send an email to all faculty concerning the open forum topic (October accreditation working group report and update of changes). **Passed unanimously.** The Executive Committee will draft the email to be sent out after spring break.

It was agreed that Faculty Senate will send out highlights of their meetings to all faculty, similar to the notes from President's Staff meetings.

III. Announcements & Reports

A. Chair – The senators had access on the Faculty Senate web site to the full list of announcements for the meeting. Highlights include:

1. SBOE Meeting –

- a. The community college system – There are two competing bills before the legislature. Representative Ann Rydalch and Governor's staff presented information on the bills. SBOE voiced many concerns and questions.

- b. BSU presentation regarding retention. Because retention is an issue at ISU, the information presented was relevant. Christensen outlined some recommendations to improve retention made by BSU's task force and distributed to senators a report showing statistics on ISU spring enrollment. Individual faculty members need to be involved in student retention issues; they can make a difference.
 - c. Blake Hall reiterated that the SBOE wants the university presidents to analyze for duplication of programs.
2. President council meeting – This is the new council comprised of president and vice presidents, chair and vice chair of Faculty Senate, presidents and vice presidents of ASISU, COPE, and CEC. New ISU president Art Vailas and wife Laura attended the meeting. Course fees have proliferated over the years as a source of money to fund items not necessarily consumed over the course; now that tuition is available, there is a need to review fees for appropriateness. President Gallagher is working on settlement of the equity funding owed to the BSU and ISU; hopes to settle the matter for roughly \$.50 on the dollar (about \$1 - 1.7 million depending on amount appropriated by legislature); this lump sum would be added to ISU's base; in ISU's best interest to settle because BSU will get larger share of equity funding as time passes. Gallagher is working on revising and clarifying the ISU budget process and is using the "road map" proposed by FS. Dr. Vailas has a copy of the budget road map as well.
 3. President's staff meeting – Discussion about awarding multiple honorary degrees and clarifying and expanding upon criteria used in recommending nominees (FS) and selecting recipients (President); moratorium on nominations until current backlog of recommendations is considered. Discussion continues re ways to shorten commencement ceremony. AVP Wharton, Jennifer Fisher, and others are working on an RFI for seed money provided under Governor Kempthorne's community college system initiative.
 4. Dean's council –Institutional 8-year plans are being updated; should review ISU's plan and provide input to chair/dean. The Rendezvous Building is on schedule; Campus Planning has noted that, at this time, no classrooms on the third floor will be equipped with distance learning technology. Faculty development through existing faculty boot camp discussed; want to involve more faculty, provide more opportunity to attend; BSU is starting a faculty development center.
 5. Budget meetings –
 - a. ISU will likely experience \$1.4 million dollar deficit between projected and actual revenue; wants to request a 7.5% tuition increase. BSU and UI will likely request 10% increase; still will not bring their cost per credit to ISU's level; eventually all institutions will be paying the same amount.
 - b. Transit service on campus – ISU will have to renegotiate this service with City of Pocatello due to increased fuel costs. This year ISU will pay the difference out of reserves, however, it may be up to students to pay next year.
 6. There will be an all faculty meeting on Wednesday, April 5th at 4:00 in VA 117. It will be transmitted to Idaho Falls, room CHE313, and Boise, room 138.

- IV. Consent Calendar
 - A. Faculty Appointments to Councils
 - 1. Faculty Professional Policies Council – College of Business (term through 08)
 - B. Minutes of Councils
 - 1. Curriculum Council
 - a. Minutes of February 9, 2006
 - b. Minutes of February 16, 2006
 - 2. Council for Teaching & Learning Minutes of December 6, 2006
 - 3. Athletics Advisory Board Minutes of January 12, 2006
 - 4. Cultural Affairs Council
 - a. Minutes of March 22, 2005
 - b. Minutes of January 20, 2006
 - 5. Campus Planning council Minutes of January 25, 2006
 - 6. Faculty Professional Policies Council Minutes of January 26, 2006
 - 7. Academic standards Council Minutes of February 8, 2006
- ACTION:** Moved and seconded to approve the Consent Calendar except for the Distinguished Professor Draft Policy in the Faculty Professional Policies Council Minutes of January 26, 2006. **Passed unanimously.**
- ACTION:** Moved and seconded to approve the Distinguished Professor Draft Policy. There was discussion to allow faculty members to nominate colleagues for Distinguished Professor. It was noted that guidelines and procedures are needed for verification purposes that the nominees are eligible to receive the distinction.
- ACTION:** Moved and seconded to reword the draft policy to strengthen faculty’s role so they do the initial nomination. **Passed unanimously.**
- ACTION:** Moved and seconded to make the honor a one time increase of \$5,000. **Motion failed, 1 for, 17 against, 2 abstaining.**
- ACTION:** Moved and seconded to limit the number to one a year. **Motion failed, 1 for 19 against.**
- Discussion: ISU has a lot of catching up to do; a limit on nominations would not be helpful at this time. There are probably only 5-10 faculty members on campus who fit this criteria.
- ACTION:** Moved and seconded to table the draft policy for language changes by the Executive Committee. **Passed unanimously.**
- A subcommittee will have to be formed to set guidelines and procedures.
- V. Unfinished Business
 - A. Faculty Salaries - No discussion
 - VI. New Business
 - A. Criteria for Honorary Degrees

Christensen reported on a President’s staff meeting discussion about awarding multiple honorary degrees and the need to clarify and expand upon criteria used in recommending nominees and selecting recipients. The Senate forwarded three nominations for honorary degrees this year. This was due to a backlog from previous years.

ACTION: Moved and seconded to form an ad hoc committee to review the current guidelines. **Passed unanimously.**
 - VII. ADJOURNMENT: 5:55.

Kay M. Christensen, Chair

Connie Patchin,
Administrative Assistant I

Approved: March 20, 2006

Documents:

Faculty Senate Minutes of February 13, 2006

Accreditation Progress Report October 10, 2005

Spring Enrollment 5-year profile (2002-2006)

Chair announcements February 27, 2006

Curriculum Council Minutes of February 9, 2006

Curriculum Council Minutes of February 16, 2006

Council for Teaching & Learning Minutes of December 6, 2005

Athletics Advisory Board Minutes of January 12, 2006

Cultural Affairs Council Minutes of March 22, 2005

Cultural Affairs Council Minutes of January 25, 2006

Faculty Professional Policies Council Minutes of January 26, 2006

Distinguished Professor Draft Policy

Academic Standards Council Minutes of February 8, 2006