The meeting was called to order by Chair Daneshvary at 12:20 p.m. in the Student Union, room 208 AB.


Single Meeting Proxies: Andrew Bell for Liam Frink; Kendall Hartley for Jeff Gelfer; Kathy Lauckner for Carolyn Hensley; Margot Mink Colbert for Peter Jakubowski; Stacey Carillo for Pat LaPutt; Cecilia Maldonado for Shannon Smith; Cheryl Tillotson for Adam Sikula. Long term proxy: Marcia Ditmyer for William Davenport.

Absent: John Filler, Denise Tanata.

Senator Klaassen moved for approval of the minutes of February 24, seconded by Senator Lauckner. They were approved unanimously without correction.

Chair Daneshvary recognized Regent James Leavitt, and speakers President Ashley and Provost Smatresk. Regent Leavitt praised the Senate for being so engaged on budget matters, and said that our administration and others were working hard to minimize cuts to the higher education budget. President Ashley updated the Senate on the recent Town Hall meeting as well as the latest news from the legislature. A budget should be finalized by the legislature in the next several weeks. UNLV is asked to submit more specifics on what programs can be cut, what we can live without, and how a tuition fee increase will impact enrollment. In regard to the stimulus package waiver, higher education is not in favor of it, however, the legislature is. This requires that funding to be the same as 2006, unless the waiver is approved. Chair Daneshvary asked if we will be facing layoffs. Answer: if part 1B of the legislature’s question is implemented, it would mean program cuts of up to 18% (funding at 2006 level) this translates into reductions of 173 faculty and perhaps 25% staff, and a loss of 24% FTE. Provost Smatresk encouraged everyone to attend the student budget rally on March 25. These are important to encourage legislators to support higher education. President Ashley encouraged everyone to continue contacting their representatives.

Chair Daneshvary recognized Jim Lowe, senate chair of NSHE system administration for his support; then introduced Adam Cronis, UNLV Student Body President, and Jessica Lucero, President of the Graduate and Professional Student Association, for presentation of special award plaques recognizing their campus leadership in organizing student efforts to rally legislative funding support for higher education. Chair Daneshvary thanked Roberta “Bobbie” Brown, who is retiring after 11 years at UNLV, for her nearly 4 years of wonderful service to the Faculty Senate. She will be missed. He introduced Michael Hammer, who transferred from Research and Graduate Studies, and will assume Bobbie’s position.
Action items:

Election of 2009-2010 Executive Committee Members
- Vice Chair – Cecilia Maldonado-Daniels (EDU)
- At Large – Paul Traudt (JMS)
- At Large – Bernie Fried (HOA)
- Professional Staff Rep – Cheryl Tillotson (Provost)
- Secretary – Elaine Bunker (LA)

Chair’s Report/Announcements/Information:

- Presidential Evaluation Update – consultant has been hired by the BOR (John Welty, President of California State, Fresno. He will do campus interviews for 2 days beginning April 30 and May 1. His report should go to the BOR approx June 1. The report will incorporate the campus survey results. The CAC has analyzed and prepared a report of the campus survey; no one has seen the report except for the consultant and the Senate chair.

- Grievances Update – all grievances have been completed; only 2 are in process now. The administration has been supportive of the committees’ recommendations.

- Graduate Curriculum Liaison Committee Update – no add’l details yet. The Grad Council has concerns about adding 11 more members from the colleges.

- CAC & PSC Recommendations re: Formation of ad hoc committee – Discussion Chair of the Committee, Senator Robinson, reported that this was the first time the Senate has had full control of the President’s evaluation process. He encouraged the future Senates to protect that process. 744 surveys were submitted, which was more than the last two presidential evaluations combined. That seemed to indicate that faculty and professional staff had confidence in the process.

Senator Robinson encouraged the Senate to create an ad hoc committee to study the governance structure at UNLV as his committee was charged by the Senate. A vote by the Senate was unanimous that a committee be formed. (39 yeas) The next vote was to decide if there should be a formal restriction on the term limit of the co-chairs of the committee; this does not refer to members of the committee. The senate voted 15 for NO restrictions (of having served as an administrator or on Exec Committee in the last 5 years) and 22 in FAVOR of restrictions. Chair Daneshvary asked for more names to be submitted to him for co-chair nominees.

Chair Daneshvary mentioned that SB 279 Compensated Outside Services was introduced that would require that consultants make public the names of their business clients. General Counsel commented that confidentiality agreements may protect them.

Future Action Item:
Bylaws Revision, Chapter III, Time Period for Promotion Recommendations

New Business/Public Comments

Adjournment
Senator Schibrowsky, seconded by Senator Klaassen, moved to adjourn at 2:00 p.m. The next meeting to be held April 14, 2009, in the Student Union, Room 208 A/B at 12:15 p.m., will be the first meeting of the 2009-2010 Faculty Senate.