UNLV 2009-2010 Faculty Senate Minutes
Tuesday, October 27, 2009

A regular meeting of the Senate was called to order by Chair John Filler at 12:15 p.m. in Student Union, room 208-AB.


Single Meeting Proxies: Greg Brown for Andrew Bell (extended proxy); Sara Gordon for Peter Bayer; Gary Larson for Paul Traudt.

Absent: Bernard Fried

Minutes from the September 22nd meeting were approved unanimously.

Speaker:
Chair Filler introduced Executive Vice President and Provost Michael Bowers to discuss the implementation of the furlough program. Classified staff have been taking unpaid furlough (4.6% since July 1). Untenured faculty will be required to take the same 4.6% salary reduction/ unpaid furlough as professional staff (administrative faculty). However, tenured faculty cannot have their salary reduced. Therefore, they may increase workload equivalent to 4.6%. This is approx. ½ course per faculty member per year. Deans have been offered 2 options: teach add’l sections, or teach add’l credit hours. Option choices are to be decided by December 1. Additional workload must be born by tenured faculty since untenured have already had salary reduced. Tenured faculty may also choose to take the salary reduction if they wish. The workload may be spread over two years. Faculty forms have been sent to HR, but may be changed up until late next spring (2010) to allow for those newly tenured or those who may have changed their mind. If tenured faculty take furlough, they cannot get a course reduction. Those on 100% research dollars will have to rewrite their grants for equipment or an assistant. Everyone will participate.

Announcements:
1. Chair Filler stated that it is the position of the Executive Committee and the Senate that there be no exemption to the furlough policy. It is a Board of Regent policy and therefore all should participate including those grant-funded and/or with fee-based income.

2. Dr. Mike Clauretie, Professor of Finance, College of Business, was elected by the Exec Committee to be a faculty rep on the Athletic Director Search Committee through the President’s ofc.

3. Chair Filler asks for names of interested faculty nominees wishing to serve on an Honorary Degree Committee be emailed to him ASAP.

4. Senior Senators Council will be meeting next Monday, November 2nd in FDH 218.
5. Chancellor Dan Klaich will be a guest at the November 17th mtg. Board of Regents Chair Dean Leavitt will guest at the December 8th mtg. Thereafter, a different Regent will be invited to attend each monthly meeting for the remainder of the academic year.

6. The Board of Regents will be meeting at UNLV December 3-4. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Information Item:**

CSUN Textbook Reserve Program - two students, Chris Harrington and Tamera Torres, spoke briefly about a new project to assist students unable to afford books for their classes. Although a survey has yet to be conducted regarding how many are in need of this service, the numbers are increasing. Space is on reserve at the library and additional overflow space is available at the Academic Success Center. Faculty are asked to assist in passing out flyers about the program availability. Senators had several suggestions: faculty could order an extra desk copy and donate it to the program; make a listing on their website if an older text version is acceptable; suggest students use e-books, though costly.

**Action item:**

UNLV Bylaw change: Title 5, Chapter 6, Chapter II, Section 10: Selection of Members of System & Institutional Committees - to consult with faculty prior to appointing acting or interim deans, and associate/assistant deans.

Senator Kraus made an edit name change: Graduate and Professional Student Association in section 10.5.1. General Counsel Linstrom advised that the UNLV Bylaws are no longer approved nor maintained by the System office. This will now have to be assumed by some entity at UNLV. Counsel Linstrom also made a suggestion to assure consistency with the Code by eliminating the second reference to “associate/assistant deans” in section 10.8. Chair Filler stated that once the amendment was passed in substance the legal advisements could be addressed.

Senator S. Smith moved to approve the amendment, seconded by Senator Richards. Discussion followed: statistical background on the amendment is that in 2004 there were 23 asst/assoc deans; in 2008 there were 34; the range for interim (out of 15-18 Deans) is typically 10%- usually 2-4 at any time. Currently, there are 3. 20% in last five years have been selected with no bonafide faculty input.

A motion to limit the interim term to 2 years failed for lack of a second. Senator Fabbi moved to strike the words “In the event of an unsuccessful search” in Section 10.5.1. This was seconded by Senator Carlton. The amendment passed by a vote of 33 yea, 10 nay, 2 abstentions. General Counsel Linstrom clarified that use of the word “shall” is equivalent to “must”.

A vote was called on the amendment as amended. It passed by 42 yea, 2 nay, and 1 abstention. Chair Filler will meet with Counsel Linstrom to make any changes of Code consistency.

**Future Action Items:**

UNLV Bylaw change: Title 5, Chapter 6, Chapter III, Section 16.6 (Time in rank before promotion.) Recommendations by Promotion & Tenure committee.

**New Business:** none

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m. The next meeting of the Senate will be November 17, 2009, in Student Union 208 AB.