The Faculty Senate meeting held on December 11, 2007, in MSU 208 B/C was called to order by Senate Chair Bryan Spangelo at 12:15 p.m.


Single Meeting Proxies: David Wrobel for Maria Casas; Wendy Starkweather for Jennifer Fabbi; Cyndi Giorgis for Cecelia Maldonado; Cheryl Tillotson for Kathy Lauckner; Wolf Bein for Samir Moujaes; Andrew Cornelius for Malcolm Nicol; Al Izzolo for Ken Teeters; Peter Michel for Jason Vaughn.

Absent: Dennis Bazylinski; Peter Bayer; Bernard Fried; Greg Ginn; Mary Warner; Matthew Wright.

Chair Spangelo asked for a moment of silence in memory of distinguished Chemistry Dept faculty member and former UNLV Faculty Senate Chair (2001-02), Dr. Stephen Carper, who recently passed away. A memorial service will be held Thursday in the TAM from 3-5 P.M. for those interested in attending.

Jeff Wells, Director of the UNLV Recreation & Wellness Center, addressed the Senate to invite everyone to visit the new recreation center for a free trial period available in January for faculty and staff. Tours are also available and he hoped everyone would stop by and become familiar with all that the facility has to offer.

Chair Spangelo recognized Senate Secretary Saundra as back from a lengthy illness. Many thanks to Bobbie and Renee for holding the office together while she recuperated.

A motion for approval of the Senate minutes of September 18, 2007, was made by Senator Wrobel and seconded by Senator Bein. They were approved unanimously.

Information

A. Budget Reductions

Guest speakers – Vice President for Finance Gerry Bomotti and Executive Vice President and Provost Neal Smatresk gave a presentation and answered questions on the extent of anticipated budget cuts and their impact on goods and services. The cuts may impact faculty in that it will increase teaching loads and lines may not be filled. Senator Robinson asked why there seems to continue to be an increase in upper level administration at the expense of faculty and other program needs? The Provost stated that this happens as growth impacts a university. Senator Davenport felt that the buildings on campus are not being utilized to the fullest advantage. Everyone agreed that funding is always part of a political process.

Provost Smatresk took an opportunity to apprise the Senate of the voluntary participation of UNLV in a National Association of State and Land Grant Universities and Colleges (NASLGUC) program for measuring student engagement and success.

B. Gen Ed Committee Info Item – The Gen Ed committee wishes to adopt a new policy in regard to persons seeking second baccalaureate degrees and acceptance of their core courses from other institutions.
Action items:

A. **NSHE Title 2, Section 5.12.2 revisions.**
   1. Procedures for faculty evaluation
   
   This item was postponed until a later Senate meeting.

B. **UNLV Bylaws, Chapter III, Section 8.3**
   1. Annual Evaluation of Academic Faculty and Nonacademic Faculty

Several Senators (Robinson, Thistle, Schibrowsky, Pederson, Daneshvary to name a few) discussed this amendment before a motion was made by Senator Richards, seconded by Senator Davenport, to approve the addition to the UNLV Bylaw. It was voted on by a show of hands: 34 yeas, 4 nays, and 1 abstention. The amendment was approved.

Chapter III, Section 8.3  Evaluation by an Administrator. The department chair or supervisor shall write an annual evaluation and present it to the faculty member for review. **For tenure track faculty, the department chair shall meet with the tenured faculty and thereafter incorporate in the chair’s annual evaluation the sense of the tenured faculty on the progress of the candidate towards tenure and promotion. .....**

**Future Action Items:**

A. **NSHE Title 2, Section 5.13.2 revisions**
   1. Annual Performance Evaluation of Tenured Faculty

**New Business**

Senator Davenport asked if the President had yet approved the Senate’s request to allow colleges/schools to have individual Commencement ceremonies in May 08. He reiterated that the professional students of the Dental School were treated in a very inappropriate manner at last year’s ceremony. They do not wish to repeat that again this year. Provost Smatresk stated that he felt one graduation ceremony was the President’s preference. This topic will be discussed at a future Senate meeting.

Senator Schibrowsky moved to adjourn at 1:45 p.m. It was seconded. The next scheduled Senate meeting will be January 22, 2008, in the MSU 208B/C.