A regular session of the Faculty Senate was held on December 12, 2006. Meeting was called to order by Chair Bill Robinson at 12:15 p.m., in the Moyer Student Union, room 208-AB.


Single Meeting Proxies: Georg Mauer for Wolfgang Bein; Gary Larson for Gregory Borchard; Nannette Jimenez for Phil Burns; Mary Warner for Margot Mink Colbert; Paul Thistle for Nasser Daneshvary; Michelle Kuenzi for Kenneth Fernandez; Naomi Thomsen for Bob Sitts; Bill Robinson for Alan Schlottman.

Absent: Ralph Buechler, Steve Phelan, Stan Smith.

Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. Minutes from the November 28, 2006, meeting were approved.

First guest speaker at the meeting was UNLV Women’s Basketball Coach Regina Miller. Coach Miller briefly spoke about the success of the women’s basketball program on the court and in the classroom. Her players practice approx. 20 hours per week and still maintain high GPAs. She brought several young women with her who each introduced themselves, spoke to their aspirations and future career goals, and how much the athletic program means to them. Then to the amusement of the Senators, Coach Miller played a Lady Rebels trivia game by asking some questions related to the Women’s Basketball program. This was met with applause and laughter. Chair Robinson proved he was very much the aficionado and asked his own question which proved a bit more difficult to answer. Coach Miller encouraged all to come out and support the Lady Rebels.

Next guest speaker was UNLV Chief of Police Jose Elique. Chief Elique has been at UNLV since 2000. He worked in the New York City Chief of Police office for 20 years. Also in attendance with Chief Elique was Deputy Director Michael Murray. He described the training of new officers (certified category 1 officers – same as Nevada Highway Patrol officers). They must attend the Police Academy for 6 months, then attend campus field training for an additional 6 months with another officer. It is only at that point they meet the Chief. They are encouraged to interact with the faculty, staff and students. They are on foot patrol, bike, and horse patrol as well. 24 hours a day a Sergeant and 4 officers are on duty. There are 34 positions, that is one officer per 750 students. Chief Elique considers that about 3 officers short. There is one officer on duty at the Shadow Lane campus. Twenty reserve officers work events and that is augmented with Metro officers. Chief Elique considers this a very safe campus and that the needs are being met by the administration. He then opened the floor to questions.

One question concerned campus lighting in the Thomas and Mack parking lot being out for extended periods. This was a concern given recent publicized carjackings that involved a shooting. Chief Elique said that a new system could be used for nonemergencies such as dialing 311 in cases of lighting problems. Deputy Murray stated that contractors are used to change some of those lights and no doubt facilities notifies them. Senator Nicol commented that a Sergeant and four officers seems like stretching the coverage pretty thin for a campus this size. The Chief stated that this meets the standards approved by the International Association of College Law Enforcement Administration. He also felt that his prior training with the Port Authority in New York City and on-going emergency training of UNLV officers with outside agencies ensures that our campus is prepared for possible terrorist situations. Additionally, UNLV PD has a mobile unit available to be used as a command post. Although auto crimes are high, Chief Elique did not feel they were high on campus. He also stated that crime is lower on campus considering the surrounding area. Senator Bayer asked the Chief if he felt he needed more funding to increase his resources. The Chief felt that his funds were adequate at this time.

Action Items:
A. Scheduling Requirements Policy – 6 points
   Prior announcements to students so they will know earlier what will be offered.
   Giving faculty a 90 day notice what they will be teaching.
Priority of scheduling to full time faculty.
Help out tenure-track faculty develop their teaching coursework as much as their research or service.
Avoid overload assignments indiscriminately.
Input from faculty on teaching schedules.

Discussion also followed on room assignment. It seems to be assigned on room size, not on technology needs or location. Students also need to know well in advance when courses will be taught so that they can take a class in a particular semester and plan their graduation date. Class scheduling of regularly offered classes should be easily assigned in advance and not put off to last minute assignment to full-time faculty. Senators had much to discuss on this issue, so it was decided to revisit this at the next meeting.

B. Summer term payroll policy
A handout from payroll was distributed from the Controller’s office that would simplify the payroll process for summer term payroll. It is hoped with advance notice that faculty will be able to plan for the reduced number of checks. Senators discussed the issue at length.

Senator Wilburn moved and it was seconded to approved that the Senate adopt the Contoller’s new Summer Term payroll policy. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Future Action Items:
Regent Wixom should be our guest speaker at the next meeting to discuss the iNtegrate project.
We will have committee task force reports, discuss revision to the UNLV Bylaws – Personnel Committee membership, and full professor criteria.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:45 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2007, in MSU 208-AB at 12:15 p.m.