A regular Faculty Senate meeting was called to order by new Chair Sally Miller at 12:15 p.m. in the Student Union, room 208B-C.


Single Meeting Proxy: Margot Mink Colbert for Peter Jakubowski; Peter Bayer for Sara Gordon; Liam Frink for Karen Harry; Paul Traudt for Gary Larson; Greg Ginn for George Pales; David Hatchett for Eduardo Robleto; William Culbreth for Matt Pedersen; Michael Nussbaum for Rebecca Nathanson.

Absent: Wolf Bein, Cecilia Maldonado excused,

Chair Miller welcomed all new and returning senators. There were no minutes for approval.

Speakers: Liberal Arts Dean Chris Hudgins spoke on a possible pilot program “Rising Junior Writing Competency Testing,” which would be a graduation requirement administered through the Academic Success Center requiring all UNLV bachelor degree graduates exhibit competency in writing. Other institutions have similar programs. For a modest fee ($20) students would be tested once reaching 60 credits, no later than 75 credits. Additional remedies are in place for those unable to pass the exam by the time they reach 90 credits, are ESL students, or registered with the DRC. Examples were distributed of other universities that have similar programs.

President Smatresk gave a brief summary of recent Board of Regents update and those who spoke on behalf of lessening the cuts to higher education. The legislature is due to meet soon. Senators wanted to know if there was hope that anything will be different in the near future. There was not much to hold out hope for in the next two years, in fact, it may get worse. All depends on the revenue stream.

Announcements: Senator Amy Bouchard will be the Senate Parliamentarian. The Faculty Advisory Committee looked at over 600 suggestions from the campus; reviewed and categorized them and gave them to the President, Provost and Senior VP for Finance.
**Unfinished Business:** A motion was made by Senator Spangelo, seconded by Senator Filler, to take a bylaw change off the table from a previous senate meeting. After a brief discussion, Chair Miller called for a vote: The amendment passed with a voice vote of yeas, and 3 nays.

*Faculty Senate Bylaw Amendment to Section 5.0 Article 5: Committees*

5.10 A matter within the jurisdiction of any standing committee must be submitted to that committee by the Chair of the Senate.

5.10.1 The Chair shall allow the committee no more than 60 (sixty) days in which to respond to matters so submitted and shall inform the Senate of the Chair's directions to the committee and the 60 day time period allowed for committee action. This provision shall not restrict the Chair from setting deadlines of shorter periods.

5.10.2 In the event a committee does not recommend action upon any matter so submitted within 60 days or less, said matter may be brought directly to the floor of the Senate for disposition by any senator.

5.11 The timely recommendations of a standing committee upon any matter within its jurisdiction shall be accepted and implemented upon a vote of a majority of the voting senators present.

**Action Items: General Education Proposal** – Senator Bunker, seconded by Senator Fabbi, moved to approved all the UULOs 1-5. The motion passed by a vote of 25 yeas, 20 nays, and 2 abstentions. Senator Bunker next moved to approve part III (Vertical Model), seconded by Senator Fabbi. There was much debate about the first year experience and perhaps dividing the question. An amendment motion was made by Senators Bunker/Fabbi. Senator Fabbi also wished to discuss specifically the introduction of the learning outcomes at the beginning of the curriculum through the first year experience. Senator Frink stated that packaging makes people nervous and motioned to table the amendment. That motion to table was later withdrawn.

A point of order was called by Senator Cochran. Senator Fabbi withdrew her amendment motion. Senator Cochran also withdrew his point of order. Senator Heske made a motion that a body be established to create a framework. A vote was taken and the nays defeated that motion. Senator Robinson moved to replace the original motion by referring it back to the Gen Ed task force. Senator Spangelo amended Senator Robinson’s motion to include a member from the Gen Ed Advisory committee as well. A vote was called. Senator Spangelo’s motion carried with 1 abstention. A vote was called on Senator Robinson’s motion, and it too carried with 3 abstentions. Senator Hatchett suggested that the documents be given to a Gen Ed issues committee. Seconded by Senator Pedersen, the motion carried. Chair Miller will appoint such a group composed of members of the GEAC and Gen Ed committees.

**New Business:** Senator Cochran and others were concerned about future budget cuts and the scramble for bridge monies. He proposed special meetings, Academic Council meetings, and Faculty Advisory Committee meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m. A special senate meeting may be scheduled in May. Retreat will be held August 23, 2011, in Student Union 208-A.