A regular Faculty Senate meeting was called to order by Chair Greg Brown at 12:15 p.m. in Student Union room 208 B-C on Tuesday, November 8, 2011.


Single Meeting Proxy: Paul Werth for Andrew Bell; Fred Krauss for Amy Bouchard; William Culberth for Matt Pedersen; Carolyn Hensley for Mike Wilde.

Absent: none

Action Items –
- Senator Moehring, seconded by Senator Fabbi, moved to approve minutes of October 18, 2011. They were approved unanimously by iclickers.

Informational Items –
- Chair Brown updated the senate on his recent trip to the special BOR meeting of October 21 at Stateline, NV. A highlight of the meeting was the Chancellor sharing with the Regents a nationally endorsed proposal on how to improve higher education by increasing the number of degrees and certificates earned by (Nevada) students. This goal is set by a non-profit, non-partisan “Complete College America” and the National Governor’s Association. NV rate is a low 28% of 25-34 yr olds.
- The importance of “progress measures,” student learning outcomes, performance in required first-year courses, and retention rates are all important issues, among others.
- Senate chairs raised issues of student:faculty ratios; different standards for cc’s vs. universities; faculty recruitment, compensation and retention; and faculty participation in development plans.
- State funding

Continuing issues for the Board of Regents meeting Dec 1&2 at UNLV:
- Low-Yield program policy
- Tenure-on-hire policy for faculty not holding tenure from another institute
  Endorsement from UNLV P&T Committee, October 21, 2011:
  “We unanimously support the language in the proposed policy only if the appropriate faculty continues to be consulted in the process.”
- “F” for non-attendance policy
  Reviewed by UNLV Academic Standards Committee – handout given to Senators stating concerns of the committee which will be shared with the BOR at their December meeting.
- Task Force report on health benefits coverage
- System Compensation Survey
- Legislative Higher Ed Funding Formula Committee to begin work on November 29
- Chancellor’s periodic evaluation; public comment to be heard Nov 16 and 18 at 9 AM.
- Code revision of Chapter 6 (Curricular Review) with proposals directly to the Chancellor
Issues important to the Senate:

- Senior Senators are charged with coming up with a Senate Mission Statement draft
- Committee chairs are reviewing their committee charges and bylaws for updating
- Faculty are asked to nominate outstanding winter graduates for recognition at commencement

**Old Business / Current / Future Business –**

- Several General Education documents continued to be discussed at this meeting. Speakers included Dr. Carryn Bellomo (chair of the Gen Ed Committee), Dr. Carl Reiber (Academic Affairs, Gen Ed Advisory Committee). Discussion continues around the implementation, funding, value, timeline, and assessment of proposed changes. Of greater concern, whether or not the class listings would make the catalog print deadline; change proves to be a passionate discussion.
- President Smatresk indicated that UNLV is approximately ten years behind. If compromise is not achieved so that we can move forward, there are forces who will do it for us, which will impact our budget. He and the Provost stated that the Deans are unanimously ready to work with the faculty; the rewards are significant and it is critical to improve graduation and retention rates. The President will fully back implementation with necessary funding and evaluation.

Chair Brown had several straw polls to informally judge where the senate stood on several issues in regard to the Gen Ed proposals. **Straw Poll #1** Gen Ed curriculum needs reform and I support the current proposal for fall 2012 – 16 votes. **Straw Poll #2** I support the vertical model of GE, which includes both a FY and SY course – 24 votes. **Straw Poll #3** I support adoption of the proposed first year course as a Gen Ed requirement for all students. – 27 votes. **Straw Poll #4** A second year seminar with an intensive reading/writing component should be required within the core, with World Lit as the initial offering, but not as a required course. – 26 votes. **Straw Poll #5** I support the GEC proposal to review all bases as part of broader Gen Ed reform, including FY and/or SY course(s). – 32 votes.

- Following the straw polls, Senator Fabbi, seconded by Senator Montgomery, moved to vote on the action item as a resolution:

  The UNLV Faculty Senate resolves that the undergraduate catalog section on “General Education” shall be modified (as per action item and attachment).

- Senator Robinson, seconded by Senator Farley, moved to amend the resolution to add Section 6:

  A detailed, thorough and on-going Academic Assessment plan of student learning outcomes in the General Education curriculum be conducted and reporting of that data be made to the General Education Committee and the Faculty Senate.

  Senate approved by a vote of 32 yeas, 12 nays, and 1 abstention.

- Senator Traudt, seconded by Senator Cochran, called the question for a vote on the Fabbi resolution. It was approved by a vote of 26 ayes to 15 nays.

**Old Business /Action Item** –Faculty Senate Bylaw Amendment 2.1 – 2.3 vacancy in Executive Committee and Senate term of office –

- Due to lack of time, Senator Filler, seconded by Senator Spangelo, moved to table a vote on the bylaw amendment until the next meeting.

**New Business - due to length of meeting, postponed to a future meeting**

- PEPB

**Public Comment – none**

At 2 p.m. Chair Brown adjourned. Next meeting: December 6, 2011, SU 208-BC @ 12:15 p.m.