

MINUTES  
Faculty Senate Meeting  
November 4, 2003

Chairperson Brower called the meeting to order.

Senate members present: Solko, James, J. Metesh, Brower, A. Stierle, MacLaughlin, Todd. Absent: Leland, Melvin, Mitman.

Others present: Chancellor Gilmore.

Brower noted that the minutes of the October 28 meeting had been approved and posted.

MacLaughlin gave the report from the first meeting of the Student Teaching Evaluation Committee (students' evaluation of courses/ instructors) which met yesterday. The student at-large from the North campus cannot make the meeting times. A. Stierle is seeking out a replacement. MacLaughlin was selected the chair of the committee. The committee's charge is to determine appropriate questions for the instrument and the means of disseminating the instrument to the students -- i.e. time of semester, medium (hard copy vs. electronic), percentage of responses from enrolled students (it is currently set at 80%). The committee is concerned that all affected by the evaluation keep in mind that it is only one part of a multi-faceted evaluation process. The purpose, according to the Chancellor's comments to the committee is more formative than summative. They will be reviewed for promotion and tenure purposes but will be used primarily for course and teaching improvement.

MacLaughlin noted that the IIC has a meeting on Monday, November 10, at 9:00 a.m. This committee will be tied into the evaluation review process along with the Faculty Senate.

Some discussion was held with the handling of the Faculty Senate folder materials. It was decided that things that were short enough and easy to copy would be shared in copy form with the South campus. For items that are longer in length or are not easy to copy, those would be made available on only the North campus and for in-Library use only.

Discussion moved to the proposed HPER policy. Chancellor Gilmore said that North campus students are assessed a \$2.10 per credit HPER fee. The South campus students do not pay this fee. James shared the information he gathered with the consensus being that most feel that the proposed policy is pretty good. Several concerns were addressed that weren't clear from the draft policy. Chancellor Gilmore said that both the HPER and SUB run in the red. All employees, including part-time faculty, and all retirees with at least 15 years of service would be provided HPER access at no charge. However, some fee is necessary for maintenance, cleaning, and repairs for the HPER. After some discussion of a flat fee vs. a per-person charge, it was determined that spouses and dependents would probably need to pay some sort of user fee. A motion was made that we adopt a singular, flat annual fee for spouses and any number of dependents that is to be used exclusively for HPER maintenance. The fee is to be kept as low as possible to be instituted in the amount of \$75.00. Motion was seconded. Additional discussion revealed that data is being collected as the Digger Cards are being used. That data can be reviewed each year to determine the appropriate level of the fee. A vote was taken with six senators voting for the motion and one voting against it.

Brower asked Chancellor Gilmore what he had in mind when he suggested a workshop on faculty governance. The Chancellor said he merely thought that some sort of session explaining shared governance might be beneficial for people on the Tech campus. He said he had no time frame or any specific presenter in mind. He felt that money from the Foundation's professional development fund could help to finance such an event. Senate members agreed that such a workshop could generate more involvement in the affairs of the campus and will look at possibilities of a workshop in spring semester.

The next meeting will be held at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 18.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise E. Solko  
Secretary