

Minutes of the Meeting of the General Faculty on February 6, 2008

A quorum being noted, the meeting was called to order by Pres. Wilson at 4:09 pm.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved.

Curriculum Council — consent agenda

- The Japanese courses were pulled from the consent agenda for faculty consideration.

Nominating Committee --- Prof. M. Chapman

- The Committee has distributed a written report.
- Thanks to those who sent preference forms.
There is still room for more volunteers for elective office.
- Question: Is the due date for forms February 15th?
Response: Yes.
- An election for nominating committee is scheduled. There were no nominations from the floor..
- An election for Curriculum Council is scheduled. Ballots were distributed and picked up.
- Question: Why was there a noon deadline instead of a 3p.m. one for turn in of absentee ballots?
- Response: Because I'm not on campus in the afternoon this semester.
- Question: What's happening with electronic voting?
- Response: Nothing has happened; it is still open item on our agenda.

CUPP --- Prof. Kearney

- A written report has been distributed.
- CUPP is making progress and still inviting dialogue on the issues described.
- Comment: Those establishing a job description for a Dean of Curriculum should have a good conversation with directors of May term etc.
- Question: What happens to diversity with the change in emphasis of the job?
- Response: We need so many things done to achieve diversity that one person is unlikely to be able to do the full job, so we have leaned toward dealing with diversity more comprehensively—
without giving a title to one person. We would welcome suggestions to help formalize ideas too.
- Comment: CUPP is discussing diversity more broadly than what took place at our [social sciences] division meeting.
- Remark: There is some open-endedness in terms of the number of positions, but probably one individual at the deans level with a staff support position.
- Comment: There was some brainstorming at our meeting with CUPP regarding hiring strategies and having a resource person.
- Comment: Diversity as a one-person position is not how it is on many campuses, but it's shared as a goal on campus. So what do we want this person to do as dean of curriculum?
- Response: There are pockets on campus that do not feel they have a voice. There is still a lack of consensus on where we are going as a campus, and this person may have a role in determining that.

- Comment: At our division meeting with CUPP, we were talking about something like an affirmative action office but with economic and international diversity too. Diversity is still a shared need.
- Question: From the perspective of a department chair, what would be the relationship between a Dean of Curriculum and the department? Is this a top down movement for curriculum development?
- Comment: In our [science] division meeting we were not sure what we can do for accountability when it comes to diversity. The best thing to do is to have good jobs for candidates. Wouldn't it be nice if the new [Dean] would help departments get resources for curriculum
- Comment: There is no clear articulation as to meaning of diversity. Constitutionally curriculum development is the responsibility of faculty.
- Comment: I'm encouraged reading CUPP minutes as support for faculty voice; it's a good start.
- Comment: I see this not at imposed from above, but respecting a sense of what's going on across campus; this person could be such a facilitator. Such a person could help in the dialogue between departments with new interdisciplinary studies.
- Question: What is the time-line for making a decision and for the search?
- Response: CUPP would like to wrap up faculty discussion this year.
- Provost Response: I'd like to advertize next year to fill for the following academic year.
- President's comment: The Provost and I do not want central administration mandating curriculum.

Promotion and Tenure Committee — Prof Bollivar

- PAT has distributed a written report.
- Question: Are there workshops this spring?
- Response: Yes, typically on reading day at the end of the semester

Faculty Development Committee — Prof. Theune

- FDC has distributed a written report.
- There were no questions for the Committee.

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- _____ has distributed a written report.
- Question: Are there any more specific lists with regard to areas.
- Response: Yes.

Curriculum Council — Prof. A. Schultz

- The description of the Japanese courses says credit to be discussed with faculty member. In Hispanic Studies the rule is "and approval by department head" before departure. This was adopted as a friendly amendment.
- Question: Re/ Japanese 310 and writing-intensive credit, is this course writing-intensive at a level that we expect or it more basic literacy?

- Response: CC is satisfied that requirements for the course are sufficient for writing-intensive credit.
- Comment: It is equivalent to what's done in other language courses.
- As the motion was from a committee, no second was required. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved by hand vote.

Provost Cunningham's Remarks

- Good January discussions with CUPP regarding the new position.
- Getting ideas to percolate up is important. Should CUPP be the interface with the administration? The Administration can increase communication by Lunch with the Provost. Open forums are also a good idea, and we will probably have one this semester again. I meet with chairs individually and as division groups. I remain open to other communication-facilitation.
- I expect to announce appointment of a Writing Director soon.
- Re/ hiring: We've filled three positions so far and have another offer out. Two searches will be continued next year. We're waiting on other on-going searches.
- We're also waiting to hear about funding for writing.

Professors Boyd and Schmidt will talk about the IWU digital depository.

Effort began in Ames Library. Looking for efficient storage and sharing of artifacts related to what we do at IWU. Looking at multiple platforms. Decided on B-Press as the firm and will set up a digital commons. Way of insuring that student and faculty work is available outside IWU.

Students interviewing in graduate settings are expected to have digital, rather than hard copy, materials. We need to help them. Admissions would love to be able to show student film clips, research work, etc. Advancement would love to be able to show what students and faculty are doing with digital media. Our focus on including student work appears to be distinctive. So we're getting some national exposure in this regard. Other invitees to the Knightly (sp?) meetings in April are from the Top 50.

Sample tour was presented, and workshops will follow.

President Wilson's Remarks

- Dean Cavins said that students impacted by the dorm fire are taken care of. Two students lost almost everything. The fire had no human factor of origin. Students are unlikely to get back into the house this Spring as it will need extensive rewiring.
- VP Kurz announced the new university web site will likely be up mid week. Redevelopment will continue.
- Pres. Wilson reminded the faculty that Feb 19 is Founders Day. Cake and ice cream will be served in the Main Lounge followed by a rededication of the lounge. The lecture by James Hansen (sp?) follows. We're trying to find a better way to plan for faculty attendance in processional and the number of rows of seats that should be reserved..
- Salary policy. This is the last year of the additional draw and enrollment was a small shortfall that was \$800,000 off projected budget. We've managed to cover all by \$200 000 of that. Recent pay raises have been 3%, then 3.5%, now asking for authority to go up to 4% for next year. Still watching the stock market, the annual fund, and applications/acceptances. So my plan is to ask Trustees in February for budget authority but delay making salary commitments

- until April 1st. We've budgeted for 3, for 3.5 and for 4 percent increases.
- Question: Is this the across-the-board percentage or the total salary pool increment?
 - Response: It is for the salary pool that includes promotion increments and more.
 - Question: Can you comment on competitive salaries at ISU? We look at acceptable gaps locally each year don't we?
 - Response: Yes, we do.

Old Business

- none

New Business

- none

The meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

These Minutes are respectfully submitted by
Bill Walsh, Faculty Secretary