Faculty Senate Minutes, October 6, 2010 (Draft)

Faculty Senate
Eastern Michigan University

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Faculty Senate DRAFT minutes for 10-6-10 meeting:

1. Agenda approved unanimously.
2. Minutes of 9-15-10 meeting approved, with a few corrections, with 1 abstention.
3. Appointments:
   a. no nominees for Security Advisory Committee.
   b. Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Committee: a paper ballot was conducted, and Ron Flowers was elected to the term ending in May 2012, and Howard Booth was elected to the term ending May 2011.
   c. For a opening on the Faculty Development Advisory Board, to replace Lisa Klopfer, the election was postponed to determine if the seat needs to be filled by a library faculty member.
   d. To replace Lidia Lee on the Student Success Council, Jennifer Desiderio (Spec Ed) was elected unanimously.
   e. For the graduate dean search committee, Ellen Koch (psych) was elected, and Claudia Petrescu, polisci, was elected as alternate.
   f. Professor Kunal Banerji was elected as Membership Secretary of the Faculty Senate (and put to work right away performing those duties.)
   g. David Crary was elected to cochair EEFC, the Facilities Committee.

4. Question of Dean of the Library/university librarian title:
   Provost Kay was asked about whether this proposed change of names would mean other jobs were also to be created; he replied that no new positions were being proposed and adding any new positions would be hard financially.
   Mark Higbee moved to substitute the statement of the Library Faculty for the motion brought forward by the Faculty Senate Executive Board; Sandy Norton seconded this motion. It was passed 19 in favor, 4 against, 3 abstentions. The motion was then passed unanimously. It reads as follows:

   “The University Faculty Senate endorses the proposed change of job titles from University Librarian to Dean of the Library, for reasons described in the following statement by the Library Faculty:
   “The University Library faculty unanimously supports the proposed change in title from ‘University Librarian’ to ‘Dean of the Library.’ The University Librarian’s primary responsibilities include:
   *Leading an organization that supports the teaching and research needs of all academic units on campus (all colleges, the Graduate College, the Honors College, and Extended Programs and Educational Outreach).
   *Participating in setting university-wide initiatives for teaching, learning, and research support.
   *Developing and maintaining productive relationships with external constituencies (donors, alumni, local community) and internal stakeholders (colleges and departments, student organizations, other university divisions).
The library is essential to student learning and research at EMU. Having the top administrator in the Library designated as a dean positions him or her to participate fully in dean-level planning, discussions, and meetings, ensuring that the Library’s resources and services are fully integrated with the educational goals of all the colleges.”

5. Discussion of designating the head of the Honors College as “Dean.” Much discussion over what title “dean” at EMU means. Some sentiment in favor of current title, “Director of Honors,” some in favor of changing it. No action.

6. A proposal from the FSEB to create a new “Student Computer Literary Committee” was amended from the floor to be a “Student Computer, Information, and Technology Literacy Committee”. – It was then passed unanimously, reading as follows:

“The Faculty Senate hereby creates the Student Computer, Information, and Technology Literacy Committee.
DRAFT Charter for the Committee:
Purpose: To study the means of ensuring that all students (especially first year students) have sufficient computer, information, and technology skills to succeed in their studies.
Rationale: The Faculty Senate passed a resolution in November 2008, expressing concern about an insufficiency of computer, information and technology skills in some students.
Goal: Provide a report to the Faculty Senate no later than February 1, 2011, that provides actionable suggestions for how such literacy can be assured. At that time, the Faculty Senate will consider whether to disband, continue, or reconfigure the committee.
Membership:
Chair – a member of the Faculty Senate.
One member from the library, one from each college, and two from CAS.
One member appointed by the Provost.
Meetings: weekly or biweekly.”

7. The Faculty Senate Executive Board brought forth a resolution of support for creating an Academic Affairs Steering Planning Committee. One sentence was added from the floor. The resolution thus read, “The Faculty Senate supports the creation of the Academic Affairs Steering Planning Committee, as mentioned by Provost Kay at the Faculty Senate meeting of 9-15-10. The committee would consist of 13 members, 7 appointed by the Faculty Senate, 1 by the Graduate Council, and the other 5 by the provost. The Senate appointees should consist of 2 from CAS, and 1 from each other college and the library. The committee should provide the Faculty Senate with a written formal charter within 2 months of its first meeting. The charter should clearly indicate the relationship between the Committee and the Faculty Senate.”
8. Addressing the controversy sparked by a cartoon in the EASTERN ECHO, a motion was made by Mahmud Rahman, and a friendly substitute motion was made by Sally McCracken, and accepted by Prof Rahman. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. It reads, “The Faculty Senate encourages a respectful conduct in the exercise of freedom of expression on our campus, therefore we support the EMU community in promoting an understanding that diversity is our strength and our common destiny is in unity, mutual respect, and inclusiveness.”

9. Remarks by Provost Jack Kay: 1) many thanks to all who attended the all Academic Affairs Division social event on October 5, which was a big success; 2) noted that the recent Student Academic Success Summit of Sept 23 was well attended by faculty and staff, and included a very participatory Town Hall Forum; and 3) in response to reports at the Sept. 15 Senate meeting, the problem of McKenny lacking wireless capacity for instructional purposes has been addressed and fixed.

10. For the upcoming Facilities Committee’s swing space meeting, a variety of concerns were voiced.

Attendance:

Respectfully submitted by FS secretary Mark Higbee