College of Education Senate  
University of Northern Iowa  

January 28, 2008  

Minutes #362  

I. Call to Order  

The meeting of the College of Education Senate was called to order by Kurt Meredith, Chair, at 3:25 P.M. on Monday, January 28, 2008 in the Dean’s Conference Room in Schindler Education Center, Room 205.  

Senators in attendance [in bold]  
Dave Christensen [At large]  
Rod Dieser [At large]  
Dave Else [ELCPE]  
Kim Knesting [At-large]  
Elana Joram [EPF]  
Chris Kliewer [SPED]  
Kurt Meredith, Chair [C&I]  
Rick Vanderwall [TCHG]  
Windee Weiss [HPELS]  
Robin Lund [At-large]  

Alternates in attendance [in bold]  
Susan Hudson  
Robert Decker  
Rob Boody  
Amy Staples  
Penny Beed  
Bridgette Wagoner  
Nancy Hamilton  
Kevin Finn  

Ex-Officio Members in attendance  
Dr. Biff Williams, Associate Dean  

Guests  
Suzanne Freedman  

II. Approval of Minutes of December 27, 2007 [#361]  

It was moved by Kliewer and seconded by Vanderwall that the minutes [#361] of the December 17, 2007 meeting be approved as read. All ayes. Motion carried.  

III. Reports/Announcements  

A. Seating of Alternate: Freedman recused herself from the meeting. Meredith stated that Knesting will be absent this semester for ‘special circumstances’. It was then moved by Vanderwall and seconded by Else that Freedman serve as the alternate for Knesting. All ayes.
Motion carried. Freedman then rejoined the meeting. Also, the Senate expressed its best wishes for a speedy recovery to Dean Callahan.

B. **Status of Provost Search:** Meredith reported that he spoke with Henning concerning the status of the Provost search. There is apparently a very good response to the search in terms of applicants and the Search Committee is now selecting the first and second pool. It is hoped that on campus interviews with finalists will begin in April.

### IV. Old Business

A. **CHFA Support in University Senate Meeting:** In regard to the CHFA memo discussed at the last Senate meeting, Meredith reported that Christensen did carry the COE Senate message to the University Senate. However, there was not an opportunity for full discussion at that meeting and it was hoped that the topic would be discussed at today's meeting. Meredith also stated that the CHFA people were pleased that we responded to their memo.

B. **Elections:** Vanderwall reported that the election process continues to move forward. The process will be open until February 23. Nominations can be submitted in writing, but he would also like to have an electronic copy. Voting will begin online March 3\textsuperscript{rd} and continue for the next 2-3 weeks. He encouraged Senators to canvas constituents for a good slate of candidates. Meredith stated that optimally we should have more than one nominee per opening. There is some uncertainty if Boody will run for another term on the Graduate Studies Committee and, with another curriculum cycle beginning that will involve the Graduate Studies Committee, we need a person to serve on this committee who is interested in graduate studies. Also, Vanderwall stressed that the Committee is open to questions about process, etc.

C. **“Next Steps” Conversation/Senate Goals:** Callahan has asked all departments to identify goals. Meredith urged the Senators to ask their constituents if they have ideas for goals that they would like to put forward. Vanderwall says he is still receiving input and would like additional time. Joram questioned if these are department goals or Senate goals? Possible goals identified include:

1. Else stated that he would like to find some conformity on promotion and tenure. This issue was discussed last fall and he knows it is a difficult issue. However, it is a question that has come up in various units. The goal is to ensure that there is clarity among the departments/schools. Kliewer questioned how the Senate could promote this? Meredith responded that
the Senate could act as the ‘mechanism’ to hammer this out. He stated that this issue also comes up in the University Senate in terms of trying to find common ground. Considerable discussion took place on the ‘vagueness’ of this process. Joram and Kliewer volunteered to collect other PAC agreements, review them, and write a report.

2. Else also voiced a concern that the College has lost so many lines in the past several years and whether there were some initiatives we could take to recapture some of these lines.

3. Kliewer thinks the Senate could play a role in identifying a more diverse faculty. Vanderwall suggested that the College identify someone to work on recruitment, both with faculty and with students.

4. Meredith also suggested internationalization of curriculum, faculty, student population, etc.

5. Joram brought up faculty research and support for faculty professional development.

There was consensus to table this for the February agenda.

V. New Business

A. Parking Issues: Else voiced concern with the current parking problems outside Schindler Education Center. Part of the problem occurred when Public Safety created a “B” lot within the Schindler “A” lot thereby reducing the available “A” lot parking spaces by 50 parking spaces. When in a rush, some students are parking in the “A” lot which only exacerbates the problem. Else was uncertain what role the Senate could play in this situation and whether we even have the right to protest the addition of the “B” parking spaces. However, there was some agreement that we need to make Public Safety aware that this is a concern of the faculty. Vanderwall also reported that the 23rd & Campus Street lot will be closed for two years.

VI. Dean’s Report

In Dean Callahan’s absence, Dr. Williams reported:

- COE faculty searches are currently in process. One search is finished and several more are in the interview process.
- Faculty Travel and Research Grants are now available. There are limited funds available to faculty. Forms to apply for these funds are being finalized. Also we are in the process of creating the same procedure for students who are being given an award, making a
presentation in collaboration with faculty, etc. Those funds will be available to students on a limited basis.

- We are looking at ‘who we are’ and a ‘wish list’ to help identify our primary focus. The entire university is focused on the College of Education as a top priority of the university. We are currently working with Marketing & Public Relations to create a new web site. A committee is being formed to get the main template installed and it is hoped to have it running within six months. Williams urged faculty to delay creating new Web pages so that there will be a consistency of COE web pages.
- The COE magazine has now been mailed to alumni with another issue planned for next summer.
- There is a focus on graduate programs; i.e., where our programs stand – strengths and weaknesses – and how to make them better with outcomes to justify our programs.
- Williams stated that, in addition to Dr. Tom Berg’s long-time involvement with COE Scholarships, we now have a Scholarship Committee comprised of Williams, Kathy Oakland, and Kathy Klein. With Berg’s upcoming retirement, there will eventually be just one Scholarship Committee. At present if we do not spend our scholarship monies, they will revert to Financial Aid. Consequently, the Scholarship Committee has tried to coordinate with department chairs what monies are available, what is being awarded, what is being spent, etc. Most of those scholarships were for minority students which should be a help to us.

VII. **Upcoming Meeting Dates**

February 18, 2008  
March 24, 2008  
April 21, 2008

VIII. **Other Dates to Remember**

March 17-21, 2008  Spring Break  
May 10, 2008  Commencement

IX. **Adjournment**

The next meeting of the COE Senate will be held on Monday, February 18, 2008 at 3:15 P.M. in the Dean’s Conference Room in Schindler Education Center. It was moved by Vanderwall and seconded by Kliwer that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was then adjourned at 4:29 P.M.
Respectfully submitted,

Mary-Sue Bartlett
Secretary

:msb