Present: Robert Erffmeyer, Gloria Fennell, Andrea Gapko, Susan Harrison, Robert Hollon, Robert Hooper, Rose Jadack, Steven Majstorovic, Donald Mash, Scott Robertson, Linda Spaeth, Todd Stephens, Steve Tallant, Karen Welch, Jean Wilcox

Absent: Connie Russell

Guests: Robert Bolles, Donald Christian, Jan Morse, Katherine Rhoades, Andrew Soll

The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Harrison at 3:03 p.m. on Tuesday, November 2, 2004 in the Presidents Room of Davies Center.

1. Minutes of October 19, 2004 approved as distributed

2. Open Forum
   - Deans Christian and Rhoades outlined proposal on University General Education Committee (UGEC) membership in response to charge from senate at last meeting
     - Working group included four deans and two faculty senators from each college
     - Have informal, but not formal, approval from all faculty involved
     - Proposed UGEC membership
       - Six members from College of Arts and Sciences
       - Two members from College of Business
       - Two members from College of Education and Human Sciences
       - One member from College of Nursing and Health Sciences
       - One student
     - Rationale was that College of Education and Human Sciences added three departments and 35 faculty, while College of Nursing added one department and five faculty
     - Deans comfortable with twelve person committee – confident compromise can be reached on those issues where committee split
     - Tie vote fails
     - Proposal will be returned to full body of senate when completed

3. Review of tentative agenda for November 9, 2004 meeting of University Senate
   - Consensus to approve agenda as distributed, pulling UGEC membership item

4. Proposed language on University Senate balance
   - Language includes term strong majority of faculty
     - Strong (or super) majority generally considered a two-thirds majority; this just short of that
   - Language a major leap because goes from proportional to set numbers
   - Don’t understand what was broke that we are fixing
   - Do need to make changes to reflect reorganization and elimination of Chapter 37 language
   - Situations where two-thirds vote required mainly parliamentary – suspending rules, ending debate, etc.
   - Last year, senate acted on 34 motions
     - Only academic staff voted on three
     - Only faculty voted on twenty-four
     - Leaves seven actions voted on by both groups
     - Number in each group pretty irrelevant
MOVED by Vice Chair Gapko and seconded that handout (green) proposing the number of University Faculty and University Academic Staff senators reflect 10% of University Faculty and University Academic Staff, respectively be accepted as a substitute motion.

Debate
- Without five percent clause, would have to change size of senate every year – can’t imagine that job
- Will always be a year behind
- We look at numbers every year anyway
- Over last 15 years, faculty numbers have continued to decline and academic staff numbers continued to rise
- If trend continues, representation on University Senate will be dominated by academic staff
- If really want to increase influence, could grant faculty status to instructional academic staff
- Not sure fixing University Senate numbers fixes increased role of academic staff

Motion DEFEATED.

MOVED by Senator Wilcox and seconded to leave constitution as is and change the bylaws to reflect the changes in reorganization of colleges in at-large positions.

Motion DEFEATED.

MOVED by Senator Hooper and seconded to remove items 4b. and 4c. in constitution and fix the numbers in the bylaws.

Debate
- Gives Executive Committee larger responsibility to determine what representation looks like, but doesn’t box in

Motion PASSED by vote of 8 for, 3 against.

TEXT OF MOTION
Faculty and Academic Staff Handbook Twenty-first Edition, October 2004
Faculty and Academic Staff Organization Chapter 3, Page 11

4. Senator Balance
Each year the Senate Executive Committee will review the size of the University Senate and distribution of senators, as described in the Bylaws of the University Senate. The percentage of University Faculty senators and the percentage of University Academic Staff senators within the University Senate shall reflect, as close as possible, the percentage of University Faculty and the percentage of University Academic Staff, respectively, within the total number of University Faculty and University Academic Staff eligible to vote. To monitor these percentages, the following steps shall be followed:

a. Each spring the Senate Executive Committee or authorized representatives will work with the appropriate administrators to determine the numbers of University Faculty and University Academic Staff eligible to vote using the official frozen file created the previous fall for that academic year. ( Eligibility to vote is defined in Article One: Section D and Article Two: Section D of this constitution.)

Based on this information, recommendations pertaining to the size and distribution of senators may be made.

b. The Senate percentages will be compared to the eligible-to-vote percentages.

c. If the Senate percentages differ by more than five percent from the eligible-to-vote percentages, the Senate Executive Committee shall recommend to the University Senate the necessary minor adjustments to the number of University Faculty and University Academic Staff senators at large to maintain the proper percentages.

All any recommendations for changes in the number and distribution of senators at large and procedures for implementing the changes must be approved by the University Senate. Upon approval, such changes shall be reflected in the spring elections of senators at large.
Continued Discussion

- Trying to preserve faculty role – don’t want faculty to be punished by redistribution
- Academic staff work within College of Business very well
  - All work together and trust each other
  - Don’t see case here – not a big difference
- Diminishing number of faculty is issue for all – even academic staff
  - Alienating academic staff and creating an us vs. them environment will not help
- Work with academic staff that put in long hours for low pay – they don’t have time to donate to business of department
  - Faculty feel strongly about decrease in size – could become morale problem
- Academic staff group feels same way – wants equal representation
- No rationale for two-thirds/one-third
- Faculty have special role on campus that academic staff do not have – curriculum, faculty/student collaborative research, special activities outside class, etc.
  - Would like to see that special place at university maintained
  - Not belittling academic staff and their tremendous contributions
  - University will not be as strong if faculty continues to decline
- Role of faculty, academic staff and students set by statute – if numbers are changing then that is what we need to look at

Without objection, will postpone continued discussion to next meeting and postpone item #5 on agenda so College of Arts and Sciences faculty may attend college meeting.

6. Transition of Academic Affairs Responsibilities

- No urgency – will bring item back in two weeks
- Typically have these consultations when change titles or create positions
  - Provost Satz returning to Academic Affairs
  - Steve Tallant returning to former position of Associate Vice Chancellor
  - Andrew Phillips remaining as Interim Associate Vice Chancellor
- Fine-tuning of all roles to be worked out
  - Some additional issues include continuing education and graduate programs

Without objection, discussion to continue next week.

7. Miscellaneous Business – None

8. Announcements – None

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Wanda Schulner
Secretary of the University Senate