The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Harrison at 3:03 p.m. on Tuesday, November 30, 2010 in the Alumni Room of Davies Center.

1. Minutes of November 16, 2010 approved as distributed

2. Open Forum
   - None

3. Review of tentative agenda for December 7, 2010 meeting of University Senate approved with the deletion of the ULEC proposal to delete the subcategories in GE motion

4. Concerns with class start date of fall semesters in upcoming calendars
   - 2014-2015 calendar
   - Dr. Vogeler discovered Summer Interim while listed as three weeks was actually two weeks
   - Will need to move some things around to accommodate this

   Without objection a correction will need to be made in the 2014-2015 printed calendar to change the last day of classes of summer interim in 2015 from June 5th to June 12th. Summer session will then start on Monday June 15th and end on Friday Aug. 7th, not Monday June 8th and Friday July 31st as currently presented.

   - Another concern was brought up on the start date in coming calendars about the number of days that we are inviting new students to be campus with no academic work to do prior to the start of the semester
   - Weekends and holidays creates a risk
   - Vice Chancellor Hellwig was contacted by Housing/Residence Life Department and their main concern is having students move in the residence halls up to 5 days prior to classes
     - Have to think about New Student Orientation and Phase Two as this is a critical piece of whatever we decide
   - Through the year 2017 there is only one year where we begin classes on a Wednesday
   - 5 out of the next 6 years have the same pattern
   - Behavioral issues arise when students are here so many days prior to classes
   - According to state statutes we have to start on the Tuesday after Labor Day unless the 2nd of September falls on a Wednesday or a Thursday
   - There are problems with students coming in the weekend before Labor Day and had Phase Tow orientation on Monday and Tuesday and Wednesday with nothing and classes started Thursday
   - The problem is when they have to come in on a Wednesday night
   - Phase Two is hard to replicate over the weekend
   - Discussion seems to be involving starting classes even later but there must be alternate ways that this could be handled
   - Questioning if Phase two can count as a class day
   - Some don’t want to see any instructional days cut out of the calendar as it is already a short semester
   - Phase Two committee is not in support of taking an instructional day
• We are talking about 4000 students that live in the residence halls but Phase Two is only for freshman and transfer students
• On many campuses school does meet over Labor Day then staff could be given a floating holiday
  • Faculty union may have a say
  • May need to check with Administration to have Phase Two on the Labor Day holiday and classes start on Tuesday
  • Most likely not an option
  • Calendars are locked in for the current year and the subsequent 2 years
  • Classified staff would have a say in that as well
  • This would impact hundreds of people
• Need to continue this discussion
• Need to minimize the risks to our students when this is their first time away from home
• Residence Life as well as other offices could come up with some ideas too
• There has not been any talk at System of revisiting the Sept 2nd legislative requirement
  • Is a massive inconvenience for us every year
  • The topic hasn’t been raised but it doesn’t mean that it can’t be raised
  • Chancellor will bring this up at the next chancellors meeting
  • The Faculty/Academic Staff Reps will bring this up at their meetings as well
  • If losing instructional days due to furloughs then we need to make them up some how

5. Ensuring support for previously approved initiatives; governance role when funding sources change behind previous governance-approved initiatives
• What happens if funding does not come through for programs deemed necessary
• The email talk about defunding but was there funding for this at some point or any point
  • Differential tuition funded the position through Service Learning
  • Student Senate reduced the position to 50% and now they want to reduce it further
  • Are many advisory committees that make recommendations then they go into the Provost’s budget but
don’t see this as meeting the test of “policies”
  • They have been getting less than they wanted/needed and feel that the program is in jeopardy
• The topic was brought up to answer the bigger question of: if we agree that something is of importance then should we fund it
• Assumption is if one is in the fourth quartile then one will not get any funding
• When you have graduation requirements then you need certain things to support it
• Like many unfunded mandates requirements are finally weakened/changed and it was finally changed
• Illustrates the difficult relationship between funding decisions and governance decisions
• Service Learning was originally not identified as needing a position at all but the students stepped up and funded it with their differential tuition dollars but then they later decided to pull back on that funding so it really doesn’t seem like this is a governance issue
• Differential tuition and the Blugold Commitment process does not simply end with the Student Senate as that is a recommendation to the Administration
• Reviewed by the Chancellor in conjunction with the Vice Chancellors
• If there is something that is absolutely critical to the institution and Blugold Commitment tries to defund it then could be treated more like base funding
  • May come in terms of enhancement activities versus positions or operating expenses
• Chancellor is ultimately responsible for the programs and funding decisions of the university
• Concern that there are a number of projects that are not community based that have been approved through Service Learning
• Tutoring is allowed
• Our students need to be given credit for their dedication and are matched by none for their seriousness of purpose
  • By and large they do a really good job of carefully thinking about costs and benefits of every way that their dollars are spent and this includes differential tuition
  • Every year they ask for accountability and demonstrated effectiveness of all these programs and year after year the Student Senate leaders were not persuaded that Service Learning was a good return on their investment for whatever reason so its loss of funding reflects that
• Unclear if Don Mowry is trying to get funding for Service Learning or Civic Engagement
• Seems like he is prejudging where this whole process will end up before the process has run its course
• The students end vote is not the end of the process as it still goes to the Chancellor
• Don Mowry would need to be present to clarify further discussion
• Need to figure out the future of the program before funding is decided
• How are we going to meet our mission is the question

6. Miscellaneous Business
   • None

7. Announcements
   • Athletic event tickets are still available at the service desk
   • Tobacco-free discussion is taking place right now in the Davies Theatre
   • Mike Rindo has now been approved, for up to 3 years, to serve as the Assistant Chancellor for Facilities
     and will also keep title of Executive Director of University Communications
     • There is fundamentally no salary change
   • Ric Gonzales’s title has been changed from Campus Planner to Director of Facilities Planning
   • Student Center materials go out for bid and bids due January 11th
     • Goal to begin construction in the spring semester

Meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Submitted by,

Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate