Members Present:


Members Absent:


Guests:

January Boten, Kevin Gatzlaff, David Hart, Kathy Mitchell, Marilyn Skrivseth, Barbara Stevens, Spectator Staff Member

The regular meeting of the University Senate was called to order by Chair Harrison at 3:45 p.m., Tuesday, January 27, 1998 in the Tamarack Room of Davies Center. The meeting followed the University Faculty and Academic Staff meeting called by Interim Chancellor Smelstor.

I. The minutes of the December 9, 1997 meeting were approved as distributed.

II. Response of Interim Chancellor Smelstor concerning ITM overdrawn budget:

- Deficit of approximately $350,000 in ITM budget at this point
- ITM total budget approximately $6.2 million
- Why--expected money from State not forthcoming; expended dollars in areas not planned
- Plan in place to end deficit spending
- Goal is not to cut because never catch back up
- Looking at every current expenditure and aggressively obtaining external funds

III. Report of the University Senate Chair and Faculty Representative - Susan Harrison:

- No report due to canceled Board of Regents meeting, rescheduled Faculty Reps meetings, and no issues in Open Forum of Senate Executive Committee

IV. Report of the Senate Executive Committee - Senator Lunde

- Current bylaws mix references to University Faculty and University Senate
- Some of current bylaws no longer reflect current practices
- Propose to divide current bylaws into two sections with five significant changes
  - Distribution of minutes to be updated to reflect current practices, save costs and streamline process
  - Quorum for University Senate set at majority of members eligible to vote
  - Senate vacancies to be allowed in cases where current Senate representative will be absent for only one semester
Allow for vacancy on any University Faculty Committee to be filled by University Faculty within University Senate during the academic year to avoid holding large-scale, costly elections

Add current practice of providing Senate Chair with a 25% assignment for each of the two summer sessions

Responses to questions of information on report

No reduction in Senate Chair assignment just clarification of current practice

University Faculty quorum is 34% of the entire University Faculty body. A majority is required in Senate because that is standard for a governing body or large committee

Getting Senate minutes out in 8 school days is for protection of faculty

Minutes will always be available in University Senate Office

Motion 34-SE-1: moved and seconded by committee that the Bylaws of the University Faculty be rearranged into two sections--one for University Faculty and one for University Senate and edited as shown (see attachment A)

Discussion:

Amendment 34-SE-1-a1: moved and seconded that Bylaw #8 in the University Faculty section, determining election results be changed to read "in the case of tie votes, the University Senate Chair shall be empowered to determine a means of resolving a tie"

Discussion:

Concern that Senate Chair is not chairing the University Faculty meeting, normally the person chairing the meeting doesn't vote and then if there is a tie vote, they would cast the tie-breaking vote

This bylaw refers to elections, not motions, Senate Chair has determined the means in the past to save conducting an additional election

University Faculty elections are run through the University Senate Office

Vote on Amendment 34-SE-1-a1: Amendment PASSED unanimously

Amendment 34-SE-1-a2: moved and seconded to restore the last two sentences in Bylaw #1 of the University Faculty section, Robert's Rules, pertaining to a parliamentarian

Discussion:

Right to appoint a parliamentarian automatically comes with Robert's Rules

Restore the language to retain the parallelism in the two sections of the bylaws

Bylaw refers to chair when normally it would be the chancellor running the University Faculty meeting

Vote on Amendment 34-SE-1-a2: Amendment DEFEATED

Amendment 34-SE-1-a3: moved and seconded to amend Robert's Rules, #1, of the University Senate section to add "or the University Academic Staff"

Discussion: None

Vote on Amendment 34-SE-1-a3: Amendment PASSED unanimously

Vote on Motion 34-SE-1: Motion with amendments PASSED unanimously

VIII. New Business

A. Report from Faculty Personnel Committee
   - Distributed as a handout
   - Read over and discuss with constituents, topic to be taken up at next Senate meeting

B. Issue of Senate size and faculty and academic staff representation
   - Handout distributed today
   - History of issue included
   - Four ways of composing Senate presented
     - Current method used
     - Self-Study Committee suggestions of 1995
     - Method prepared in response to charge to Executive Committee to develop plan for Senate of between 40 and 50 members
Plan developed by Executive Committee using proportional representation
- No method endorsed by Senate Executive Committee
- Come prepared to next Senate meeting to endorse one of above plans
- Or propose an alternate plan which needs to be distributed to members prior to next meeting
- General guidelines for representation on Committees also needs to be addressed
- Three ideas presented at bottom of handout

IX. Announcements

Senate Committees:
- Executive Committee - next meeting 2/3/98 at 3:00 p.m. in Schofield 202
  Makeup and membership of committees
  Language of the Constitution
- Academic Policies Committee - next meeting 2/3/98 at 2:00 p.m. in Schofield 202
  Foreign language competency determination for students for whom English is second language
  when there is no expert on campus in students' native language
  Policies and procedures for service learning
  Proposal for environmental studies minor to be taken up 2/10/98 at 2:00 p.m. in Schofield 202
- Academic Staff Personnel Committee - next meeting 2/5/98 at 10:00
  Whether to return to Senate with changes made by system legal to previous actions
- Budget Committee - No Report
- Compensation Committee - next meeting 1/30/98 at 3:00 p.m. in OL1122
  1998-99 pay plan proposal to be brought before Senate 2/10/98
- Faculty Personnel Committee - No Report
- Physical Plant Planning Committee - No Report
- Instructional Technology Committee - No Report

General:
- Next Senate meeting will be February 10, 1998 at 3:00 p.m. in Tamarack Room of Davies Center.

Chair Harrison adjourned the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Wanda Schulner
Secretary to the University Senate