

**College of Education Senate
University of Northern Iowa**

Minutes #340

Senators present: Rod Dieser, Kevin Finn, Sherry Gable, Deb Gallagher [alternate for Amy Staples], Mary Herring, Kurt Meredith, Greg Reed, Rick Vanderwall, and Biff Williams

Senators absent: Dave Christensen and Amy Staples

Ex-Officio Members: Dean Jeffrey W. Cornett and Dr. Sandra Alper

Visitors: None

I. Call to Order

The meeting of the College of Education Senate was called to order at 3:19 P.M. on Monday, August 29, 2005, in the Dean's Conference Room in Schindler Education Center. Chair Finn stated that Mary-Sue Bartlett will assume secretarial support for the COE Senate for the coming year.

II. Introduction of New Senators

Chair Finn asked the Senators to introduce themselves to the rest of the members of the COE Senate.

III. Approval of Minutes, #339, from May 2, 2005

It was moved by Gable and seconded by Reed that the minutes [#339] of the May 2, 2005 meeting be approved with the following correction to 4[d] Graduate Studies; "Rob Boody presented the report..." Motion carried.

IV. Old Business

- A. Senate Policy and Procedures Task Force: Chair Finn stated that last spring there had been a discussion in the Senate regarding the possible formation of a Task Force to look at the policies and

procedures of the Senate. In addition, the task force would assist with strategic planning and also help to identify any concerns that might be presented at the upcoming COE Fall Faculty Meeting. Gable stated, however, that there wasn't enough support last spring due to several concerns that had been raised, including questions on the current policy on curriculum. Vanderwall questioned if the Senate has by-laws under which we operate. Gable responded that the Senate by-laws can be accessed under the COE Senate Home Page. After some discussion, it was suggested that the Senate Chair appoint four faculty members to form a COE Senate Policy and Procedures Task Force. Williams questioned if we need representation from each department on the Task Force. However, it was decided that the Task Force would submit their findings to the Senate which would then be shared with the individual departments for their input at that time. Motion carried.

V. New Business

- A. COE Senate Calendar: The following dates were identified as COE Senate meetings for the upcoming 2005-06 academic year. All meetings will start at 3:15 P.M. in the Dean's Conference Room.
- September 19, 2005
 - October 17, 2005
 - October 31, 2005 [hold for possible meeting, if needed]
 - November 21, 2005
 - December 2005 [hold for possible meeting, if needed]
 - January 30, 2006
 - February 20, 2006
 - March 20, 2006
 - April 17, 2006
 - May 1, 2006
- B. Approval of Senate Alternates: Chair Finn requested that the Senators provide the name of their alternates. He clarified that an alternate does not have to be within the respective Senator's department/division. Less than half of the Senators had confirmed their alternate. It was decided to table approval of the alternates for the next meeting.
- C. Elect COE Elections Committee Members: Greg Reed, as Vice Chair of the COE Senate, will chair the 2005-06 COE Elections

Committee with Sherry Gable and Rick Vanderwall serving as committee members. Motion carried.

- D. Conversation with President Koob: Chair Finn stated that President Koob has requested to meet with all college senates to discuss the upcoming Provost search. There was some conversation on whether to invite President Koob to a Senate meeting or to include the discussion in the COE Fall Faculty meeting. A question was raised on the timeline for the search. It is Dean Cornett's understanding that the search will begin in September with a new Provost being named hopefully by May 2006. There was also discussion regarding what we want in terms of governance. It was also suggested that the Senate formulate specific questions that could be asked of faculty members in order that we have a cohesive message to present to President Koob on behalf of the COE. Three main questions were identified: 1] Leadership style; 2] Background; i.e., scholar vs. administrator; and 3] Process itself. Gable suggested it might be helpful to have a list of duties of the Provost in advance of the discussion. Dean Cornett suggested exploring how other peer institutions handled similar Provost searches in order to attract the "best fit". It was agreed that the meeting with the President should not occur simultaneously with the Fall Faculty meeting, but rather take place at the next Senate meeting, if possible. After additional discussion it was agreed that: 1] The Senate needs time to discuss this with the faculty; 2] The Senate needs to meet as a group prior to a meeting with President Koob; and 3] The Senate would then meet with the President. Bartlett will contact the President's Office to confirm his availability to attend the next Senate meeting on Monday, September 19, 2005.
- E. College of Education Fall Faculty Meeting: After some discussion, it was decided to hold the COE Fall Faculty Meeting on Monday, October 3, 2005 at 3: 15 P.M. Bartlett will coordinate arrangements.
- F. This Year's Issues: Chair Finn reported that he met recently with Dean Cornett to discuss contemporary issues facing the COE Senate this year. Nine issues for discussion were identified. Chair Finn stated that he does not expect these will be "voting" issues.
1. Request by President Koob for information on Provost Search;
 2. Understanding the Budget – Where does the money go?;

3. Faculty Lines;
4. Role of Faculty in Recruitment of New Faculty;
5. Faculty Governance;
6. Resource Allocation;
7. Reallocation of Existing Funds;
8. Connections between Lab School and Each Department [Divisions]; and
9. Environment for a “Healthy Workplace”

Dean Cornett requested that #8 be broadened to include all laboratories rather than just the Laboratory School.

Item #1 will be discussed at the September 19, 2005 meeting. Concerning #9, Herring voiced concern over the physical deterioration of Schindler Education Center. It was decided that Items #3 and #4 would be discussed at the fall Senate meetings. Also, Dieser suggested that the list be put forward to the entire COE faculty for their input.

VI. Dean’s Report

Dean Cornett welcomed everyone and thanked them for their willingness to serve as a COE Senator for the upcoming academic year. He also stated that, as has been done for the past several years, the Chair of the COE Senate will have a seat on the COE Management Team which meets every Thursday morning with the Dean. In addition, there are plans underway to have a plaque installed with the names of all past COE Senate Chairs. Bartlett will coordinate this effort.

The dean stated that President Koob continues to describe the UNI budget as “flat”. The President has suggested that we might restore the Supplies & Services budget, however, Cornett said any decision to do this would probably be for 2006-07. There are currently two faculty search requests from the Department of Curriculum & Instruction, however, these have not yet been signed due to the uncertainty of funding. Dean Cornett stressed that we do want to hire the best possible candidates without the threat of overextending the College financially.

He reported that the Dean’s Office retained \$200,000 as a contingency fund, however, all but \$45,000 has been reallocated in terms of adjunct needs, satisfying historical inequities across departments, etc. He has also tried to “backfill” areas consistent with the Master Contract. We do have two additional sources of funding for special areas of needs: Indirect cost and the Dean’s Fund for Excellence. The latter fund is

limited for use by the donors at the “discretion of the Dean”. In the past these monies have been used to fund initiatives such as Nel Noddings presentation, etc. The dean stated that he will continue to share additional budget information with the Senate. He feels it is important that the Senate see what was “cannibalized” with the budget and where we need to rebuild/replace in terms of retirements, resignations, terminations, academic program review costs, department head evaluations, etc. Dean Cornett requested feedback from the Senate regarding what they expect in terms of future staffing [number and process] of administrators, where we want to go, etc. Three themes that he has tried to promote include: 1] Educating for Reflective Practice; 2] Care and Excellence; and 3] Democratic Education.

VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the COE Senate will be held on Monday, September 19, 2005 at 3:15 P.M. in the Dean’s Conference Room in Schindler Education Center.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary-Sue Bartlett
COE Senate Secretary

:msb

Attachments