

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR April 8, 2008 (Vol. XXXV, No. 41)

The 2007-2008 Faculty Senate minutes and other information are available on the Web at <http://www.eiu.edu/~FacSen> The Faculty Senate agenda is posted weekly on the Web, at Coleman Hall 2532, and on the third-level bulletin board in Booth Library. Note: These minutes are not a complete verbatim transcript of the Senate meeting.

Call for Nominations: The nominations for committees/councils deadline is April 14th at 10:00 due to Dr. John Pommier. The Faculty Senate website has the complete listing of open positions.

I. Call to order by Lynne Curry at 2:00 p.m. (Booth Library Conference Room, Room 4440)

Present: A. Brownson, J. Coit, L. Curry, M. Dao, R. Fischer, A. HaileMariam, A. Kostelich, R. Marshall, A. Montleon, R. Murray, J. Pommier, J. Russell, T. Sinclair, J. Snyder, J. Stimac, D. VanGunten and E. Volk. Guests: B. Garcia (*Daily Eastern News*), B. Peake (*Daily Eastern News*), N Maberry (*Daily Eastern News*), J. Johnson (CAH), B. Lord (Provost/VPAA), W. Perry (EIU President), J. Inyart (Charleston Mayor), S. Smith (Charleston City Manager) and N. Pat Small (History).

II. Approval of Minutes of 4 March.

Approval of the Minutes of 4 March with no corrections—Yes: Brownson, Coit, Curry, Dao, Fischer, HaileMariam, Marshall, Murray, Pommier, Russell, Sinclair, Stimac and VanGunten.
Abstain: Snyder.

Approval of Minutes of 1 April.

Approval of the Minutes of 1 April with correction that Senator VanGunten did not approve 18 March minutes—Yes: Brownson, Coit, Curry, Dao, Fischer, Marshall, Murray, Pommier, Sinclair, Snyder and Stimac. Abstain: HaileMariam, Russell and VanGunten.

III. Announcements

- A. April is Asian Heritage Month. There will be many events going on to celebrate.
- B. The survey from Faculty Development is due April 22nd.

IV. Communications

- A. Email from Boyd Spencer, 5 March, re: Reception for faculty retirees
- B. Email from Stacey Knight Davis, 7 April, re: CFR Bylaws for Senate review
- C. Email from Ryan Gibson, 7 April, re: EIU's New Web Design
- D. Email from Boyd Spencer, 7 April, re: retirement gift
- E. Email from Frank McCormick, 8 April, re: retirement gift – thank you
- F. Email from Deanna Kelly, 8 April, re: Financial Aid/Grants Committee
- G. Intercollegiate Athletic Board Minutes, re: IAB Meeting Minutes

V. Old Business

A. Committee Reports

- 1. Executive Committee: Senator Curry stated that Faculty Senate may need to meet once more after April 15th. She added that officers will be elected on the 15th and asked that Senate members bring their calendars so that their mandatory summer meeting can be scheduled. In other business: Ryan Gibson is looking for participants for usability studies for EIU's web design. The Senate has been asked

to review and provide feedback to CFR re. its draft by-laws. The Financial Aid and Grants Committee needs to meet within the next two weeks to determine a scholarship winner and are looking for at least three faculty to serve on this committee. Senators Brownson, VanGunten, Russell and Stimac agreed to serve. Curry then stated that she plans to resume discussion of the executive committee's previous proposal to change the structure of Senate. She will forward a revised proposal in the hope that it can be discussed at the next meeting. Senator Brownson then reported on her attendance at the Council on Illinois University Senates where discussions took place regarding state budget issues and faculty responsibilities during campus emergencies.

2. Nominations Committee: The deadline for nominations for people to serve on committees has been extended to April 14th at 10 a.m. Senator HaileMariam then asked why email communications from the Senate come through Jeff Cross. The Provost responded that this is because the campus-wide list is ever-changing and ITS has requested that one person be named the designated campus-wide communicator.

3. Elections Committee: John Best, who was the write-in candidate receiving the most votes, has agreed to serve on Senate. Thomas Hawkins will be on the Sanctions and Terminations Committee representing LCBAS. Cheryl Hawker is serving on the Academic Elimination and Review Committee for COS. Senator Brownson then asked for a motion to approve these individuals. Motion to approve the listed individuals (Fischer/ Stimac) - Yes: Brownson, Coit, Curry, Dao, HaileMariam, Marshall, Pommier, Russell, Sinclair and Snyder. Motion approved.

4. Faculty – Student Relations Committee: No report.

5. Faculty – Staff Relations Committee: No report.

6. Budget Transparency Committee: No report.

7. Faculty Forum Committee: No report.

8. Awards Committee: Senator Pommier reported on the Distinguished Faculty Award. The winner is Dr. Bud Fischer. The Senate approved of the committee's choice by acclamation.

9. Other Reports

a) Provost's Report: Provost Lord stated that Lobby Day in Springfield is April 9th. He also reported that CAA has a full agenda for the rest of the year. They are discussing the proposed changes to the gen ed diversity requirement and an extension of the foreign language requirement to three semesters. Provost Lord went on to say that EIU is wrapping up a lot of academic searches, and a fairly large group is being added to the fine faculty here. Senator Stimac then inquired about the password change. He was curious if there was a way not to request it before finals. The Provost responded that it has been tried at different points in the semester and is never completely convenient. He added that the state mandates that EIU undergo password changes twice a year.

V. New Business

A. President William Perry, University/Town Relations. President Perry began by stating that he meets with mayors on a monthly basis to stay in touch and cooperate; it has proven to be a beneficial relationship. Discussion takes place on issues of mutual concern. Mayor John Inyart went on to say that such meetings are critical for others to hear about the roles of the mayors and city managers as well as the kinds of things that are going on in the community. The Good Neighbor program headed up by Dan Nadler, Vice President of Student Affairs, is an example, as are collaborations for Homecoming celebrations. Senator Brownson commented that the crosswalk on 4th Street is dangerous because the street is too dark at night. A discussion then took place about the dangers of 4th street and its poor lighting. Brownson then asked about the home rule initiative. Mayor Inyart said that home rule communities have an advantage because they can do anything unless the state says otherwise. He discussed rental inspection ordinances in this regard, pointing out that upkeep of properties is often a safety issue for students. Another example pertains to the city being able to set its own qualifications for paramedics. The city is currently working with a consultant and the mayor would like to have the home rule issue placed on the ballot this fall. Senator Stimac asked who is responsible for parking on 4th street, citing the traffic problems that result when students are returning their books. Mayor Inyart responded that no parking signs have been put up and added that the street is not designed for parking on both sides; it is a city street and to some degree the problem will remain until Textbook Rental moves. President Perry added the city did not take that action unilaterally and that it was a reasonable fix. Senator Fischer asked about the city's plans for the future and how the university fits into the plans. Mayor Inyart commented about continuing problems with the downtown square, including parking and communication between the business community and city hall. We were headed for a quiet and comfortable business district, but that is not sufficient. The City Manager, Scott Smith, then said that chain stores and franchises work with a program that conducts studies examining a range of variables and then match the profile of the community with businesses and try to find the best fit. His office has put together a whole new marketing effort for the city and is matching it up with Eastern's efforts. We will be on a much better level to compete and invite certain retailers to the community. The top 25 restaurants and retailers that are our best match for the community are being notified. One issue is that real estate has become expensive in Charleston. Senator Fischer said there is a trend that many faculty no longer live in Coles County and asked how the city can keep faculty here. Smith said he believes the area is on the uptake now that its marketing has been completely redone. The city has a new website as well. Mayor Inyart commented that all of this goes toward the goal of getting people to want to live here and will compliment what the students want. Senator Curry commented that there are faculty who are willing to spend money here and when we are recruiting people they expect to see the kinds of things a college town can offer. We want to attract students, but we want faculty to want to live here as well. Mayor Inyart said it comes back to the ownership of these properties and them wanting to keep up the property. The square could be a good place for businesses that people would like to see. Senator Coit said you see an explosion of local businesses in Champaign. Smith responded that they are drawing off of a much larger population base. Senator Pommier then commented on the new bakery and

how the owner was educated regarding how to go about opening her business. Smith said we are trying to grow some of our own businesses. President Perry said that the SCORE chapter has some retirees serving that really provide some good input. Mayor Inyart added that we will use whatever we can to sell this community. He said that he is the ambassador and the seller, but that Smith is the one who has to make it work.

B. Mayor Inyart informed the Senate that 4th street will be renovated this summer and it will be closed, but will be done in two phases. The intersection of 4th and Madison will be widened for traffic. Additionally, City Hall renovations continue--- the building will be much more attractive and functional. The public works building and the public library will also be worked on. Mayor Inyart said that he is not involved in the day to day operations the way the Smith is. Senator Curry then asked if we could have bike paths. Smith responded that we are putting in an application for funds that would allow us to complete the five final phases necessary to do the bike routes; we are trying to determine how to best do this. Nora Pat Small asked if the city is fully aware that a Historic District designation comes with a tax credit for home owners in the district. Smith responded that he is. Small then asked how to keep students in a limited area. President Perry said that freshmen are to live on campus and that more students are wanting to stay on campus, even as sophomores. The building of apartments in town needs to be addressed since there will not be additional campus housing built in the near future. Student Senator Kostelich then asked how businesses in Charleston could be better marketed to students. Mayor Inyart said there are other forms of marketing and that is a good question; we do not always all see the information that is out there. Senator Dao asked about the proposed drive-in theater. Mayor Inyart said he disagreed with the DEN that it was not a good idea. Senator Coit then asked about the numbers of alcohol violations. Smith suggested that he call the police department for such information. Senator Brownson commented that Judicial Affairs is another place to get such answers.

C. Scott Smith, Charleston City Manager. Smith said that transportation issues are being addressed, crosswalks are being improved for students and that the crossing signals on 4th, 6th as well as Division Street are going to be replaced. Similar equipment will also be installed near Charleston High School. There have been discussions with the University about energy conservation, the operation of facilities, and how to save dollars and improve efficiency. He explained that he runs 24/7 day to day operations and all the divisions of the city report to him. The Mayor hires the City Manager and there are representatives who sit on the External Relations Committee of EIU; this has been beneficial for both the University and city.

VII. Adjournment at 4 p.m.

Future Agenda Items: campus climate survey; construction updates; long-range planning; faculty handbook

Thank you to President William Perry, Charleston Mayor John Inyart and Charleston City Manager Scott Smith.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Snyder, Recorder