

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 2017 – 3:30–5:00 P.M.
GREAT HALL, MEMORIAL UNION**

Present: Andreasen, C.; Bain, C.; Beitz, D.; Beresnev, I.; Bigelow, T.; Borich, T.; Boyles, J.; Braun, S.; Brown, J.; Burke, B.; Butler, A.; Cantor, D.; Cornick, N.; Day, T.; Dekkers, J.; Derrick, T.; Dilla, W.; Dollisso, A.; Evans, J.; Faber, C.; Fiore, A.M.; Freeman, S.; Gassmann, A.; Hanson, V.; Jackson, R.; Kimber, M.; Krier, D.; Luecke, G.; Martin, P.; Martin, R.; Monroe, J.; Montabon, F.; Muench, J.; Munkvold, G.; Niemi, J.; Ockey, G.; O'Connor, A.; Owen, M.; Padgett-Walsh, C.; Pellack, L.; Phye, G.; Post, C.; Rajan, H.; Roe, K.; Royston, N.; Russell, D.; Sanders, E.; Schaefer, V.; Schwab, C.; Seeger, C.; Sponseller, B.; Stone, L.; Sturm, J.; Taylor, E.; Tener, J.; Tian, J.; Wallace, R.; Wang, Q.; Weber, E.; Williams, C.; Winter, A.; Zaffarano, B.; Zarecor, K.; Zimmerman, J.

Absent: Bowler, N.; Burras, L.; Cochran, E.; Delate, K.; Essner, J.; Godbey, E.; Hartzler, B.; Herrstadt, S.; Hill, J.; Kim, S.; King, D.; Looney, M.; Naegele, D.; Ryan, S.; Sturges, L.; van der Valk, A.

Substitutes: Roy, S. for Bhattacharya, J.; V. Dark for Guyll, M.; M. Shelley for Waggoner, K.

Guests: Leath, S. (Pres.); Wickert, J. (SVPP); Bratsch-Prince, D. (Assoc. Provost); Holger, D. (Assoc. Provost); Rosacker, E. (University Relations); Rippke, S. (Parliamentarian); Bell, J. (P&S Council); Roberson, R. (ISU Daily); Staudt, C. (Student Gov.); Smiley-Oyen, A. (Chair – Student Affairs Committee); Belding, M. (GPSS); VanDerZanden, A.M. (CELT).

I. Call to Order

A. Seating of Substitute Senators

President Sturm called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and seated the substitute senators.

II. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting – January 17, 2017 - [S16/M/5]

B. Agenda for February 14, 2017– [S16/A/6]

C. Docket Calendar – [S16/C/6]

Past President Wallace moved to accept the consent agenda. Senator Martin seconded. The motion passed without dissension.

**III. Special Order: ISU President Steven Leath
State De-Appropriation**

Governor Branstad proposed \$118 million in mid-year cuts to make up for a budget shortfall. ISU's portion is \$8 million (4.3% reduction of the FY17 general state appropriation). President Leath vowed to minimize the impact on the academic mission of the university. \$4.2 million was absorbed centrally, by not funding equipment

purchases and maintenance items, by freeing some positions and eliminating vacant positions.

President Leath said the bigger issue is that this is not really a one-time cut; it is effectively a new base budget for operation funds. The FY 18 budget could include a 2% increase from the new base. This money would be put toward lowering the student to faculty ratio; enhancing student-centered initiatives; lowering student debt (through financial literacy programs and lower-cost paths to degrees); and enhancing online learning and upgrading classrooms and labs. This request includes a number of line items, including the Ag Experimental Station, extension and outreach, and a Veterinary Diagnostics Lab. This last project is especially exciting, enabling ISU to play a huge role in the \$117 billion agriculture and animal economy in the state. We have asked the state for \$100 million over five years, and have committed to raising \$20 million in fundraising.

Other Legislative Issues

Collective Bargaining: If passed, the bill would mean a fundamental overhaul of collective bargaining for people in public sector. The effect of such a bill was seen in Wisconsin. As a university, we want to stay committed (and publicly committed) to good benefits for university employees. The bill is on a very fast track, and there will be a fairly large complete overhaul fairly soon on this.

Tenure: Right now, there is no traction on this issue. BOR spoke out against it. Dr. Sturm has also spoken to the press. What the bill shows is that a lot of people still don't understand what tenure is, and do not understand the rigorous tenure process and post-tenure review at ISU. This provides a good opportunity for President Leath and faculty to educate people, and President Leath encouraged faculty to do so.

Athletics Funding: There is a proposal to redirect UNI's athletic funding to UI and ISU. President Leath thought that this was "meddling" in budgets.

New Governor: Lieutenant Governor Reynolds will likely be made governor next month. She is a recent alumna of ISU. The President and Pro Tem of the Iowa Senate are also alumni. This means top state officials know our campus and our mission. President Leath expressed hope that this will make it easier to explain our needs.

State Advocacy

Kristin Failor is ISU's State Relations Officer. ISU Day at the state Capitol is February 20. She will work with representatives across campus and meet with state leadership. The Education Appropriations Subcommittee hearing is February 22, where we will learn the impact of these budget changes.

Tuition

Our tuition is among the lowest for instate and out of state students among our peer 11 land grant universities.

In addition to the request for 2% increase from the state, there will be a 2% annual tuition increase for residential undergraduate students in 2017 and 2018, and a 3% increase for all other students. There will also be expanded differential tuition in five programs. ISU administration is continuing to work on a proposal for other programs. Provost Wickert is putting together models.

Moderate growth in enrollment is projected.

Some of the Enrollment Management Task Force report suggestions are being work on. The faculty who worked on that report offered some good ideas. President Leath thanked them for their work. He will continue to work with FS leadership next year on other ideas. One concerns changes to admissions standards, which seems to have wide faculty support.

Federal Advocacy

President Leath said that we must be proactive in sharing our missions and values. US President Trump's executive order has not changed much in most of our day to day lives, but it has caused considerable angst which is a concern for us. Right now, graduate student applications from students from outside the US to US universities (not just ISU) are way down. We should expect to see a considerable decline. President Leath stressed that diversity drives innovation and enriches the academic environment. He observed that we have a new style of US administration. It is not clear how best to facilitate the things we want. President Leath continues to work with national associations to provide a fairly unified voice.

Faculty Achievements

President Leath highlighted national awards earned by faculty and the increase in research dollars. Federal awards are up \$7,000 compared to January 2016. Total sponsored funding is \$183.5 million as of January 31.

The Presidential Initiative for Interdisciplinary Research has provided \$42.6 million in external funding. The Grand Challenge Research Themes encourage interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary research and collaboration.

Forever True, For Iowa State Campaign

To date, \$690 million has been raised, including ISU's largest-ever gift of \$93 million to be used as an endowment for LAS. \$204 million has been raised for scholarships and student support (for 23,000 students). There is still more fundraising work to be done, and Deans as well as the president are hard at work.

Questions

President Sturm asked how well President Leath feels legislators listen to him. President Leath responded that time will tell. He is optimistic that he is successfully communicating about ISU's needs.

Senator Martin noted that President Leath said that we will have a moderate enrollment increase. Do we need more faculty, classrooms, research assistants, and TAs? We feel pressure, but what is President Leath's perspective? President Leath replied that yes, we need all of these things, but we have to prioritize. When he first arrived at ISU, faculty told him that we need more faculty. So we hired 450 new faculty over four years. Now faculty say that they prioritize raises over more faculty. So we have shifted some resources back to rewarding and retaining good faculty here. The Provost's Office came up with short-term and long-term plans to renovate and improve classrooms, including the creation of classrooms with different functionality. We also pushed hard for money to build a central core building at the research park for economic development. Doing so frees up space in central campus. Overall, we are trying to take advantage of opportunities presented by the resources we have. He asked senators to let him know if we need to re-order priorities.

Senator Braun asked about a state bill that would prevent cities and campuses from doing less than the federal law requires to enforce immigration laws. President Leath said we should wait and see whether the bill advances. But, he added, he has never seen a case where federal agents came on campus and ejected faculty, staff, or students. So he did not think there was a danger of a federal raid. We have an obligation to obey the federal law. Overall, he said that ISU will continue to be vigilant and pay attention and support students and international visitors. But he did not see reason to panic over this yet.

IV. **Special Order: Ann Marie VanDerZanden, CELT Director**

CELT Director VanDerZanden was accompanied by IT Director Lohrbach to provide an overview of the learning management system (LMS) review.

Blackboard is reaching its end-of-life. ISU's license expires December 2017. ISU is paying to extend the contract to June 2018 to accommodate our transition to the next LMS. There is a website (www.lms.iastate.edu) with information about the LMS review process, presentations by the LMS review steering committee, and other resources.

In March 2017, members of ISU community will have an opportunity to interact with and provide feedback about the products from the finalists for LMS. Early adopters of the new system will be able to migrate their courses over Summer 2017 to use in Fall 2017. Others will continue to use Blackboard.

Courses for Spring 2018 will be migrated to the new LMS in Fall 2017. They will be given priority for technical support in Fall 2017. The courses of faculty who teach in

Summer 2018 or alternate years will also be migrated in Fall 2017, and will be given priority for technical support in Spring 2018.

There will be a lot of training and support made available, including individual consultations, workshops from basic to advanced, pop-up trainings, and on-demand and self-paced online resources.

Past President Wallace asked whether technical support will be outsourced to groups off-campus. It is nice to have support on campus for oh-no-I-teach-in-ten-minutes problems. Director VanDerZanden said that onsite help will be available when we can offer it.

V. Announcements and Remarks

A. Faculty Senate President

President Sturm noted that the American Association of University Professors has a petition to protect tenure and academic freedom in Iowa. Faculty may sign it on the AAUP website. He said that he has submitted an editorial to the Des Moines Register about tenure, but it does not look like it will be published. He continues to explore opportunities to explain what tenure is.

B. Faculty Senate President-Elect

None

C. Senior Vice President and Provost

None

D. Other (P&S Council; SG; GPSS)

P&S Council: None

SG: None

GPSS: Mr. Belding said that tomorrow there will be a seminar for effective technical communication. Abstracts for the graduate and professional student research conference are still be accepted.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. FH 10.6.4 Dead Week – [S16-10] – Bigelow

Senator Bigelow summarized the changes made since the last reading.

Senator Beresnev noted that this version distinguishes between in-class and out-of-class examinations. If the goal of the proposal is to relieve student stress, it shouldn't matter what type of examination it is. Why was this distinction introduced? Senator Bigelow responded that the previous version addressed tests administered in the Testing Center, but that they must begin on Wednesday with the option to take them

on Thursday or Friday. If a student does not want to take exams on Thursday or Friday, he or she has that option.

Senator Braun asked why “test” was eliminated but “quiz” was kept. In his area (language instruction), quizzes are used to encourage learning. If such a quiz was given on Friday, would it count as “regularly used formative assessment” or would it be prohibited? Senator Bigelow responded that “test” was dropped because there was no difference between tests and exams. A weekly quiz would be permitted if it is part of formative assessment. This proposal was not intended to limit an instructor’s ability to engage students with a quiz-type activity. Senator Freeman pointed out that such a quiz would satisfy the requirement of being “regularly” offered and therefore would be allowed.

Senator Dark said that faculty in psychology wondered if students realize that data show that one of the best ways to prepare for a major exam is to take a prior exam. So the stress of taking the final exam can be mitigated by taking a unit exam during Dead Week. So what problem is this proposal supposed to solve? Mr. West said that students understand the value of studying for the last unit exam. But scheduling the unit exam at the end of Dead Week “slams” students with exams in the last three days of the semester. Students want to do their best to showcase what they have learned the entire semester, not just the last three weeks. Senator Dark asked to what extent students perceive this as a problem. Students she had spoken with did not see this a problem. Mr. West replied that he and SG President Staudt had campaigned on this issue. When they met with student groups, 90% of students at each meeting said that Dead Week did not allow students enough time to prepare for final exams. 80% of 3600 student responses to a survey supported restructuring Dead Week.

Professor Smiley-Oyen pointed out that a unit exam can still be given on Wednesday of Dead Week. Studying for a unit exam is different in breadth and focus from a final, cumulative exam. There is no problem with introducing new material on Thursday or Friday. The goal of this proposal is to give students some breathing room on Thursday and Friday.

The motion passed by a voice vote with some dissenting votes.

VII. New Business

A. Bachelor of Science in Nursing [S16-14] - Bigelow

Senator Beresnev asked how ISU can educate nurses without access to medical facilities or patients. Senator Bigelow replied that students in this program would already have RN degrees and clinical training. This program enables them to build on the RN degree to a BS. There is no clinical component because that was already completed for the RN degree. Many BSN programs across the country are online.

Senator Dark said that there is no supporting letter from UI in the materials. Because this proposal would have to be approved by BOR, we should have that support in the packet. Senator Bigelow said that UI has been contacted and we are waiting for the letter. He hopes that it will be made available before the next FS meeting.

B. Pharmacology and Toxicology Minor [S16-15] – Bigelow

No comments.

C. FH 3.2 Appointment Procedures [S16-16] - Sponseller

Senator Sponseller said that the need for this change came from the accreditation review from the Higher Ed Learning Commission.

Senator Braun asked how this would affect people who are already teaching in fields or subfields but do not meet those requirements. Associate Provost Holger said that HLC requires universities to have in place a process to determine whether faculty are qualified to have their positions. This proposal articulates the process.

D. Eliminate Summer Option [S16-13] - Bigelow

Senator Bigelow said that some students who don't meet admissions criteria have the option to come in summer, take classes, and earn admission. Many students who participate in this program are not successful; only about half are successful. Of those students, only about 60% go on to graduate. This program is not producing long-term success, and it consumes quite a bit of resources. We will continue to look for other ways for students to be successful. If passed, this program would be discontinued in Summer 2018.

E. Statement of Faculty Core Values – [S16-11] – Wallace

Past President Wallace said that as FS President, he was interviewed by people from outside the university (e.g., about the hiring of UI President Harreld) about the views of faculty at ISU. He had no statement to point to which articulates the important core values of faculty at ISU. The document he wrote is based on FH. If approved by FS, this document would be put on the FS website and would be used as a “teaching aid” to talk to BOR, Iowa legislators, state administrators and others to lay out the guidelines and tenets we will follow to make ISU successful. This current draft has been reviewed by FDAR, FS EB.

President Sturm pointed out that citation to FH are included in square brackets.

Senator Taylor asked about the role this document would have. Is it primarily communicative? Or would it play a role in grievance procedures? Past President Wallace replied that FH is used in grievance procedures. This document would be used for external communication to address questions.

Senator Roe thought that the statement was laudable. He asked whether the claim that the faculty are committed to the *principle* of being primarily responsible for the curriculum was weaker than the other commitments. Past President Wallace acknowledged the point and said he would fix it.

F. Increase Transfer GPA – [S16-12] – Bigelow

President Sturm pointed out that this proposal was a recommendation from the Enrollment Management Task Force report. Senator Bigelow said the goal is for our students to be successful. We do not want students to be here for two years, rack up debt, and then leave without a degree. From data collected, students with AAs and less than 2.25 GPA were not as successful as students with higher GPAs. If this motion is passed, it will take effect in Fall 2019.

VIII. Good of the Order

None

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2017 -- 3:30-5:00 P.M., GREAT HALL, MU

Respectfully submitted March 2, 2017,

Annemarie Butler
Faculty Senate Secretary