3-5-2012

University of Northern Iowa Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes, March 5, 2012

University of Northern Iowa. Faculty Senate.
Summary of main points

1. Courtesy Announcements

No press were present

Provost Gibson was absent

Faculty Chair Jurgenson thanked the faculty for their professionalism at the previous week’s faculty meeting.

Chair Funderburk expressed the Senate’s sympathy for the Provost, who suffered a death in the family. He remarked on the current challenges facing the university, urged faculty to continue to work in constructive ways, and updated the Senate on plans to have President Allen visit the Senate to discuss issues on campus.

2. Summary Minutes/Full Transcript for February 27, 2012 were approved by acclamation.

3. Docketed from Calendar

None

4. Consideration of Docketed Items

None.

5. New Business / Old Business
Continuation of consultative session with Provost Gibson (executive session) (Smith/Wurtz).

Executive session continued with Associate Provosts Licari and Arthur in the absence of Provost Gibson.

6. Adjournment
**Motion to adjourn at 5:31 p.m. (Bruess/Roth).

Next special meeting:

March 19, 2011
Oak Room, Maucker Union
3:30 p.m.
PRESENT:  Karen Breitbach, Gregory Bruess, Betty DeBerg, Forrest Dolgener, Philip East, Chris Edginton, Jeffrey Funderburk, Deborah Gallagher, James Jurgenson, Syed Kirmani, Michael Licari, Chris Neuhaus, Scott Peters, Michael Roth, Marilyn Shaw, Jerry Smith, Jesse Swan, Laura Terlip, Katherine Van Wormer, Susan Wurtz

ABSENT:  Gloria Gibson

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Funderburk noticed the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 3:31.

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL FOR PRESS IDENTIFICATION:  No press present

COMMENTS FROM PROVOST GLORIA GIBSON:  Provost Gibson was absent

COMMENTS FROM FACULTY CHAIR JURGENSON

Faculty Chair Jurgenson expressed his thanks to faculty for their professionalism at the faculty meeting the previous Friday. He had feared that the meeting could devolve into a large argument, but it did not. He indicated that he had gotten many emails of thanks and congratulations on the meeting, but that faculty should congratulate themselves for the meeting going well.

COMMENTS FROM FACULTY SENATE CHAIR JEFFREY FUNDERBURK

Chair Funderburk read the following statement:
Provost Gibson is unable to join us today due to a death in the family. On behalf of the Senate, I would like to express our sincere sympathies and best wishes.

As we are all aware, this is a challenging time for the University of Northern Iowa. We are beset by a number of adversities. Friday’s vote by the faculty expressed widespread frustration that has been building on campus for a number of years related to decision making processes. Recent events caused the frustration to boil to the surface. But, I would like to keep in mind two quotes. The first is from poet Lord Byron who said, “Adversity is the first path to truth.” The second is of unknown origin: “Adversity is a fact of life. It can't be controlled. What we can control is how we react to it.” Friday’s vote notwithstanding, it is important that we remain focused on a goal that we can all agree upon. We must be more effective at working together for the best interests of the students here at UNI and for the continued success of this institution of higher learning.

Towards that end, Secretary Peters and I along with Associate Provosts Arthur and Licari had a meeting today with President Allen to discuss the current situation and the path that lies ahead.

As stated earlier, President Allen will be joining the Senate for two meetings this spring. Currently, the plan is for President Allen to attend the Monday, March 19 meeting of the Senate. More details will be release as soon as they are finalized.

BUSINESS

MINUTES FOR APPROval

Summary Minutes/Full Transcript for February 27, 2012 were approved by acclamation.
CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR ITEMS FOR DOCKETING

None

OLD BUSINESS

Motion to continue the executive session with Associate Provosts Licari and Arthur (in Provost Gibson’s absence) (1123 1021). Moved by Senator Smith; seconded by Senator Wurtz.

THE FACULTY SENATE MOVED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. [3:37 p.m.]

THE FACULTY SENATE AROSE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION. [5:30 p.m.]

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Senator Bruess. Seconded by Senator Roth. Motion passed by acclamation [5:31 p.m.]

Submitted by,

Scott Peters
Secretary
UNI Faculty Senate

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