Minutes of the April 16, 2013 Meeting

President DiBiasio called the meeting to order at promptly 11:00 a.m. in the Activities Room of McIntosh Center.

The invocation was given by Suzanne Morrison – same as last year’s April meeting. Same invoker; not the same invocation.

The minutes for the March 26, 2013 meeting were perfunctorily approved.

There was no unfinished business from previous meetings brought forth.

Registrar Hough requested the approval of the spring term graduates listed in a previously distributed memo provided that all remaining graduation requirements are met. Her request prompted a motion to that effect which was quickly seconded and passed without dissent.

Rob Alexander summarized his term as Chair of University Council with thanks to the officers and its work to provide a greater context for the Board, the administration, and faculty and staff. He shared his hopes that a task force on Shared Governance would be operational by Fall semester.

Julie Hurtig led a practice session with the clicker election process whereby we learned we like “bleu cheese pizza with mushrooms and pepperoni.”

Elections:

Jeff Allison was elected University Council Chair.

Jenny Kunkler and Jennifer Walton were elected as At-Large members of Council.

David Kisor and David Rouch were elected to the Committee on Athletics.

Kathie Fleck was elected to the Religious Affairs Committee.

Khalid Al-Olimat, Ray Person and Jed Marquart were elected to the Undergraduate Faculty Promotion and Tenure Appeals Committee.

Laurie Bell and Boyd Rorabaugh were elected to the Faculty Grievance Committee.

Mark Cruea, Firas Hassan, and Kofi Nsia-Pepra were elected to the University Disciplinary Board.

Michele Govekar and Jay Mager were elected to the University Board of Appeals.

These elections using the clickers, consisting of eight ballots, 48 candidates, about 100 voters and nearly 1800 votes cast, were completed in 30 minutes for a “voting efficiency” rating of 60 votes/minute – just off the all-time record.

Bill Fuller, Heath LeBlanc, Jed Marquart, Deidre Myers, and Ryan Rahrig were elected to the Committee of Academic Conduct by the old fashioned way of voting. It took 15 minutes to count the nearly 500 votes cast – or about 33 votes/minute – a new collective personal best for the Math Department.

Karen Kier (Pharmacy) and Lou Lobenhoffer (Law) were affirmed as their college’s representative on the Honorary Degree Committee.

President DiBiasio discussed the previously distributed summary of the evaluation of Provost Crago. In response to Ellen Wilson’s question as to who had the opportunity to evaluate the Provost, the President indicated all full-time faculty.

President DiBiasio anticipates the approval of the Strategic Plan in May by the Board. Work groups will be established for implementation which he hopes will be accomplished through voluntary involvement. John Lomax stated his opinion that it might be better that those groups be elected by the faculty to be reflective of the faculty will. Nancy Woodley voiced that faculty could volunteer to stand for election (similar to the committees above) and that it would be beneficial to have a candidate statement on their qualifications for membership on the work group.

President DiBiasio announced the budget forums to be held on Monday April 22 at 10 and 2 and encouraged
attendance at same. David Rouch indicated that the budget values that appear in the Fact Book are now fewer than in previous years. In response, it was indicated that all of the values that used to be in the Fact Book are now available on-line so that only members of the University community can access them.

Bill Theisen asked to be reminded of the Personnel Committee’s recommendation on salary for next year. Paul Logsdon responded that the Committee’s recommendation was 2% across-the-board and 1% merit.

There were more ballots during the election than reports from committees but we did learn that the Personnel Committee had reviewed an instance where a faculty member’s salary was effectively decreased by 8%.

As an item of new business, Ellen Wilson requested the Personnel Committee to consider two items: first, to determine why, for those faculty who have left the University during the last two years, they have done so; and second, to perform a review of the recommendations of the Sustainable Program and Financial-Based Review Report that have been implemented to determine if they have in fact resulted in financial savings.

As always, there are lots of good things and events happening on and around campus and we are all encouraged and invited to attend.

The President adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

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Jonathan Smalley
Acting Secretary