Ohio Northern University Faculty

Minutes of the April 10, 2007 Meeting

I. President Baker called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

II. Invocation was offered by Dr. Louis Lobenhofer.

III. Minutes from March 13, 2007 were approved as submitted.

IV. Unfinished Business: None.

V. Questions for the President:
   a) In response to a question from the faculty, Dr. Baker noted that the Calendar Issues Committee continues to gather information from institutions that have transitioned from quarters to semesters. The committee will soon be completing its study and providing a report to the Academic Affairs Committee, which will then determine whether to bring the issue before the faculty.
   b) In response to a question from the faculty, Dr. Baker provided an update on Professor Keiser.
   c) Dr. Baker discussed the effect that proposed cuts to the Ohio Student Choice grant program would have on the University. Approximately 80% of all ONU undergraduates currently receive this $900 grant, and if the Governor’s proposal is accepted the additional financial burden would have to be absorbed either by the students, which would negatively impact enrollment, or by the University, which would require changes in the current budget allocations to provide the additional $1.5-$2 million needed. President Baker urged all faculty members to learn more at www.aicuo.org, and to use any personal or professional contacts they might have in order to express their views to state legislators. VP Hilderbrand also noted that the ONU Student Senate is organizing a task force to coordinate student efforts.
   d) Dr. Baker reviewed the results of the recent evaluation of VP Lippert. He noted that as a result of the electronic survey format, the response rate had increased since the previous evaluation, with 150 respondents out of 232 possible. The “overall” rating of Dr. Lippert was 4.0 (on a 5 point scale). Dr. Baker also noted the strengths and weaknesses indicated by the evaluation, and provided several of the negative and positive comments offered by respondents, noting that the vast majority of responses were positive. Anyone interested in further information may contact the President’s Office.

VI. University Council: No report.

VII. Report of Constitutional Committees
   a) Budget and Appropriations – At the March 14 meeting, the committee approved a 4% salary increase, with a salary catch-up funding of $250,000 and an increase of 0.5% in the university’s TIAA-CREF contribution.
   b) Academic Affairs – No report.
   c) Student Activities – No report.
   d) Personnel – No report.

VIII. Reports of Operational Committees:
   a) Committee on Athletics – No report.
   b) Cultural and Special Events – No report.
   c) International Affairs – No report.
   d) Religious Affairs – No report.
   e) Information Technology – No report.

IX. Other Reports: None.

X. New Business: None.
Ohio Northern University Faculty

XI. **Announcements:**
   a) The Center for Cuban Business Studies has received a $10,000 grant from the Christopher Reynolds Foundation. This grant will be used to partially subsidize ONU students who will study at the University of Havana Environmental Management Program.
   b) Mr. Carpenter noted that registration for Fall Quarter has begun, and reminded faculty to be sure to sign course request forms and keep a copy for their records.
   c) VP Hilderbrand noted the activity of selection committees for the DeBow Freed Leadership Awards, the Catherine Freed Leadership Award, the President’s Leadership Dessert, and the Greek Community awards, and offered her thanks to all those faculty members involved in the selection process for the various campus awards.
   d) Dr. Alhajji will be discussing the Iranian situation at 7 pm on Wednesday, April 11 in the Dicke Forum. The presentation is sponsored by the College of Business Administration and Phi Beta Delta.
   e) Dr. Goldberg reminded the faculty that Honors Day will be held on Saturday, May 5.
   f) The ONU Working Group on Religion, Ethics, and Nature will be sponsoring a lecture on ecological restoration by Dr. William Jordan III at 7:00 pm on Monday, April 23 in the Dicke Forum.

XII. The meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Submitted by,

Dr. David R. Sawyers, Jr.
Secretary