President Owen McDougal called the Faculty Senate to order at 3:21pm.


Introductions

President Kustra

- *President McDougal:* Congratulated Dr. Martin Schimpf and Provost Andrews for their recent changes in position and introduced President Kustra.
- *President Kustra:* He would like to use the attention the university has gotten to recruit the best faculty, staff, and students. He recognized some accomplishments of Provost Andrews and Vice President LaLiberte because of their new positions. He was contacted by the Kauffman Foundation that focuses on Innovation and Creativity with an invitation to present Boise State. The University is getting phone calls everyday about being involved with what is happening at Boise State. The current model for the Tuition Dependent Benefit is that one dependent of a full-time faculty member would be eligible to receive tuition at 35% of the standard in-state cost. The tuition benefit will serve to attract and retain good people. This program has widespread support from the other universities in the state with a trial start fall 2011. The dependent tuition discount would be good at the institution where the employee works. They are continuing the exploration of health care. The university is looking at the benefits of a trimester system instead of a summer session. New three year degrees are almost becoming standard for change and the trimester system can get us there. He encouraged the Senate to sign up for the Presidential Leadership Academy. He commended the Senate for their effort on the new core curriculum plan; a model that can be found at the finest universities in the country.
- *Representative Johnson:* Would students be able to be involved with other activities of campus even though they are not fee paying students?
- *President Kustra:* At Boise State, yes. There may be some exceptions.
- *President McDougal:* Asked for an approximate timeline for the provost search.
- *President Kustra:* By the end of the second semester; by early April 2011.

Idaho State University Senate Chair and Co-Chair: Phil Cole and Michael Ellis

- *President McDougal:* Introduced Dr. Phil Cole and Dr. Michael Ellis from the ISU Faculty Senate.
- *Dr. Phil Cole:* Applauded President Kustra’s remarks in support of co-governance. It is important to pay attention to other sister universities Faculty Senates because the same board oversees all of them. At their Senate a resolution was passed to have President Art
Vailas request the removal of an agenda item that is the report of an Institutional Governance Advisory Committee (IGAC) to the State Board of Education. The IGAC report recommends the creation of four controversial committees that serve the same purpose as committees of the Faculty Senate with the difference being that membership would be appointed rather than elected by the faculty. The committees would provide oversight of curriculum, budget, research, and facility planning. Faculty at ISU would like the IGAC report pulled from the SBOE agenda because it is bad for ISU and bad for Idaho.

- **President McDougal**: Asked what things have worked well, what has failed, and what accountability measures should be built into a set of bylaws?
- **Dr. Michael Ellis**: The 20% petition signed by faculty requiring an all faculty vote was used twice in the past year. They also had issues with the termination of a tenured faculty member and the process by which that termination took place.
- **Dr. Phil Cole**: He suggested that a universal Constitution for all universities in Idaho would ensure that there would be approval by the ISU administration and the SBOE.
- **President McDougal**: Expressed willingness to share the Constitution revised by the BSU faculty that could provide a common premise for the governing document of other institutions.
- **Senator Rohn**: Asked how the role of the faculty ombudsman assisted with the issues between faculty and the administration.
- **Dr. Michael Ellis**: Faculty ombudsman did not have a significant impact on resolving the issues.
- **Senator Baker**: What are you going to do next and what if it doesn’t happen?
- **Dr. Phil Cole**: We hope to have the IGAC report removed from the SBOE agenda. If it doesn’t happen, we will have to react.
- **President McDougal**: Suggested that BSU would have their Constitution revised by the State Board meeting, October 13/14 and that he could bring the document for discussion with the other Senate Chairs/Presidents.

2) Approval of Past Minutes  
(a) September 14, 2010
- **Senator Lowe** moved to address the minutes. It was seconded by Senator Willerton.
- Senator Garza corrected an error related to policy 3060.
- **Senator Rohn** moved to pass the minutes. The motion was seconded by Senator Garza. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3) Old Business  
(a) Constitution and Bylaws
- **Vice President Gregory** moved to hold a Special Session of the Faculty Senate Tuesday, October 5 to discuss the Constitution and Bylaws. Senator Allerton seconded.
- Senator Lubamersky: Suggested that each Senator send copies of the constitution to their constituents.
- **President McDougal**: The goal would be to discuss the remaining parts of constitution next Tuesday followed by a vote on the Constitution at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Senate October 12. The goal would be to have the Constitution available for the December SBOE meeting, which means that it would have to be submitted to the Board in November.
- President McDougal called to vote. The motion passed with a majority. McCain abstained.

4) New Business

(a) Online course evaluation policy
- Andy Goodman: We would like the Faculty Senate to endorse the purchasing of an online course evaluation system. We encourage each department to look at current course evaluation questions and improve the quality of those questions. Moving to an online system would improve quality, be cheaper, greener, and provide results more quickly. This system increases the anonymity of students. Validity would be increased by this system and the results are more informative.
- Marsha Fitzgerald: We developed survey and majority liked the online system. A strong majority wanted to move to online system. Instructors wanted the ability to add their own questions. There will be comparative results to other faculty.
- Vice President Gregory: What is the students’ response rate for the online surveys and are students able to take the survey multiple times?
- Andy Goodman: This past summer, the system was shut down early because students could see their grades before they evaluated the professor. This resulted in a 58% response rate. If the evaluation was able to go the whole time, it was expected to have a 73% response rate. Response rate was lower and the rating is the same but the value of online evaluation was greater. Students were only allowed to evaluate one course one time.
- Senator Cahill: Why did you choose this program for evaluation? What criteria did you use?
- Andy Goodman: Broad based committee served as evaluators. We researched many programs, narrowed the field to three and chose the one that fit BSU the best. The software likely to be adopted is OnlineCourseEvals.com developed by GAP Technologies.
- Senator Baker: Incentives provided higher response rates.
- Senator Lubamersky: We should provide a universal incentive similar to University of Oregon. They give grades earlier if student participate in the online evaluation.
- Senator Baker: All professors operate their classes differently. We shouldn't do a university wide incentive.
- President McDougal: We need to stay on topic. The request on the floor is for the FS to endorse a recommendation to purchase software, not to develop an incentive policy to increase student participation.
- Senator McCain: Who is going to pay for this?
- Marsha Fitzgerald: The Provost office will pay for this program.
- Senator McCain moved to endorse providing a universal online evaluation to faculty and Senator Cahill seconded. It passed with a majority.

(b) Senate Liaisons
- Core Curriculum- Senator Crowley
- Summer Session Task Force-Senator Garza

(c) Committee Vacancies
- Vice President Gregory: Assessed committee vacancies one committee at a time. Vacancies were identified and the Nominating Committee will convene to fill them.
- President McDougal: Suggested that once the Committees of the Senate are at full capacity, two initiatives will be put forth, 1) Faculty Incentives- Reduced FTE program
to be sent to Research Committee, and 2) a Discretionary Salary Incentive Program to be sent to Financial Affairs. President McDougal will meet with Interim Provost Schimpf and Vice President Rudin to evaluate best procedures to move these items forward before sending them to committee.

5) Adjournment
- Senator Rohn moved to adjourn. It was seconded by Senator Baker. Motion passed with a majority.