President Owen McDougal called the Faculty Senate to order at 3:20 p.m.


Agenda Items:
2) Approval of Past Minutes
   (a) January 25, 2011
      - Senator Folkner replaced her comment on page 2 with the following: “Library faculty have expressed concern with the phrase regarding teaching controversial matter which has no relation to their subject. Often library instruction classes teach how to find information on controversial topics that are relevant to the subject that the students are studying but that might not be considered relevant to library science.”
      - Motion to approve minutes as amended by Senator Marker. Seconded by Senator McCain. Motion carries unanimously.

3) New Business
   (a) Pablo Coblentz, Assistant Vice President/Human Resources Services
      - Provided a brief biographical description. Pablo comes to the University with a broad base that would accommodate the research direction of the university and the use of new technology.
      - Status of health care consortium is being conducted by Jane Buser and the preliminary analysis should be concluded by the end of the month.
      - Did not know the status of whether part time employees of the University would be considered in the health care discussion.
   (b) Roger Munger, Faculty Athletics Representative
      - He was appointed as faculty athletics representative in May 2010. The NCAA requires this position as appointed by the president. His position is to provide a balance between athletics and academics and in this he is to maintain institutional control, athlete welfare, and academic integrity. He certifies all student athletes according to NCAA compliance rules and regulations. Boise State athletes have the highest grade point averages for the WAC for a number of sports and the most number one rankings according to the academic performance ranking.
      - Main purpose of his position is to be the liaison between academics and athletics. He is the contact person for faculty regarding student athletes.
   (c) Janet Atkinson, Director of Distance Education-Distance Education Strategic Planning Steering Committee
      - This past year, Boise State University made a commitment to develop a formal plan for distance education. Currently, 97% of distance education is delivered
online, 35 departments and 214 faculty teach online. Approximately 25% of students at BSU took at least one online course within the last year. This is about 10% of the Universities activity. The Distance Education Strategic Planning Steering committee will look at the use of technology in distance learning and in person. The members of the committee were listed.

- **Senator Baker** asked what the goal was for the size of distance education. The response was to investigate this in the strategic planning committee.
- The committee is requesting broad faculty representation. **Senator Rohn** volunteered to be on the committee.

*(d) Hubbell Article*

- **President McDougal** will be stepping down from the position of Faculty Senate president. The article does a nice job of detailing the need for a Senate president, while providing a realistic view of the required sacrifices. The Idaho State Board of Education is meeting at Boise State University next week (February 17). This is a great opportunity to see how the Board works. Anyone interested in considering a nomination for the position of Senate president should speak to President McDougal.

*(e) Constitution*

- **General Counsel Advice**
  - **President McDougal**: Has been advised by Associate Vice President for General Counsel Kevin Satterlee that it is his opinion that in the court of law, the State Board policy on academic freedom and responsibility supersedes the University faculty constitution.
  - **Senator Baker**: Kevin Satterlee represents the University’s interests so it might be advisable to have an outside legal professional look at our constitution.
  - **Senator Marker**: It is a good idea to get some sort of second read especially in regard to the academic freedom language being superfluous.
  - **Senator McCain**: Our constitution provides more protection than the State Board policy. At a minimum, this document represents our vision of how we treat each other and how we should be treated on our campus. An issue would only surface in the event that a case was severe enough to get to the State Board. Most conflicts are dealt with at a University level.
  - **Senator McCain moved to accept the changes and send the amended constitution to a vote by the faculty. Seconded by Senator Allerton. Senator Baker, Senator Garza, and Senator Lubamersky voted against the motion. The for-against-abstain vote was 9-3-0.**
  - **Senator Baker moved to send the amended constitution for review by outside legal counsel before sending the constitution to a faculty vote. Seconded by Senator Garza. The for-against-abstain vote was 3-7-2 Senator Baker, Senator Lubamersky, and Senator Garza voted for the motion. Senator Lowe and Senator Folkner abstained. Motion did not pass.**
  - **President McDougal** requested feedback regarding who would be responsible for administering the Official Faculty vote on the faculty constitution. The
Senate decided that Associate Director of Institutional Analysis Assessment and Reporting, Marcia Belcheir, should be the individual to administer the survey to protect the anonymity of the faculty that participate. The survey will be set up to register who voted, but not what they voted. This allows email reminders to be sent to faculty that have not responded.

4) Committee Business

- **Academic Standard: Senator Allerton:** The posting of grades has been discussed and changed and will be presented to the Senate shortly. Admissions requested that we no longer use the Michigan test for admissions. The next meeting of the Academic Standards Committee will be February 10, 2011. There are some positions that have not been filled on the committee; please contact Vice President Gregory to volunteer.

- **Core Curriculum: Senator Crowley** was not present.

- **Core Reform Task Force: Senator Lowe:** The new name of the task force is the Foundation Implementation Task Force. The group is being lead by Helen Lojek. The deadline for applications to the task force will April 15, 2011. For faculty looking to get involved in course development, they should contact their chair. There are also forms available online.

- **Curriculum: Vice President Gregory** was not present.

- **Diversity:** Senator Ziker was not present.

- **Financial Affairs: Senator McCain:** The committee has been evaluating options are for faculty compensation. Things that involve compensation are salary and ways of increasing salary which include summer school, becoming a chair, or a promotion. Anything else is not a salary. Overload has been looked at; taking on a class beyond assigned work load, taking on additional assignments like contracts, non-appropriated monies, and creative fund raising activities. In research, the committee will meet with VP for Research Rudin to explore the rules and regulations. An initiative is being worked on regarding a statement to support the idea of setting aside money annually for faculty pay raises.

- **Faculty Grievance: Senator Willerton:** No grievance has been brought to the committee. The existing policy was not up to date so the committee forwarded it on to be updated.

- **Nominating:** Vice President Gregory was not present.

- **Alternative Academic Calendar Committee: President McDougal:** Currently the committee is compiling information on what Boise State University currently does. The committee will not make a recommendation but they will compare different models used by institutions of higher education to provide services to students. The models will range from the current BSU academic calendar to a year round University.

- **Professional Standards: Senator Lubamersky:** The committee is currently looking at the workload policy because it is being implemented differently across campus. The hope is to draft a proposal to present to the Faculty Senate. President McDougal suggested that the committee should investigate the work of Royal Roads University, Canada. President McDougal will put Senator Lubamersky in contact with David Black of Royal Roads to obtain their workload policy to use as a model.

- **Campus Sustainability: Senator Marker:** The committee looked at climate change and the University's sustainability ratings which is tricky because it depends on what they look at. They decided not pursue building certification because they felt like the money for certification could be used to make the building more sustainable. They are looking into
an undergraduate sustainability certificate. Senator Lowe surveyed that very few
departments use recycled paper. Substantial savings could be garnered by using 30% 
recycled paper.

- **Graduate Council: Senator Rafla:** The Graduate Council meetings every two weeks. The 
council has been looking at the catalog and trying to update it. Updates regarding the 
Ph.D. programs in Public Policy, Materials Science and Engineering, and Biomolecular 
Sciences were provided. The Biomolecular Ph.D. program was approved several years 
ago, but is currently on hold due to the budget. The Masters in Political Science is on 
hold. The full proposal has not been submitted for the Ph.D. in Public Policy. The Ph.D. 
program in Educational Technology will have a full proposal expected to be presented to 
the State Board of Education in April. The masters in STEM Education full proposal is 
currently moving through the system in preparation to go to the SBOE.

- **Research Committee: Senator Brown:** The committee has been looking at the 
Distinguished Professorship Program and has been making recommendations that will be 
presented to the Faculty Senate. The committee plans to look at the intellectual property 
policy, research misconduct policy, and the conflict of interest policy.

- **Sabbatical Leave: Senator Cahill** was not present.

- **Student Affairs: Senator English:** President McDougal asked that the Student Grievance 
Policy be looked at by the committee. President Kustra’s Policy Group has rewritten 
policy 3130B that passed the Senate in the Fall of 2010. The Policy Group has written a 
new policy 3140 that will replace 3130B. President McDougal has requested that policy 
3140 return to the Senate for approval. Interim Provost Schimpf will check the status of 
the policy.

- **Steering Committee: Vice President Gregory** was not present.

5) Adjournment

- **Motion to adjourn by Senator Brown. Seconded by Senator Marker. Faculty 
Senate adjourned at 4:51 pm.**