

The meeting of the 2015-2016 Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by President Bob Soltis. The following senators were present for all or part of the meeting: Dan Alexander, Klaus Bartschat, Robyn Cooper, David Courard-Hauri, Debra DeLaet, Carrie Dunham-LaGree, Todd Evans, Bruce Gilbert, Adina Klipatrick, Craig Owens, Chuck Phillips, Nancy Reincke, Elizabeth Robertson, Eric Saylor, Joseph Schneider, LouAnn Simpson, Maria Valdovinos, Darcie Vandergrift, Melissa Weresh, Craige Wrenn, Bob Soltis

Absent: Maria Clapham, Pat Heaston

The January 2016 meeting minutes were accepted as presented with a change. The change is to add the following language to President Soltis's report. "The academic calendar issue would be taken to Council of Academic & Administration Departments (CAAD) for their review and input."

President Martin was not present as he was away from campus on University business.

Interim Provost Lenz Report

The opening topic for Provost Lenz was an update on continuing discussions regarding the Advising TIG report and the Goal Working Group 2 (GWG2) discussion concerning a centralized Registrar Office. He indicated the discussions have become intertwined including an August 2015 Learning Symposium session and a set of academic leaders to a national advising conference. The current conversation surrounds a model which blends administrative tasks with advising duties. Additionally there are software packages to help personnel in any of the future changed administrative structure. The next stage is more conversation about next steps.

Senator Owens noted a recent On Campus announcement mentioning faculty diversity successes. He asked what is being planned to move these persons to engaged faculty members. Provost Lenz did not have a list of specific plans to share today yet the issue is to mentor all tenure track faculty. Senator Owens followed up with asking if the new provost is aware, to which the answer was yes. Senator Saylor shared that Arts & Sciences search committee chairs did receive access to helpful videos to better perform a personnel searches.

President Soltis Report:

Student Senate representation Kristen Donat opened her comments reminding the Senators of the March 3rd Academic Affairs dinner with Student Senators. Additionally, she asked for faculty help concerning lessening the load of tests or major paper before finals week. While she did not have direct data to share, this causes a scrambling of studying for a test rather than learning. There was a discussion of the existing rules and known late term expectations. The comments included wondering if these stress phenomena are related to the grading deadline change; a function of shortening the semester or related to a timing issue of when an assignment is given to its deadline. Ms. Donat will strive to collect some evidence and follow up on suggestions.

President Soltis indicated the Senate At-Large nomination ballot will come out later this week. Senator Reincke encouraged faculty to look broadly for Senate nominees irrespective of time at Drake or past Senate service.

As an interesting comment, President Soltis shared about the recent Career Fair having 134 employers in attendance which is capacity, and a record number of students participating. He learned some employers were also at ISU in same week and employers noted our students were more prepared and professional. This is an exciting image for Drake students to display to the community.

The Senate Executive Committee will take up the issue of reviewing the Academic Charter. The intention will be to do some of the easy items first, such as reaffirming what is good and identifying portions which will include more engagement with the President and Board of Trustees. No timeline to complete the review has been set.

Finally, invitations will come out later this month for the Presidential Inauguration on April 28th. There will be an afternoon ceremony and reception

Unfinished Business – None presented

New Business:

Senator Gilbert distributed a document to all Senators titled “Summary of 15 Feb 2016 CAAD discussion which included a motion concerning the 2017-2018 academic calendar.”

Senator Gilbert moved and Evans seconded **motion 16:07**

ELIMINATE JTerm for 2017-2018 AY ONLY by adopting the following calendar. The Provost’s Office would make plans to cover the educational goals of JTerm for that ONE YEAR by shifting travel (and other) courses to May Term. The Provost’s Office would then report back to Senate if Fall 2018 on the impact (positive and negative) of the one-year elimination.

It is noted that subsequent action by Senate may rescind this elimination, however, the dates for Fall and Spring semester should be considered “settled” upon passage of this motion.

Proposed Calendar: (Changed dates in bold, eliminated in ~~overstruck~~) 2017-2018 (non-Law)

Summer begin May 15 (Mon); Memorial Day (no classes), May 29 (Mon); Independence Day (no classes July 4, (Tues); End to be determined once the Fall law start date is established.

Fall: Begin Aug 28 (Mon); Labor Day (no classes) Sept 4 (Mon); Fall Break, Oct 16 & 17, (Mon&Tues); Mid-point Oct 18 (Wed); Thanksgiving (no classes) Nov 22-26 (Wed-Sun); Class Day count (at least 68) 68; excluding Final Eval Period and Day Free for Study; Day free for Study Dec 8 (Fri); Final Evaluation Period Dec 11-15 (Mon-Fri); End Dec 15 (Fri); Commencement Dec 16 (Sat);

Winter Break # of weekdays 24;

January: ~~Begin Jan 3 (Wed) Class Day count (at least 14) 17; MLK Jr. Day (no classes) Jan 15 (Mon); End Jan 26 (Fri);~~

Spring Begin Jan 22 (Mon); Mid-point Mar 9 (Fri); Spring Break Dates not being presented at this time; Classes dismissed at 1:50 p.m. April 27 (Fri); Class Day count (at least 68) 69 Excluding Final Eval Period and Day Free for Study

Day Free for Study May 4 (Fri); Final Evaluation Period May 7-11 (Mon-Fri); End May 11 (Fri) – Commencement (non-Law) May 13 (Sun)

Senator Gilbert spoke to the CAAD (Council of Academic and Administrative Departments) discussion of the academic calendar where there was no support for the JTerm starting on a date which would cause staff to work on January 1st. There was discussion of the eliminating JTerm for a single year. Senator Courard-Hauri noted Drake has sold this to students and faculty as a positive learning opportunity. He was not against a one day shorter JTerm. Also, Senator Courard-Hauri spoke in favor of allowing first year students in JTerm courses.

At this point, the five minute rule was met and a motion to extend discussion failed.

Senator Owens and Phillips moved and seconded **motion 16.08:**

Confirm the 2017-2018 Academic Calendar

<http://facultysenate.drake.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2012/09/Approval-2017-18.pdf>

President Soltis confirmed for Senators the current motion refers to a 2014 approved set of dates. This calendar included two points which are outside the calendar construction guidelines (the last day of the spring term evaluations and Spring Commencement). When asked, he indicated he had spoken to Associate Provost Melissa Sturm-Smith who convenes CAAD. He reported that CAAD found the dates to be workable. Associate Provost Art Sanders indicated the JTerm Oversight Group would review how to take care of having an extra three day Jterm session. They would discuss and prepare for such an implementation.

The motion passed on a voice vote with one dissension.

Senators DeLaet and Alexander moved and seconded motion **16.09**:

Approve changes and additions to the Senate Rules and Regulations to create the office of Immediate Past President

& Change wording within President-Elect & renumber as needed

*Section I. A. Designated Officers
(Secretary's note: add underlined portion below)*

A. Designated Officers. The designated officers of the Faculty Senate are the President, the President-Elect, Immediate Past President, and the Secretary.

*Section I. C.6 Duties.
(Secretary's note: third bullet; delete "the January" and insert "all" & "s" as underlined)*

- *When the Senate President is unable to preside at Faculty Senate meetings or meetings of the Executive Committee, the President-Elect shall preside.*
- *The President-Elect shall perform other duties as assigned by the President of the Senate.*
- *The President-elect should attend all ~~the January~~ s Board of Trustees meetings.*

Section I. D. 1. 2. 3. 4. Immediate past President

(Secretary's note: add underlined portions below)

D. Immediate Past President

1. Term. After serving a one-year term as President, the President shall serve a one-year term as Immediate Past President. The term will begin on the day following spring commencement and end one year later.

2. Ex Officio, Non-voting Senator. The Immediate Past President shall serve as an ex officio, non-voting Senator.

3. Succession. If the Immediate Past President resigns or is unable to complete his or her term, the Senate Executive Committee may appoint an Immediate Past President from those individuals who have served as president in previous years.

4. Duties.

The Immediate Past President shall attend Faculty Senate and Senate Executive Committee meetings to provide context in deliberations and continuity of senate initiatives.

The Immediate Past President should attend all Board of Trustees meetings.

Section I. D. Secretary becomes Section I.E.

Further information at: <http://faculty.senate.drake.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2012/09/Senate-Rules-Past-president.pdf>

Senator Simpson voiced a concern about section D.2. as an Immediate Past President could have another term of service. She supported the idea of the position as it brings experience and knowledge to the body. She was concerned that someone elected should not have their vote taken away.

Senator Simpson moved and Owens seconded an amendment to add at the end of the sentence to Section D. 2.: "*unless that person is serving a term as an elected Senator.*"

The amendment passed on a voice vote without dissent.

When asked why the position needs to be added to the rules, President Soltis responded this would give weight to their standing and codifies what may be happening anyway.

Senator Phillips asked to learn about what negatives may be perceived with this action. Senator DeLaet offered this was a part of the discussion when considering changing the Senate Rules. Each experience is unique, she continued. Also, important are the relationships with Board of Trustee members which will hopefully be able to be fostered longer than one year. Both Senators agreed that three years of Senate leadership service is will take effort, giving up some things for Senate work and certainly time consuming. Provost Lenz commented on the effort to have faculty and Board of Trustee relationships. Senator Courard-Hauri offered he saw good reasons for the change and yet struggled with asking what may seem to be two years of Senate presidency. It would be a time commitment.

The motion as amended passed, via a voice vote including two abstentions and one dissension.

Senator Owens and Reincke moved and seconded **motion 16.10:**

Approve Adjunct Faculty Salary Per Credit Hour Minimum

*Whereas per-course salaries for adjunct faculty at Drake have remained virtually unchanged for over a decade, and
“Whereas adjunct faculty do not enjoy the job security of continuing, tenure-track, or tenured appointments, and
“Whereas Drake University relies on part-time adjunct faculty to teach essential courses in the General Education and
Major curricula, and
“Whereas Drake University expects its adjunct faculty to hold terminal degrees in the fields in which they teach,
“The Faculty Senate at Drake University, by this resolution, urges University leadership to establish \$1,333 as the minimum
per-credit hour salary for part-time, adjunct faculty*

Further information at: <http://facultysenate.drake.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2012/09/Motion-Adjunct-Salaries-020916.pdf>

When asked what budget implications can be expected from this motion, the answer ranged from \$35,000 to over \$100,000. The body was caution to know which definitions were being used to define adjunct faculty and who might already be paid above this stated minimum in the motion. Provost Lenz offered sympathy for the motion’s intent. He asked if a time table is attached to the motion. Several persons agreed it was not meant to impact the Fiscal Year 2017 salaries.

Senator Cooper stated the School of Education uses about 50 adjunct professors and none are at the minimum dollar amount stated in the motion. She indicated the instructors are mostly handling one course at a time and working for Drake is not their full time employment. Senator Evans stated the motion is telling the administration the current practice is inequitable and Senate is urging this issue become a priority. Senator Owens agreed the motion asks the administration to investigate the issue. Senator Robertson noted that any adjunct may be teaching at more than one institution. She agreed this is the right way to progress.

Senator DeLaet agreed different colleges and schools use adjunct professor’s differently. She indicated one purpose of the motion is to be reflective on how adjuncts are hired, used and paid. Senator Saylor noted that several years ago there was a push to have Arts & Sciences adjunct to get some benefits. He reminded the group that these instructors are being entrusted with Drake students and elements of the Drake degree. Senator Schneider asked what would happen if the motion passed besides make the Senators feel good. President Soltis indicated this would put the issue on the record and additionally send the topic to the Senate Budget Committee.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

Senate adjourned at 4:56 p.m. Secretary, Nancy Geiger