Minutes of the University Senate Meeting
December 1, 2011

1.

The December meeting of the University Senate was held at 4:05 p.m. on Thursday, December 1, 2011 in Room 7, Gamble Hall. Curt Stofferahn presided.

2.

The following members of the Senate were present:


Harsell, Dana  Hillebrand, Diane  Jeno, Sue  Johnson, Phyllis  Kelley, Robert  Kenville, Kimberly  Khavanin, Mohammad  Koepke-Nelson, Yvette  Laguette, Soizik  Langstraat, Jeffrey  LeBel, Paul  McGinniss, Mike  Mikulak, Marcia  Mitzell, John  Mochoruk, James  Moen, Joseph

Munski, Doug  Murp...
d. SEC has begun the process of updating the Faculty Handbook. Mr. Mochoruk and Provost LeBel will seek a faculty member to work on the project.
e. Mr. Stofferahn reported that Krista Minnotte has been appointed to be the University Senate representative to the Work Well Advisory Board.
f. Mr. Munski reported that CCF is asking campuses to read and reflect on the SBHE document on system efficiencies by SBHE President Shaft. Faculty and students are asked to be proactive and make suggestions. The document is located on the SBHE website.
g. Ms. Mikulak announced the launch of a new field school at the end of spring semester in Brazil. Those participating are leaving in May after school is out. If anyone is interested they should contact her.
h. Mr. Mochoruk moved that the report on the ad hoc committee on USAT be placed on the business calendar with a request of the Senate for a vote of support in principle. There were no objections. The item was added to the business agenda.

5.

Mr. Stofferahn called attention to the minutes of the November 3, 2011 meeting. He asked if there were any corrections; hearing none, the minutes were approved as distributed.

6.

The question period was opened at 4:22 p.m.

Mr. Berger asked President Kelley about the news reports of UND students graduating with the highest debt in the country. Mr. Kelley stated that the expensive programs like aerospace and medicine impact the high debt. He indicated when the high cost programs are combined with the other programs, the cost is increased, but, if the higher cost programs are removed, the cost is more average. Mr. Berger asked if some office could dissect this and show the cost without the higher cost programs. Mr. Kelley said that could be possible and that the information is available for anyone to review. Mr. Kelley said he would see if he could bring something back to Senate. Mr. Murphy indicated that perhaps the additional explanation could be spun to counter the negative press releases. Mr. Kelly indicated he will bring back accurate and reliable information.

Mr. Murphy asked about the crosswalk lines across University being poorly marked. He asked about better marking for faculty and student safety. Mr. Kelley said he made a note regarding this. Mr. Munski indicated there is a Traffic and Transit Committee meeting on December 9 and perhaps this would be a good place for information. He indicated Peggy Lucke may have additional information.

Ms. Mikulak asked why there are no crosswalks on the campus for safety issues as well. Mr. Munski indicated there is an effort being made to make UND more pedestrian friendly. He also indicated that it would be good to invite Ms. Brekke to speak to this issue or have a report from Peggy Lucke on what is planned.

The question period closed at 4:28 p.m.

7.

Attention was called to the annual report from the Senate Continuing Education Committee. Mr. Mochoruk moved approval to file the report. Ms. Kenville seconded the motion and the report was approved to be filed.

8.

The Curriculum Committee report for November was presented. There were no questions. Mr. Munski moved approval of the report. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion and the report was approved with a vote of 45 for and 1 abstention.
9. The candidates for degrees in December were presented. Mr. Munski moved approval. Ms. Smart seconded the motion and the candidates were approved with a vote of 43 for and 2 abstentions.

10. The Intercollegiate Athletics Committee proposed changes to the Senate charge were reviewed. Mr. Stofferahn indicated that Mr. Murphy or Ms. Jeno were available to answer questions. Mr. Berger moved an amendment to retain the original first paragraph that was marked for deletion. There was a second by Mr. Gerbert. Ms. Jeno explained why the paragraph was deleted. Mr. Murphy spoke against the motion. The vote was taken and the amendment to the charge was defeated with a vote of 9 for, 33 for and 3 abstentions. Mr. Mochoruk offered a friendly amendment to add a bullet under the “Subcommittee on Academic Integrity & Student Athlete Well-Being” titled “Review programs in place for Student Athlete Physical and Emotional Well-being.” Mr. Murphy accepted the friendly amendment on behalf of the committee. The vote was taken and the revised committee charge was approved with a vote of 44 for and 1 abstention.

11. Mr. Stofferahn called attention to the Ad hoc Committee on Teaching. Mr. Mochoruk moved that the Senate approve the document in principle. There was a second by Ms. Smart. Mr. Murphy suggested the Senate should just approve the document. The suggestion was accepted by Mr. Mochoruk as a friendly amendment. Mr. Gerbert asked about the makeup of the committee. Mr. Stofferahn indicated a student would be appointed but did not have the remaining committee members. The motion was approved with a vote of 44 for and 1 abstention.

12. Mr. Gerbert moved to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Suzanne Anderson, Secretary
University Senate