Minutes of the University Senate Meeting
April 4, 2013

1.

The April meeting of the University Senate was held at 4:05 p.m. on Thursday, April 4, 2013 in Room 7, Gamble Hall. Jim Mochoruk presided.

2.

The following members of the Senate were present:

- Ames, Forrest
- Anderson, Suzanne
- Bass, Gail
- Bateman, Connie
- Brekke, Alice
- Bridewell, John
- Cherry, Emily
- Dewar, Graeme
- Drewes, Mary
- Dunlevy, Jane
- Eckmann, Lindsey
- Ernst, Julia
- Fazel-Rezai, Reza
- Gapp, Jacob
- Gerbert, Shane
- Goodwin, Janice
- Hillebrand, Diane
- Heitkamp, Thomasine
- Koepke-Nelson, Yvette
- Korom, Scott
- Kurtz, Sharley
- Liang, Lewis
- Luber, Patrick
- Malott, Daniel
- McNulty, Laurie
- Mikulak, Marcia
- Mitzell, John
- Mochoruk, James
- Mosher, Sarah
- Noghanian, Sima
- Oommen, Abraham
- Ozaki, Casey
- Petros, Thomas
- Ray, Linda
- Reesor, Lori
- Stofferahn, Curt
- Stolt, Wilbur
- Stone, Jan
- Sturges, Denyse
- Towne, Gary
- Walker, Anne
- Walton, Susan
- Wang, Enru
- Watne, Eric
- Worley, Paul
- Young, Patricia
- Zerr, Ryan

3.

The following members of the Senate were absent:

- Adams, Darla
- Beck, Pamela
- Berg, Kate
- Caine, Dennis
- Caraher, Bill
- Casler, James
- Combs, Barbara
- Doze, Van
- Elbert, Dennis
- El-Rewini, Hesham
- Evanson, Tracy
- Fletcher, Logan
- Gorney, Kjiesta
- Hargreens, Cara
- Harsell, Dana
- Holland, Dixie
- Johnson, Phyllis
- Jonientz, Joel
- Kelley, Robert
- Kitzes, Adam
- Korniewicz, Denise
- LeBelt, Paul
- Lindseth, Paul
- McBride, Rosanne
- Morrison, Steven
- Murphy, Eric
- Nelson, Christopher
- Poochigian, Donald
- Rand, Kathryn
- Schlosser, Isaac
- Schultz, Kasey
- Shanta, Linda
- Sum, Paul
- Sun, Jeffrey
- Swisher, Wayne
- Tiemann, Kathleen
- Vetter, Jennifer
- Wynne, Joshua

4.

The following announcements were made:

a. Mr. Mochoruk first expressed his thanks to Paul LeBelt for his many years of service on University Senate and as a key member of the Senate Executive Committee.

b. Mr. Mochoruk then introduced the newly elected Student Government leaders. Nick Creamer is the new Student Body President and Lexi Hanson is the new Student Body Vice President.
c. Kim Ruliffson presented on the Wellness at OUR Workplace initiative. She encouraged senators to participate in the Work Well Program and activities. The program is supported by the President’s Office. The deans were challenged to develop wellness activities for their colleges and the programs are now in progress.

d. VP for University and Public Affairs, Susan Walton, updated the Senate on the legislative session. She first expressed appreciation to all who participate in the legislative process. She indicated that there are guidelines for contacts with legislators on the University Relations website at: http://und.edu/university-relations/_files/docs/government-relations-guidelines.pdf. Ms. Walton reminded the Senators that today is day 60 of the session. Legislative sessions are not, by law, to last more than 80 days. Most groups now are in committee. It is also a more quiet time and there is less advanced notice on issues. She did indicate that there may still be additional UND testimony. Generally, UND is feeling good about the opportunity to give input and we feel good about the various UND related bills as of now. The question was posed regarding the Governor’s appropriation recommendations and the current status. Ms. Brekke spoke to this issue. She indicated that the Senate pretty much passed the bill intact. On the House side, there were changes. The house decreased the salary increase to 3% each year and removed the additional retirement contributions. The bill now moves to committee where the differences will be worked out. As for capital projects, the Senate approved option two along with additional funds for a new Medical School building. The Law building funds were approved at the Senate but the house has not yet acted.

e. Joan Hawthorne and Pat O’Neill presented on the Higher Learning Commission process. Ms. Hawthorne indicated that we are near the end of the self-study process. She indicated that the HLC team will visit campus October 28-30 and they will want to talk with lots of people from all groups. This process will determine if UND maintains their institutional regional accreditation. Ms. Hawthorne then spoke more on the internal and external process and what to expect. She described the UND structure to work on the self-study. Pat O’Neill spoke regarding the publicity activities and the public sessions available for campus. Fall 2011 was when the criterion groups started working on the criterion requirements. During 2012-13, the work has centered on writing and the public comment. Ms. Hawthorne indicated that the self-study document for the HLC team is composed of five chapters responding to the five criteria. She then answered questions.

f. Mr. Mochoruk indicated that there will be three candidates coming next week on April 8, 9, and 10 for the Ombud position. He encouraged participation by all.

g. Mr. Mochoruk stated that he has had responses from nearly all Senate Committee chairs regarding committee issues such as workload, if the committee is needed, etc. He hopes to have results to share at the next Senate meeting. In the meantime, he will circulate a proposal to address immediate needs for the committees. The proposal is to add to the Senate Committee Manual and there will be a vote on the proposal in May. The two areas where changes are being recommended address issues with quorum and filling of vacancies and absent committee members.

h. The Senate Executive Committee has approved the plan of action proposed by the Faculty Handbook Committee. The recommendation is that the Handbook will be split into two documents: a University Organization and Service Guide comprised of current sections I, V, and VI and a University Policy Procedure Guide comprised of sections II, III and IV. All changes to the Handbook content will be presented to Senate for approval. The Faculty Handbook Committee would like the senators to consider whether there should be an overall University Handbook.
i. The Continuing Education Committee has been working hard on updating their charge and changing their committee name. Due to all the changes in organizational structure and online education, SEC reviewed the document and wanted feedback from the Provost before it is presented to Senate.

5.

Mr. Mochoruk called attention to the minutes of the March 7, 2013 meeting. He asked if there were any corrections; hearing none, Mr. Gerbert moved approval of the minutes and Mr. Stofferahn seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as distributed.

6.

The question period opened at 4:33 p.m. There were no questions.

7.

Mr. Mochoruk called attention to the annual report from the Senate Library Committee. Mr. Stofferahn moved to accept and file the report. Mr. Zerr seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

8.

Mr. Gerbert moved to approve item 5, the March 2013 Report from the Curriculum Committee, and item 6, the Senate Committee election ballot, on the Business Calendar. There was a second by Mr. Mitzel. The motion was approved unanimously.

9.

Mr. Petros presented a resolution regarding the discontinuation of the tri-annual evaluation of faculty. Discussion ensued. Mr. Petros will send out the resolution to the Senate listserv. Senators are to send suggestions back to Mr. Petros. The item will be placed on the May Senate Business Calendar.

10.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Suzanne Anderson
Secretary to the Senate