Minutes of the University Senate Meeting
November 5, 2015

1.

The November meeting of the University Senate was held at 4:05 p.m. on Thursday, November 5, 2015 in Room 113, Education. Chair Rebecca Weaver-Hightower presided.

2.

The following members of the Senate were present:

Anderson, Suzanne  
Beck, Pamela  
Bradley, April  
Bridewell, John  
Burgess, Gaye  
Campbell, Katherine  
Christopherson, Anne  
DiCristina, Bruce  
Dilorenzo, Thomas  
Doze, Van  
Ferraro, Richard  
Gedafa, Daba  
Halgren, Cara  
Hanson, Collin  
Harsell, Dana  
Henderson, Collin  
Ho, I-Hsuan  
Hunter, Cheryl  
Johnson, Chase  
Jorgenson, Terra

Keengwe, Jared  
Keville, Kim  
Kopp, Matthew  
Kurtz, Sharley  
Lagouette, Soizik  
Lawrence, David  
Lawrence, Wesley  
Liang, Lewis  
Lim, Howe  
Lindseth, Glenda  
Martin, Will  
McGimpsey, Grant  
McGinniss, Mike  
Mosher, Sarah  
Munski, Doug  
Murphy, Eric  
Nelson, Taylor  
Noghanian, Sima  
Pettinato, Tammy  
Porter, Kimberly

Pupino, Kaaren  
Quinn, Andrew  
Rakow, Lana  
Rand, Kathryn  
Richards, Thomas  
Sage, Melanie  
Schindler, Gary  
Semke, William  
Sens, Donald  
Sens, Mary Ann  
Sheridan, William  
Staples, Cliff  
Stofferahn, Curt  
Stone, Lucian  
Sutton, James  
Takahashi, Shuzo  
VanLooy, Jeffrey  
Walker, Stephanie  
Weaver-Hightower, Rebecca  
Wood, Robert

3.

The following members of the Senate were absent:

Basile, Eric  
Blanchard, Paige  
Brekke, Alice  
Brown, Ryan  
El-Rewini, Hesham  
Fazel-Rezai, Reza  
Flint, Jamie  
Flynn, Amber  
Gjellstad, Melissa  
Hill, Robert  
Jendrysik, Mark  
Keengwe, Jared  
Kelley, Robert  
Keville, Kim  
Kitzes, Adam  
Lang, Jacob  
Lerma, Sam  
Peshut, Conner  
Ray, Linda  
Reesor, Lori  
Reissig, Brad  
Ring, Tanner

Rou, Gayle  
Roux, Gayle  
Schroeder, Nate  
Smith, Bruce  
Storrs, Debbie  
Swisher, Wayne  
Tanaka, Tomohiro  
Walton, Susan  
Williams, Margaret  
Wynne, Joshua
4.

The following announcements were made:

a. Ms. Weaver-Hightower introduced Marci Mack as co-Interim Registrar and University Senate secretary.

b. An event calendar has been added to the University Senate webpage for all the Senate committee meetings and other events.

c. Ms. Weaver-Hightower reported on the results of the feedback on the senators’ priorities. She listed the priorities and the ranking for each to be worked on this upcoming year.

d. Mr. Petros shared information on open source textbooks, which NDUS is promoting. He and Mr. Harsell attended a workshop on open source textbooks and Mr. Petros will share the documents on the Senate website. Mr. Harsell reported that, as with regular text books, he learned that there are good open source textbooks and not so good. There is some funding for proposals for which UND can compete for writing and piloting.

e. Dave Chakraborty, AVP for Facilities Management, and Gary Hay, a consultant from Hay Dobbs, reported on the Master Planning process. Mr. Chakraborty gave background information and shared the questions that they are trying to look at for space efficiency, UND ranking, and priorities. He then described the process to develop the answers and the various master plans in process. The result of this project will be a list of priorities for a two-year plan. Mr. Hay shared the details of the study that he is undertaking. The initial focus is the core of the campus. The goal is to focus on students and enhance teaching and learning. The presentation will be posted on the University Senate website. Mr. Chakraborty then described the next steps.

f. Ms. Weaver-Hightower called attention to the draft Presidential search announcement. She went through the list of what is desired in a new President. She then asked the senators to submit comments to the search committee.

g. Mr. Murphy indicated he will be at the SBHE meeting regarding the Interim UND President. He encouraged the senators to email comments/concerns to him by 5:00 p.m. on Monday. He will collectively share the comments with the SBHE.

h. There was a straw poll regarding the draft presidential announcement. There was 73% support and that, along with the comments, will be shared with the committee.

i. University Senate is represented by Kanishka Marasinghe on the Registrar Search Committee.

j. Leslie Martin will represent faculty on the Policy Action Group.

k. Carolyn Ozaki is representing faculty on the Graduate Dean Search Committee.

l. Mr. Quinn shared an update on the Student Evaluation of Teaching Committee (SETIC). He explained the Committee’s charge, which is to select a new form. They have received feedback from eight focus groups and will incorporate the feedback received to this point. There are volunteer faculty who will use the proposed form in their classes. Revisions will then be made and there will be a pilot in a larger, diverse group of classes. There will be training for students and faculty and there is a software purchase in process. The goal will ultimately be to go paperless. The timeline is to have the form be used for all faculty in summer 2016 or fall 2016.

m. Ms. Weaver-Hightower presented the PTE Working Group update on work accomplishments and the communication plan.

n. Mr. Kopp reported on three resolutions that Student Senate passed: 1) to support adoption of the new UND Constitution; 2) to move from 125 to 120 credits for graduation; and 3) to adopt a statement on free expression.
Ms. Kurtz reported on Staff Senate activity: 1) they approved a resolution to support the revised UND Constitution; 2) the Tubs of Love project is underway to provide support to specific charities identified for this year; and 3) the 31 Days of Glory raffle tickets are being sold to support staff development. Ms. Kurtz also reported that budget information is being provided to staff.

Faculty have been chosen for the MIRA committees and will be announced in the near future.

The Faculty Senate process was shared. Ms. Weaver-Hightower presented a proposed revised timeline. There will be a Faculty Senate meeting on Thursday, November 12. She asked that the senators consider the timeline and voting on all the documents at once. She asked that they talk to their constituents. The timeline will be discussed on November 12.

A study of administrative evaluations has been requested. Ms. Burgess moved to place the item on the business calendar. Mr. Murphy seconded and the motion was approved.

Grant McGimpsey, VP for Research, shared ongoing research initiatives. He requested input on issues as they arise. He would like to meet with departments and also meet with individual faculty on their research. There are research advisory councils and he wants to open them up to as many as are interested. Interested faculty should contact him.

The Provost will update the campus on progress on campus priorities at 9:30 a.m. on November 12 in the Lecture Bowl, Memorial Union.

University Council will meet December 9, at 3:00 p.m. in the Lecture Bowl, Memorial Union.

Ms. Weaver-Hightower called attention to the minutes of the October 1, 2015 meeting. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. There was a motion of approval by Mr. Stofferahm and a second by Mr. Quinn. The minutes were approved as distributed.

The question period was opened at 5:05 p.m.

Mr. Sheridan asked Mr. Chakraborty about planning and the focus on students. He was concerned that this is a research University and there was no mention of research space. He also indicated that in the new budget model research space will be taxed. Mr. Chakraborty indicated that all spaces will be considered in the master plan; but, first, they need to gather information. The VP for Research is asking for data on research space and is on the steering committee. Over the next few months there will be focus on research. Mr. Murphy stated that there are other things about research that are missing and that there appears to be a disregard of research. Mr. Chakraborty indicated there is no intention of ignoring research and he will bring Mr. Murphy’s concern back to the steering committee. Mr. Murphy made a suggestion to consider the animal facility and the neuroscience building. Mr. Chakraborty indicated that they will be looked at as part of the old medical building. Those wanting to provide further feedback can email Mr. Chakraborty. He also indicated that there will be polling in the future as well. Discussion and clarifications were given. Marcia Mikulak requested to speak. It was granted by the senators. She spoke of her department facilities for research, which are not hard science facilities, and was concerned that they are not represented. Mr. Chakraborty indicated that there are two avenues to give feedback.
All deans and the VP for Research are on the steering committee and feedback can be provided to them.
b. Mr. Martin asked about different taxation of space. The general comment was that the decisions and amounts would come from the MIRA committee. Mr. DiLorenzo stated that he would bring more information to the next meeting.
c. Mr. Murphy asked about the timeline proposed by Ms. Weaver-Hightower for the Faculty Senate documents. He was concerned that the time between the two required votes was not long enough. He also requested a check with the Attorney General on the validity of an electronic University Council vote. There was discussion. Ms. Weaver-Hightower said she would look into it.

The question period closed at 5:23 p.m.

7. Mr. Munski moved to extend the meeting to 5:45 p.m. There was a second by Mr. Sheridan and the motion was approved.

8. Ms. Weaver-Hightower called attention to the annual report from the Senate Essential Studies Committee. Mr. Quinn moved to approve and file the report. Ms. Kenville seconded and the motion was approved.

9. Ms. Weaver-Hightower called attention to the University Curriculum Committee report. She pointed out items needing Senate approval. There was a motion to approve by Mr. Munski, a second by Mr. Quinn, and the motion was approved.

10. Ms. Weaver-Hightower called attention to the proposed revisions to the Misconduct in Scholarship (Creative Activity) policy. The changes were reviewed. There was a motion to accept by Mr. Stofferahn and a second by Ms. Kurtz. The vote was taken and the policy was approved.

11. Administrative evaluations were discussed. Mr. Sheridan moved and Mr. Murphy seconded that the Senate Executive Committee establish an ad hoc committee to study administrator evaluations. The motion was approved.

12. The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Marci Mack, Secretary
University Senate