Chairs Cabinet
September 4, 2015
3150 Beardshear Hall
8:15-9:30 am

Present: Wannemuehler, Baum, Constant, Gasta, Jenks, Martin, Powell-Coffman, Rao, Ulmer, Wipf, Bratsch-Prince, Wickert, Wallace, Sturm.

Guest: Ellen Rasmussen

8:17 - Meeting called to order
Minutes approved with a change in the Spelling of Julie Nuter’s last name.

Faculty Senate (FS) Update – It was mentioned that the FS PRS Task Force was active in the Spring of 2015 but action on the report was tabled until this Fall; it was noted that some of the PRS statements provided to the FS were too prescribed and some were too loose in the description of job responsibilities. There is still some discussion as to how should a PRS read.

The FS will be cleaning up language regarding NTER positions; it is likely that the FS will recommend that the University add a few additional titles to effectively cover these positions (eg, Professor of Clinical Science). What titles for NTE professorships will best serve ISU?

Academic Affairs (AA) council – solicitations from off-campus companies to pay students to take notes for hire. ISU Counsel’s Office advises against this practice as it infringes on copyright laws and IP and computer use code (especially if the ISU computers are used to distribute the notes); also, this would be against the ISU student code of conduct. This will be taken up by the AA Council. Please inform the faculty that this is being evaluated.

Question was asked: What if the GSB decided to run a similar business within ISU and the faculty consent. Should refer to section 4.2.1 in the Faculty Handbook (Student Conduct Code) for guidance.

The comment was made that within Blackboard, there is an option to release the notes and material that the instructor can toggle. If the instructor leaves this unmarked, does leave the issue of protecting the faculty member’s IP an open question. It was offered that it may be a good idea to automatically have this button toggled as “no” and the instructor needs to change this himself.

It was announced that the biannual FS conference will be held on April 26. Topics will focus on responsible conduct of research. Another issue that may/will be addressed is the “Open access of research” – how far should ISU go with respect to emphasizing publishing
in “open access” journals. Faculty should also consider the use of the digital repository to increase awareness of their previous work.

It was also mentioned that the choice of the journal in which faculty publish can impact your “prestige”. Comments were made with respect how we evaluate the use of open access journals if these are less prestigious in the context of peer-review of faculty for promotion. The question was asked as to How we should mentor junior faculty with respect to career development should a policy for use of ‘open access” be preferred.

It was also mentioned that there is a need to keep in mind the cost of publication. Use of subvention fees. JW- the model of providing content for free, reviewing for free and then buying it back is not a sustainable model.

**Provost report** – September 4 will be the 10th day classes, the official Fall enrollment will be established today. The prediction is that the enrollment will near 36,000.

It was mentioned that Student Innovation Center (cost of $80M, site of old Sweeney) slated to be built and is planned to be open in October 2019.

**BoR next meeting** – will likely approve a 3% mid-year tuition increase. Effective in January (will generate $1.7 M in additional revenue).

BoR will discuss/Approve capital improvement and State Appropriation requests. BoR will not lobby the legislature for adopting the Performance Based Funding (by name). The appropriation request will likely be about $8.2M in new funds (~UNI $7M; keep UI at flat budget) – this will in effect attempt to readjust the State Appropriations to the benefit of ISU and UNI. UI has other revenue streams to cover their costs. This is just a possible BoR proposal.

No new capital projects in the budget request for the next year. There are four capital projects currently underway. (Pharmacy Building at UI; Education building at UNI, BioScience Bldg and Student Innovation Learning Center at ISU). The VDL will be the next capital project requested by ISU.

Tuition proposal for AY2017. October – ISU will propose 3% across the board. (4% resident and 3% for Vet Med). 3% is at the top of the higher Ed price index. 1.7% is the middle of the range. The University usually increases the non-resident by twice the dollar amount (but this is a lower % increase); therefore, ISU will ask that the non-resident tuition be increased by the same amount as in-state tuition. The rationale for implementing a differential tuition for international students was discussed as there is a need to develop a three-tiered system for tuition for resident, non-resident, and international students. The international student differential tuition will likely range $1,500 between $2,000. As the number of students increase, especially international students, there are increased costs in the writing center, international students office, etc. that are incurred by ISU as it has been noted that the international students are heavy users of many ISU student services. The differential tuition will not affect international grad students who are on a RA or TA.
The benefits to the University of the differential tuition at Purdue was mentioned and it was urged that transparency of the process is important to the success/acceptance of this additional cost to international students.

A question was asked regarding the impact of world-wide changes in national economies and how this might impact the application of a differential tuition.

It was mentioned that the majority of the international students at ISU come from four countries (China, India, Malaysia, So. Korea) and that ISU is mindful of this and does not want this policy to ‘price-out’ students from some countries and effect student diversity.

It was mentioned that a search committee for the Dean of Human Sciences has been formed. It was mentioned that Dean Pam White will retire at the end of this AY.

Academic programs in Des Moines – the AIB situation is still being discussed. The BoRs want a collaborative Regents Center in DSM where academic programs will be available to students. There will be a study to determine where this should be located (e.g., downtown) and what types of programs are financially sustainable. There will be “market research” data collected.

When Department Chairs receive information regarding new academic programs at other Regents Institutions, please let the Provost and Dean Holger know.

The BoR will have formal reviews of new programs at the 5 year mark. ISU will have the first set of these reviews in January (5 in total, 4 are doing well).

Budget Policy – no mid-year pay increase will occur. This decision was made based on the State Appropriations received and the impact of The Veterans Choice Policy (VCP).

Iowa has implemented the VCP to include spouses, partners, and dependent children.

It was estimated last Spring that this may cost ISU $4M; at this point, this cost appears to be about > $8.2M. Students can still apply for this benefit until Oct 10. It could grow up to >$10M. If this is the case, this amount will equal the growth in State Appropriations for ISU over the last 3 to 4 years.

Ellen Rasmussen Joined the meeting– She also discussed the budget impact of the Veteran’s Choice Policy. She also mentioned the ISU appropriation request. Internal processes regarding budget requests by ISU is shaped by the political environment.

Questions; Comment made regarding the unfunded mandate to “upgrade” computers. How much will the software cost for upgrades to “enterprise systems” be? This question lead to a discussion regarding the true costs associated with the use of old systems vs upgrading (i.e., how inefficient are the old systems). A comment was made that it is difficult to put a price on time and staff effort?
Next meeting – October 2, 2015. Rm 3150 Beardshear Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 AM.