Faculty Senate Minutes
September 27, 2004

In attendance: Mack Brandon, Jeff Cate, Joe De Vol, Toni Dingman, Avery Fouts, Beverly Howard, David Isaacs, Nathan Lewis III, Tim Luther, John McCarthy, Carol Minton, Richard Mobley, Betsy Morris, Bob Namvar, Barry Parker and Rachel Timmons

I. Meeting was opened with prayer.

II. Minutes from September 13, 2004 Faculty Senate meeting were approved.

III. Tim Luther made some opening remarks to encourage this year’s Senate, noting the Senate’s past accomplishments.

IV. Report from the Treasurer. There is now $10,088 in the Faculty Senate Forum Fund.

V. Tim Luther prompted members of the Senate to begin thinking of four tenured faculty members to serve on the newly established Faculty Appeals Committee, three to serve with one alternate.

VI. Report from John McCarthy on the Transitional Retirement Policy. Policy has been approved by the Executive Council and has been submitted to the Trustees.

VII. Motion was passed unanimously to express appreciation to the Executive Council for supporting the adoption of a Transitional Retirement Policy for the faculty. The Faculty Senate especially wants to thank the President, the Provost and the Vice-President for Finance and Administration for their willingness to work closely with the faculty in developing this policy and their continued commitment and support throughout the entire process.

VIII. Tim Luther encouraged the establishment of a Faculty Handbook Committee, with the Secretary-Treasurer serving as Chair. The purpose of this committee is a pro-active role in Handbook changes.

IX. Motion was passed unanimously to establish Faculty Handbook Committee.

X. Motion was passed unanimously to elect the following members as the Faculty Handbook Committee: Avery Fouts (Chair), Nathan Lewis III, Bob Namvar and Rachel Timmons.

XI. Report from Dick Mobley, Chair of the Faculty Senate Forum Committee. The Forum will be publicized soon.

XII. Discussion of the Faculty Load and Class Size Committee.
XIII. Motion was passed unanimously to add Joe De Vol to Faculty Load and Class Size Committee.

XIV. Tim Luther presented the results of the “poll” gathered by Faculty Senate members regarding this year’s Senate agenda. The results are as follows. Note that there is three-way tie for sixth place and a two-way tie for ninth place:

1. Student evaluations
2. Expansion of sabbatical availability
3. Class Size
4. Tuition waiver for family members regarding second undergraduate degrees and graduate school
5. Teaching Load
6. Grade Inflation
6. More IT support for faculty
6. Establishment of IRB committee
9. Review of guidelines for Promotion and Tenure
9. Faculty input on growth management issues
11. Student semester unit overload

XV. Motion was passed unanimously to recognize the need for faculty involvement in IT-related decisions that directly impact the faculty.

XVI. Meeting was adjourned at 4:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Avery Fouts, Secretary-Treasurer of Faculty Senate