Faculty Senate Minutes
Monday, March 12, 2007

In attendance: Anthony Donaldson; Barry Parker; Bob Namvar; Dennis Bideshi; Don Dunavant; Jim Heyman; Kathryn Fagan; Kenya Davis-Hayes; Laura Veltman; Richard Mobley; Susan Drummond; Susan Studer

I. Meeting was opened with prayer.

II. Minutes for February 12 and February 26, were approved.

III. It is suggested that we need to have alternate representative from each school/department in the Senate when the elected Senator can not attend the Senate meeting.

IV. A question was raised that if there is only one faculty member in a school or department (such as School of Engineering this year), can a proxy be substituted in the Senate when the elected member can not attend the meeting? The consensus seemed to approve such representation.

V. As a follow-up discussion on reliability testing of course evaluation, it was reported that Phil Martinez will handle the testing process and will coordinate it with the administration. This test will be done by using voluntary classes and not by random sampling of the courses. We will have some results on the reliability tests by the end of the Spring semester.

VI. Dr. Jeff McNair has requested for $4,000 from the Faculty Senate funds to be allocated for a conference on topics related to mental retardation. It will be presented by an outside expert speaker, Dr. Wolf Wolfensberger, in fall of 2007. It is suggested that per Faculty Handbook, any request for the Senate funds should go to the Provost Office and Executive Council first and upon the approval, it goes to the Faculty Senate for consideration.

VII. A discussion continues on the clarification of the Faculty Senate role in the decision making process of the university. Richard Mobley prompted the Senators to review Article VII, Section 3, pages 1—6 of the Faculty Handbook

VIII. A motion made, seconded, and passed unanimously that the Faculty Senate requests a direct collaboration between the Office of the Provost and the Committee on Faculty Committees throughout the process of appointing faculty members to committee positions.

IX. Senate adjourned at 4:00.

X. Next meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2007

Respectfully submitted by Bob Namvar, Faculty Secretary/Treasurer