MINUTES
Intercampus Faculty Council
February 16, 2005
Submitted by Van Reidhead, IFC Secretary

Attendance:

Present: Rocco Cottone, Chair, Gordon Christensen, Gary Ebersole, Mike Hilgers, Eddy Adelstein, Stuart McAninch, Van Reidhead, Frank Schmidt, Bob Schwartz, Paul Speck, Jakob Waterborg, with President Elson Floyd, Steve Graham, Ken Hutchinson, Nikki Krawitz, Peter Wilden, Deborah Noble, Kandis Smith, David Russell, and Jeff Thomas (observing)

Agenda Approved
The agenda was approved.

December Minutes
Approved with editing change regarding whom General Counsel serves, p. 4.

IFC Responsibilities (CRR 20.100)
Bob Schwartz, Gordon Christensen, Van Reidhead, and Jakob Waterborg will work up recommended language for amendment to Section A, the IFC mandate. Concerns for changes included: specify budget function, the role IFC plays as a sounding board for the Vice President for Finance regarding philosophy and policy (more than details of budget amounts); caution to incorporate two-way process, shared governance; that it preserve open-ended mandate; caution to preserve sense of balance. The question was asked: Should the IFC chair sit in the General Officer meetings? Pros and cons were weighed, and consensus reached that it would undermine principles of shared governance, restrict frank discussion, undermine trust relationship between IFC Chair and President.

AAUP Resolution from MAFS Meeting
Handout, Resolution
An AAUP resolution, on inadequacy of higher education funding in Missouri, from the Missouri Association of Faculty Senates was discussed. Diverse views on how best to improve legislative awareness of higher education funding inadequacy were discussed, with no decision on action, other than to support the President and chancellors’ efforts.

Intercampus Student Council President, Student Role in Faculty Hiring
- Request for voting search representation —unlikely to gain support. SCI wants to be involved in every step of process: draft, vita reviews, interviews, affirmative action, etc.

SCI, Faculty Evaluation
- SCI wants to know what function these serve
- They do not see how it works to benefit students.
Want to know what are the ways to make faculty evaluation useful and effective.
A comparison of practices among IFC members suggests that many units involve students, with variability in practices. There was general agreement that students should be involved in ways that work for the local culture of each department and that one size for all would be counterproductive to the goal of achieving the most effective voice for students in the process.
It was agreed that campus SGA presidents or their representatives would approach campus IFC representatives to discuss this further.

Privacy Issue
Handout, UMKC Draft Policy Governing Use of U. Computer Network
Kandis, Ralph asked her to put forward a draft intended for CRR. May she send it to UMKC Senate? Yes. They have yet to receive a response at UMKC, though it is believed that General Council sent one within 48 hours of the event on that campus. Gary indicated that something is needed right now at UMKC, even if non-final, so as to restore trust. Kandis will follow-up to get something from GC. Steve Graham clarified that there is the caveat that everything is subject to sunshine laws, but reaffirmed that it is not acceptable for administrators to be reading faculty email. Gary emphasized the need for policy to be not merely suggestive, but that it have rigor. Jakob would like other campuses to assess whether this is an issue for them. The UMKC Provost wants to know if there is a System problem for UMKC to begin implementing a local policy. Feedback is needed from GC to that effect. Steve secured agreement that Ralph will be kept apprised and involved. Rock thanked UMKC for leadership on this issue.

President Elson Floyd
Appreciates leadership of this group, on which he depends heavily for academic guidance.

Campus Reports were Given

President Elson Floyd
President Floyd’s discussion focused on issues of transparency, which is much improved, and he is continuing the effort.

Administrator Performance Evaluation
- Elson Floyd and Ken Hutchinson: Started with Chancellors and Vice Chancellors, now working at the level of deans on the St. Louis campus
- Faculty evaluation is separate from the System Performance Evaluation.
  - The faculty evaluation and the SPE should be complimentary but separate.
  - Best for Faculty Evaluations to go to Chancellor, who would then report back to faculty.

Finances
Nikki Krawitz led a discussion of the 1996 budget, which is before the Governor, followed by a robust discussion of budget issues, philosophies, and practices across the campuses, at system, and nationally.
Resolution in Support of President Floyd
In light of issues pressing President Floyd, notably in Kansas City, Gordon Christensen recommended an IFC resolution supporting President Floyd. It was unanimously agreed that IFC would produce a resolution to show faculty confidence in the president, with emphasis on shared governance. A draft was produced, to be edited and circulated by the IFC Secretary.

Default Academic Calendar
The ongoing common academic calendar was discussed.

CRR 320.035 Policy and Procedures for Promotion and Tenure
Incorporates change in Curator's Professor naming and review for joint appointments.

FAS
Peter Wilden reported on faculty use of FAS and continuing work to improve the system based on faculty feedback.

Legislative Resolution to Ban Tenure
At this time it has been withdrawn.