

Faculty Governance Committee  
Minutes for October 1, 2008

Present: Robert Entenmann, Tina Garrett, Jonathan Hill, Kris MacPherson, Erik Lane, Karen Marsalek, James May, Diana Neal, Bruce Nordstrom-Loeb, Alan Norton, Arnie Ostebee, Wes Pearson, Steve Reece, Mark Schelske,

Jonathan Hill called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.

1. The minutes of the meeting of Sept 24, 2008 were approved.
2. Jonathan Hill reported that he had met with David Anderson Jim May, David Booth (Curriculum Committee) and Doug Casson (Parliamentarian) concerning the agenda for the October faculty meeting, including the small wording correction coming from the Faculty Governance Committee. The correction will not be green-sheeted.
3. The committee spent the majority of its time preparing for the upcoming meeting of the Regents Faculty Conference Committee. Alan Norton reopened the conversation by discussing a chart of projected net income and accumulated capital funds extending to the year 2017 and broken down by 2800, 2900, 3000, 3200 students. The figures do account for increased faculty and staff FTE, new dormitories, etc.
4. General discussion covered the following questions and points:
  - a. What impact does the size of the student body have on the quality of the community/campus climate?
  - b. What impact does the size of the student body have on class sizes, FTE, etc.? Jim May said they were not planning to cut faculty FTE so if the class size diminished the student faculty ratio would improve even more. Also, class profile/selectivity and increase in number of classes under 20 are two reasons for the better ranking in the US News/World Report ratings – the goals are pedagogically based but this is a positive side benefit.
  - c. How might a larger student body affect the level and participation rate of alumni giving?
  - d. What will be the affect on co-curricular activities, access to the college for diverse populations, and program flexibility?
  - e. The number of high school graduates in the Midwest will continue to drop so we would need to grow the pool even more to keep up the quality level or reduce our concerns about quality.
  - f. Decisions cannot be made on intangibles like “community” – students will continue to bond in small groups and a larger community is good training for the communities they will enter after graduating.
  - g. You can do a lot more with \$26 million than a deficit of \$900 thousand.

- h. This is a slow-moving conversation and at this point the views of this subcommittee won't represent a full perspective of the view of the whole faculty.

The next meeting will be October 22 and will focus on the nominations process and faculty recruitment for committee service. Diana Neal will act as secretary.

The meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kris MacPherson  
Secretary pro tem