

**Faculty Governance Committee
Minutes for February 11, 2009**

Present: Bob Entenmann, Tina Garrett, Jonathan Hill, Karen Marsalek, Jim May, Kris MacPherson, James McKeel, Diana Neal, Bruce Nordstrom-Loeb, Alan Norton, Arnie Ostebee, Wes Pearson, Steve Reece, Doug Schuurman. Absent: Erik Lane

1. **Call to Order.** Jonathan Hill called the meeting to order 3:33 p.m.
2. **Minutes Approved.** The minutes of the November 19, 2008 meeting had been distributed in advance and copies were made available. The Committee approved the minutes as presented.
3. **Standards of Classroom Behavior.** Judy Kutulas, Chair of the Student Life Committee, had requested that the Faculty Governance Committee determine if the “Standards of Classroom Behavior” policy that the Student Life Committee is bringing to the Faculty should be adopted as part of the Faculty Manual or the Faculty Handbook. Jonathan Hill distributed a copy of the proposed policy and a copy of that part of the Faculty Manual that explains the purpose and the various “categories” of content of the Faculty Handbook. Discussion followed about the distinction between the Faculty Manual and Handbook and the various “categories” of Handbook content. It was determined that the Faculty Governance Committee is not being asked to endorse the proposed policy, but rather to adopt a recommendation regarding its documentary home. **It was moved by Bob Entenmann, and seconded by Kris MacPherson, that the Faculty Governance Committee recommends to the President that if the Faculty Assembly adopts a Standards of Classroom Behavior policy, then that policy should be incorporated into the Faculty Handbook as Category #2 content. Motion passed unanimously.**
4. **Mid-Year Committee Member Replacements.** Jonathan Hill reported that two members of the faculty are on leave and are thus unable to fulfill their committee appointments during the spring 2009 semester. They are: Anthony Roberts – Student Life Committee (Fine Arts – non-tenured) and Mark Schelske (Social Sciences – tenured). Jim McKeel agreed to seek a replacement from the Fine Arts faculty to fill the Student Life Committee vacancy and Bruce Nordstrom-Loeb will seek a replacement from the Social Science faculty to fill the Faculty Governance Committee vacancy. Once replacements have been identified the Faculty Governance Committee will need to appoint them.
5. **Faculty Elections with Three or More Candidates.** Jonathan Hill reminded the committee of the concern that was expressed at the December faculty meeting about deciding the outcome of elections with three or more candidates on the basis of a plurality (rather than a majority) of votes. The Committee discussed the issue, noting among other matters that it was indeed possible that a candidate who received a plurality in a three-way election could in fact be the least liked of the

three. However, the Committee concluded that having three candidates for a position was so rare that it did not seem necessary to develop a different approach. If this matter should become a real problem in the future, then the Committee could reconsider the issue.

6. **Upcoming Faculty Elections.** The Committee briefly reviewed the spring calendar and timeframe for identifying candidates prior to the approval of the ballot at the Faculty Meeting in April. The Committee was reminded that with only a couple of exceptions (the MIAC representative for six years and the Tenure and Promotion Committee members for three years) faculty members are now to be elected to committees for two-year terms. Members were encouraged to look at the listing of past service by the current faculty on faculty committees. The Committee will discuss the strategy it will follow for selecting candidates at a future meeting.
7. **Adjournment.** Jonathan Hill called for adjournment and the meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Submitted by Alan Norton