

University Senate

April 19, 2012

Members Present

Members present at the meeting: 95

Call to Order

Senate Chair Kasischke called the meeting to order at 3:18 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes

Chair Kasischke asked for additions or corrections to the minutes of the April 4, 2012 meeting. Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as distributed.

Report of the Chair

Committee Volunteer Period

Kasischke explained that the volunteer period for Senate standing committees was now open. He encouraged the campus community to volunteer to serve on a committee by going to www.senate.umd.edu. The deadline to volunteer is April 20, 2012.

Remaining Senate Meetings

Kasischke reminded Senators that this was the last business meeting of the semester for any outgoing Senators. The May 3, 2012 transition meeting will be for all continuing and incoming senators. Martha Nell Smith will take over, as Senate Chair, and the Senate will vote for its next chair-elect and elected committees. The names of candidates running for the various committees and their candidacy statements were distributed to incoming and continuing senators on April 12, 2012. The agenda and any additional materials for that meeting will be sent out on April 26, 2012. There will be two special orders at the May 3, 2012 meeting including a presentation on the Purple Line and a presentation from the Director of Athletics, Kevin Anderson.

Joint Task Force

Kasischke stated that the President and Senate are in the process of forming a Joint Task Force to Review the Sexual Harassment Policies and Procedures at the University. We hope to have the task force created within the next month so that it can begin work. The task force's recommendations will come to the Senate for review prior to being submitted to the President.

Timing

Kasischke reminded the Senate that the meeting had been extended to 5:30pm because of the large number of reports on today's agenda. The meeting will end at 5:30pm unless a motion to extend is approved by 2/3 of the Senate. Any agenda items that we do not have time to vote on will be transferred to the May 3, 2012 agenda. Any outgoing senators would no longer be able to vote on those reports.

Protocol

Kasischke reviewed Senate protocol to ensure an efficient discussion. All elected senators, deans, and non-voting ex-officios of the Senate may speak on a proposal when recognized by the Chair. Senate committee members may speak without introduction on reports from their committee. Anyone else wishing to speak must be introduced by a senator and granted permission to speak. After having spoken once, a speaker must wait until all others have spoken on the motion before speaking again. If a Senator introduces someone to speak, the Senator must wait until all others have had an opportunity to speak before introducing anyone else. Each time one is recognized to speak, the speaker must identify herself or himself for the record by stating name, constituency, and college. Kasischke also reminded everyone to limit comments so that those who would like to speak have the opportunity.

Committee Reports

Proposal to Encourage Mediation as a Method for Resolving Sexual Harassment Complaints (Senate Doc. No. 11-12-05) (Information)

Kasischke stated that the Proposal to Encourage Mediation as a Method for Resolving Sexual Harassment Complaints report was provided to the Senate as an informational item from the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee. After a thorough review, the EDI Committee has agreed that no changes to current policy are necessary.

2012 Review of the Family Care Resource and Referral Service (Senate Doc. No. 11-12-36) (Action)

Adam Cabbage, Member of the Family Care Review Committee, presented the 2012 Review of the Family Care Resource and Referral Service and provided background information. He explained that the review committee is recommending continuation of the family care referral service for an additional year.

Kasischke opened the floor to discussion of the proposal; hearing none, he called for a vote on the proposal. The result was 73 in favor, 1 opposed, and 3 abstentions. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

**Proposed Policies for Parental Leave for Faculty (Senate Doc. No. 11-12-32)
(Action)**

Charles Fenster, Chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee, presented the Proposed Policies for Parental Leave for Faculty and provided background information. He explained that the committee is recommending creation of a new policy for parental leave and modified duty for faculty.

Kasischke opened the floor to discussion of the proposal; hearing none, he called for a vote on the proposal. The result was 76 in favor, 2 opposed, and 4 abstentions. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

Proposal to Change the Minimum Average in all Courses Applied to Undergraduate Major Requirements (Senate Doc. No. 11-12-31) (Action)

Robert Buchanan, Chair of the Academic Procedures & Standards Committee, presented the Proposal to Change the Minimum Average in all Courses Applied to Undergraduate Major Requirements and provided background information. He explained that the committee is proposing an amendment to the existing policy.

Kasischke opened the floor to discussion of the proposal.

Senator Rosenthal, Faculty, College of Arts & Humanities, made a motion to amend the recommendation as follows:

*Beginning with students matriculating in Fall 2012, to be awarded a baccalaureate degree, students must have a minimum C (2.00) cumulative grade point average across all courses used to satisfy major degree requirements, **minor requirements, and undergraduate certificate requirements**. Individual department, college, school, or program requirements may exceed this minimum.*

The motion was seconded.

Kasischke opened the floor to discussion of the amendment.

Senator Blagodarskiy, Undergraduate, Undergraduate Studies, asked who would be responsible for approving exceptions to the policy.

Provost Wylie responded that the Dean where the program was located would approve any exceptions.

Hearing no further discussion, Kasischke called for a vote on the amendment. The result was 81 in favor, 3 opposed, and 0 abstentions. **The motion to amend the proposal passed.**

Kasischke opened the floor to discussion of the proposal as amended; hearing none, he called for a vote on the proposal as amended. The result was 77 in favor, 1 opposed, and 3 abstentions. **The motion to approve the amended proposal passed.**

Revisions to the College of Education Plan of Organization (Senate Doc. No. 08-09-06) (Action)

Kenneth Fleischmann, Chair of the Elections, Representation, and Governance (ERG) Committee, presented the Revisions to the College of Education Plan of Organization and provided background information. He explained that the committee is recommending that the revised Plan of Organization be approved.

Kasischke opened the floor to discussion of the proposal; hearing none, he called for a vote on the proposal. The result was 80 in favor, 1 opposed, and 4 abstentions. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

Representation of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics on the University Senate (Senate Doc. No. 11-12-23) (Action)

Kenneth Fleischmann, Chair of the Elections, Representation, and Governance (ERG) Committee, presented Representation of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics on the University Senate and provided background information. He explained that the committee was recommending representation of the Director of Athletics and Coaches on the University Senate and the Head of the Coach's Council on the Campus Affairs Committee.

Kasischke opened the floor to discussion of the proposal.

Senator Tits, Faculty, College of Engineering, questioned whether the Chair of the Coaches' council would be a voting member of the committee.

Fleischmann confirmed that the representative would be a voting member.

Kasischke clarified that all ex-officios on senate committees are voting members unless otherwise specified in the Senate Bylaws.

Senator Walters, Faculty, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, asked whether "coaches" included just head coaches or also assistant coaches.

Fleischmann stated that this recommendation would only apply to the head coaches. Assistant coaches are considered staff and, as such, already have representation on the Senate.

Hearing no further discussion, Kasischke called for a vote on the proposal and reminded the Senate that the proposal required a 2/3 vote in favor to amend the

Senate Bylaws. The result was 67 in favor, 15 opposed, and 5 abstentions. **The motion to approve the proposal passed.**

Proposal to Change the Committee on the Review of Student Fees (CRSF) Operating Procedure (Senate Doc. No. 11-12-12) (Action)

Rachel Cooper, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, presented the Proposal to Change the Committee on the Review of Student Fees (CRSF) Operating Procedure and provided background information. She explained that the committee was recommending changes to the current operating procedures of the CRSF. She also noted that there was a minority report from those members not in agreement with the committee's recommendation.

Kasischke clarified that the options available to the Senate are to 1) approve the recommendations of the committee 2) reject the recommendations of the committee 3) return the report to the committee or 4) approve the recommendations of the committee and then make a separate motion to charge the committee with further consideration of the proposal.

Kasischke opened the floor to discussion of the proposal.

Senator Buchanan, Faculty, College of Agriculture & Natural Sciences, asked about the administrative burden on the CRSF as a result of this recommendation.

Cooper explained that units are already supposed to present to the CRSF but some do not. This recommendation just holds them accountable to doing so. Chair Kasischke asked Robert Platky, Assistant Vice President & Director, Office of Budget & Fiscal Analysis to respond to the question.

Platky stated that there are 17-18 units submitting proposals in the fall mandatory fee cycle. The meetings currently last 1 ½ - 2 hours so this recommendation would extend the meeting to 2 - 2 ½ hours. Most units are already presenting to the CRSF but some units have not attended the meetings. In the spring cycle, the committee is only reviewing room, board, and parking so it is a much shorter meeting.

Senator Hample, Faculty, College of Arts & Humanities, stated that he was concerned because the committee's report was passed by a 7-5 vote but the minority report is signed by 6 committee members. It appears as if a number of people changed their mind. It is not clear that the committee is making a recommendation. He thinks that the issue needs further review and should be sent back to the committee.

Kasischke commented that the Student Affairs Committee is comprised of approximately 30 members and not all were present at the meeting when the vote was taken.

Cooper further stated that the options for moving forward were clearly stated to the committee. The proposal should not be reconsidered because members changed their minds.

Kaiyi Xie, Non-Voting Ex-Officio, SGA President, stated that only one of the signatories of the minority report was not present for the vote but was present for most of the rest of the meeting. Seven members who were present for the vote concur with the idea that the issue should be sent back to the committee. He believes that members reversed their vote because the vote itself was close, there was confusion about the options available to the committee, the vote was taken in haste, and there was no time for additional recommendations. The committee reviewed the issue for 4-5 meetings but spent just 45 minutes discussing the issue and making recommendations. He does not feel there was an appropriate amount of time to review the proposal.

Xie made a motion to re-charge the committee and not move the recommendations forward. The motion was seconded.

Kasischke opened the floor to discussion of the motion.

Kaiyi Xie, Non-Voting Ex-Officio, SGA President, stated that he made the motion because the proposal did not receive enough consideration in the committee.

Kasischke asked Xie to clarify the motion on whether it was to reject the current recommendations and return the report to the committee or just return the report for further consideration.

Xie stated that the current recommendations can still stand but the committee should be given more opportunities to consider additional recommendations.

Kasischke clarified that the motion was to return the report to the committee for further consideration.

Cooper responded that, to meet the various elements of the charge, the committee reviewed the proposal over the course of four meetings. She explained that an additional meeting was added to the agenda to ensure that there was an appropriate amount of time to consider the proposal.

Provost Wylie provided background on the committee and explained that it was established by President Mote as an advisory committee to him. It is not, therefore, appropriate for the Senate to micromanage and dictate to the committee how it does its business. It would be more reasonable for the Senate to frame these recommendations as advisory to the President. She spoke against sending it back to committee but found the three current recommendations to be reasonable.

Senator Celi, Faculty, College of Engineering, asked for a quick overview of the issue and for clarification of a "unit."

Cooper gave examples of fee-requesting units such as the Stamp Student Union and Parking. Units propose fees to the CRSF. She reviewed the committee's recommendations and explained that units should provide adequate information to the CRSF before it makes its final decision.

Celi further questioned who was responsible for approving an increase in the parking fee.

Cooper responded that the CRSF advises the President on fees.

Senator Beck, Undergraduate, College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, stated that the majority of the committee members agrees with the current recommendations. However, the dissent by the minority is that the meeting was rushed and the committee did not have a chance to address all of the points of the charge. Some members at the last meeting were not well informed about what the committee was discussing. Those who missed the previous 4-5 meetings did not have all of the information that they needed. There were a lot of questions that slowed the process down. The recommendations are incomplete, and Beck asserted that the committee's duty is to consider the whole proposal. Student fees are a big deal and deserve our full attention.

Cooper responded that the committee did review all of the concerns raised in the proposal but is not obligated to make recommendations on all elements.

Beck responded that if there was more time, the committee might have made more recommendations.

Senator Coates, Non-Exempt Staff, asked for clarification on the original motion from the committee.

Kasischke clarified that the committee's motion is to approve its three recommendations.

Coates questioned whether the previous speaker wanted the committee to reconsider so that they could discuss additional recommendations.

Kasischke stated that the speaker expressed that there was no time to consider whether or not to make additional recommendations.

Senator Alt, Faculty, Robert H. Smith School of Business, asked whether Athletics was considered a fee-requesting unit.

Cooper confirmed that Athletics was such a unit.

Kasischke called for a vote on the motion to return to committee for further consideration. The result was 47 in favor, 28 opposed, and 4 abstentions. **The motion to return to committee passed.**

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

Senate Chair Kasischke adjourned the meeting at 4:11 p.m.