

University Senate
May 8, 2008

Members Present

Members present at the meeting: 84

Call to Order

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

Election of the Chair-Elect

Chair Montgomery opened the floor to any further nominations of candidates for chair-elect. There were none. He introduced both Daniel Falvey and Elise Miller-Hooks as the candidates for this position. He then requested that all senators take out their ballots to vote on the chair-elect.

Approval of the Minutes

Senate Chair Montgomery asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes for April 21, 2008. Hearing none, the Senate approved the minutes as presented.

Report of the Outgoing Chair, William Montgomery

Chair Montgomery gave an overview of his term as chair and all of the major accomplishments over the past year. Chair Montgomery officially passed the gavel to Chair-Elect Holum as the new Chair.

Report of the Chair, Kenneth Holum

Chair Holum highlighted all of former Chair Montgomery's achievements during his tenure. He also thanked him and congratulated him on his successes. He presented him with a couple small gifts.

Announcement of the Results of the Election for Chair-Elect

Chair Holum announced that Elise Miller-Hooks had been elected Chair-Elect.

Special Elections

Chair Holum gave instructions on the process for the special elections.

He requested that all senators take out the ballots for the vote of the Senate Executive Committee and strike out Elise Miller-Hooks as a candidate since the chair-elect is an ex-officio member of the SEC. A request was made that all SEC

candidates be introduced and asked to stand. Chair Holum announced all candidates and requested that senators complete their ballot.

Chair Holum then asked all senators to take out the ballots for the vote of the Committee on Committees. He opened the floor to nominations. Senator Jennifer Hill, Special Education nominated Senator Steven Glickman, Government & Politics as a write-in candidate for the committee. Chair Holum asked senators to complete their ballot.

He then requested that all faculty senators take out the ballots for the vote of the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF), complete their ballot and pass them to the senate staff on the aisles.

Chair Holum then requested that all faculty and staff vote on the Athletic Council.

He then requested that all staff and undergraduate senators take out the ballots for the vote of the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC). He then opened the floor to nominations from the floor. Senator Steven Glickman, Government & Politics nominated Senator Jennifer Hill, Special Education and Senator Bradley Docherty, School of Business nominated Senator Kevin Tervalá, History as write-in undergraduate reps for CTAC. Hearing no further nominations, Chair Holum asked all eligible senators to complete their ballots.

Chair Holum announced that Reka Montfort would announce the results of the special elections via email on Friday, May 9, 2008. He also announced that the SEC Transition meeting time had been changed to 12pm on May 13, 2008 in order to accommodate the Provost's schedule.

Reports of Committees

Senate Program, Curricula, and Courses Committee **Proposal to Establish M.S. and Ph.D. Programs in Biophysics** (Senate Document Number 07-08-36)

Carmen Balthrop, Chair of the PCC committee gave a brief overview of the proposal and further stated that this is a joint proposal from the College of Computer, Mathematical & Physical Sciences (CMPS), The College of Engineering, and the College of Life Sciences.

Chair Holum opened the floor to discussion.

Senator Cohen, Physics, had concerns the program would allow students to get a degree in Biophysics without having a strong understanding of Physics. He believes that graduates should be competent at the doctoral level in the physical

sciences and that this program should be discussed further by the Physics Department.

Dean Halperin, CMPS clarified that this was not a physics degree but rather an interdisciplinary program that was discussed and approved by the Physics department and that he felt strongly that it should be supported.

Dean Allewell, Life Sciences gave the historical context that Biophysics has been around for a while and that it migrated from Physics to Chemistry and Biology. She further stated that it would be regressive not to pass the proposal.

Senator Johnson, Engineering asked whether students are allowed to take just an MSc or is it a compensatory masters.

Michael Coplan, IPST stated that this program is not for students who merely want an MSc.

Senator Johnson, Engineering stated that he had an issue with compensatory masters programs because they de-value the value of the masters degree. He has an academic problem with the program as it stands.

Senator Rokita, Chemistry & Biochemistry stated that Biophysics should be identified by "Biophysics" not Physics and Biology. He further stated that he was in favor of the proposal.

Senator Cohen, Physics stated that he was concerned that graduates would have a weak background in chemistry and physics.

Senator Dimitrakopoulos, Chemistry & Nuclear Engineering stated that Biophysics is not just physics and should be a campus-level program. He further stated that this proposal was a good one.

Dean Allewell, Life Sciences stated that it is highly unlikely that the program would turn out 'weak' candidates and that the admissions requirements would be high.

Rajarshi Roy, Director of IPST stated that the typical student that applies to the program is exceptional and that we lose a lot of these high-caliber students because we do not have a biophysics program. He further stated that the faculty in the program are some of the best on campus, and that they will be in ongoing discussions with the departments.

Dean Halperin, CMPS stated that the Biophysics faculty receive the highest merit increases in CMPS. He believes that this program is on the cutting edge of the field.

Michael Coplan, IPST stated that there it would be a substantial program with thesis and non-thesis options. He further stated that there was strong support from the Physics Chair and that the department had established a committee to look specifically at this new program.

Senator Cohen, Physics further stated that he agrees that we need a biophysics program. He believes that people engaging at the quantitative level have the types of tools that professionals in the physical sciences have.

Hearing no further discussion, Chair Holum requested a vote on the proposal. The proposal passed.

PCC Proposal to Rename the M.S. and Ph.D. Programs in Applied Mathematics and Scientific Computation to Applied Mathematics and Statistics and Scientific Computation

(Senate Document Number 07-08-37)

Carmen Balthrop, Chair of the PCC committee gave a brief overview of the proposal.

Chair Holum opened the floor to discussion. Seeing no discussion, Chair Holum requested a vote on the proposal. The result was unanimously in favor of passing the proposal.

Senate Elections, Representation, and Governance
Review of the Revision to the Bylaws of the University Senate
(Senate Document Number 07-08-40)

Sabrina Baron, Chair of the ERG committee gave an overview of all of the revisions to the Bylaws and explained that it was mostly a house-keeping exercise and that no substantive changes were made.

Chair Holum opened the floor to discussion.

Senator Alvarez, Libraries made a motion for an amendment to be consistent with the wording change in section 3.3f that changes 'tape recording' to 'audio recording' to simply re-word 'tape recordings' to 'recordings' in 9, 9.1, 9.1b and 9.5.

Senator Falvey, Chemistry & Biochemistry seconded the motion.

Chair Holum opened the floor to discussion of the amendment.

Senator Baron stated that there would be no objection from the committee for this amendment.

Seeing no further discussion, Senator Holum requested a vote on the amendment. The amendment was adopted unanimously.

Senator Docherty, Operations Management questioned why the wording on Article 6 specified 3 undergraduates and 1 graduate.

Senator Baron stated that this was a request by graduate students to have a clarification in the membership guidelines regarding graduate student participation on this committee.

Senator Docherty, Operations Management also questioned the section of the bylaws regarding the SEC member as 13 members instead of 12.

Senator Baron stated that this was probably just a typo.

Parliamentarian Breslow stated that if the Plan of Organization states that the membership is 12 so it must be 12.

Senator Docherty made a motion to amend the Bylaws so that the SEC membership remains 12 as per the plan of organization. This motion was seconded.

Chair Holum requested a vote of the amendment which was passed unanimously.

Senator Zimmerman, Chemistry requested that in section 3.1 on p. 5 second line, the alteration 'shall be mailed by campus or electronic mail from the senate office' and suggested an amendment to change the word 'campus' to paper to clarify.

Senator Sabrina Baron stated that it was not their intention to remove paper notification.

Senator Sabrina Baron stated that this proposal to revise the Bylaws requires a 2/3 favorable vote.

Chair Holum requested a vote of the proposal. The result of the vote was 65 Yes, 1 No and 0 Abstain. The proposal passed.

Senate Faculty Affairs Committee
Review of the Revision to the Scholarly Misconduct Policy
(Senate Document Number 07-08-39)

Daniel Falvey, Chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee explained that the committee chose to update the policy on scholarly misconduct. The current policy is not in compliance with the Public Health Service (one of the big funding agencies). In order to be in compliance, President Mote adopted an interim policy which applied only to people funded by NIH. These parallel policies were unified.

Chair Holum opened the floor for discussion. Hearing no discussion, Chair Holum requested a vote on the revision. The result of the vote was unanimously in favor.

Senate Human Relations Committee
**Policy on Access to Campus-Based Privileges for Graduate Assistants,
Graduate Fellowship Recipients and Postdoctoral Fellows**
(Senate Document Number: 07-08-18)

Willie Brown, Chair of the Human Relations Committee gave an overview of the policy and stated that it would allow access to campus privileges for Graduate Assistants, Fellows and Postdoctoral Fellows. He said they were correcting the word 'leas' to 'least' and that this policy added no extra cost.

Chair Holum opened the floor discussion. Seeing no discussion, Chair Holum requested a vote on the revision. The result of the vote was unanimously in favor.

Report of Senate Campus Affairs Committee
Review of Campus Safety
(Senate Document Number 07-08-38)

Ed Walters, Music spoke on behalf of Chair, William Fennie. He summarized the findings of the committee and stated that they would like to increase the number of police on campus, get better lighting throughout campus, and create a place to report safety concerns or get information. The committee would like coordination of various areas.

Chair Holum opened the floor to discussion.

Senator Gullickson, History suggested that a Campus Security option be added to the main university phone message.

Senator Docherty, Business asked how these suggestions are implemented.

Doug Duncan, VP for Administrative Affairs said that these suggestions go to him for implementation.

Senator Brown, OIT stated that he would pass Senator Gullickson's suggestion on to the administration.

Chair Holum requested a vote on endorsing the review. The review passed.

New Business

Senator Balthrop, School of Music suggested that the Senate look into more parking options for those senators who teach up to the senate meetings in buildings on the other side of campus. Chair Holum stated that this is a matter he would look into.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Senate Chair Holum adjourned the meeting at 4:47 p.m.