

# **PACIFIC UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**

**for August 28, 2008**

**Prepared by Jeff Seward, Chair Elect**

**Final draft, approved by Senate 9/25/2008**

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 p.m. by the Senate Chair, Carole Timpone.

## **Roll call.**

Senators present: Gail Aamodt, David Boersema, Jim Flory, Linda Hunt, Lynda Irons, Kevin Johnson, Shereen Khoja, James Lane, Richard London, Martha Rampton, Victor Rodriguez, Lori Rynd, Jeff Seward (Chair Elect), Carole Timpone (Chair), Mark Bailey, Rick Whiteley, and Lorne Yudcovitch

Mark Szymanski was present from Eugene by remote audio/video hookup.

Senators absent: Provost John Miller, Jon Gietzen (new Senator to be selected), John Medeiros, Juancho Ramirez (new Senator to be elected)

## **Approval of the minutes.**

A motion was made and seconded by Rick Whiteley and Martha Rampton to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2008 meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously after one correction: the phrase "the appropriate sanction in a disciplinary case" was changed to "the appropriateness of a sanction" in the last sentence of the second paragraph on page 2 under the topic "Approval of the Ad Hoc Committee for Revision to the University Appeals Board."

## **The Faculty Senate website.**

The Chair walked the Senate through the now finished Senate website, and the Senate discussed further refinements for the site. Martha Rampton volunteered to draft language for the "about" or "what we do" item on the website. Jim Flory volunteered to take a new set of matching photos of all the Senators at the next Senate meeting, and Kevin Johnson volunteered to work on preparing a graphic showing the structure and relationships of the overall governance structure. There was general consensus that the minutes of University Council meetings should be made available in "draft" form and posted on the Senate website rather than waiting for final approval of the UC minutes.

## **New Senators.**

The Faculty Senate welcomed two new Senators: Mark Bailey, representing the College of Education, and Lorne Yudcovitch, representing the College of Optometry. Two Senators have resigned from the Senate, but no new Senators have yet been selected as replacements--Jon Gietzen and Juancho Ramirez, both representing the College of Health Professions.

### **New University Committee assignments.**

It was announced that Mike Charles of the College of Education had been nominated to the University Personnel Committee, and Catherine Kim had been nominated to the Curriculum and Standards Committee. A motion was made and seconded by Kevin Johnson and Mark Bailey to approve these nominations, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Chapter 4 revision process and possible February University Faculty meeting.**

There was a discussion of the disappointment of many Senators about the process for deliberating on the revisions to Chapter 4 regarding criteria for tenure and promotion. As recorded in the May 15, 2008 minutes, the Faculty Senate formally and unanimously recommended to the University Faculty chairs and the administration that "the 2008 fall University Faculty conference be primarily dedicated to consideration of the Chapter 4 revisions with both general sessions and breakout sessions devoted to discussion of the issues in a similar fashion to the process used to discuss governance reform at the 2006 fall conference. The break out sessions would be facilitated by members of the University Personnel Committee and members of the Faculty Senate."

The Chair indicated that she had personally communicated this recommendation to the faculty chairs, but the recommendation was not followed, and discussion of the Chapter 4 revisions was confined to one set of breakout sessions among many with the direct participation of only a limited number of faculty members. The possibility was raised that a full University Faculty meeting should be called for February to focus exclusively on discussion of the Chapter 4 revisions, and it was agreed that this would be on the agenda for the Senate's September meeting.

This discussion also revived discussion of the value of creating two separate forms of "receiving" proposals in the Senate. One form of "receiving" would be for the purpose of discussion and final vote at the next Senate meeting. A second form of "receiving" would be for the purpose of beginning a process of University-wide deliberation and include a specific plan for such deliberation. Jeff Seward volunteered to prepare language for the Senate Bylaws specifying these two forms of "receiving" to be presented at the September Senate meeting.

### **Conflict of Interest proposal and draft Assessment Plan.**

The Chair noted that neither the University Conflict of Interest proposal nor the draft Assessment Plan discussed in the spring had yet been revised for Senate consideration. Both of these items will be taken up by the Senate when they are ready.

### **Faculty Senate budget.**

The Chair announced that the new University budget includes \$11,000 for a part-time staff person for the Senate and \$1,000 for incidental expenses (such as food and beverages for Senate meetings). There followed a discussion of a possible job description for the part-time staff person, including the possibility of combining this position with a similar position that has been approved for the new Staff Senate. The Chair indicated she would work with the Provost to flesh out a job description and a hiring process.

### **Committee reports.**

There were no reports from University committees. It was agreed that there is no need for oral reports at each Senate meeting from each University committee that reports to the Senate. It was agreed that each month each committee should send a written report of its activities and concerns to the Senate and personal reports would be put on the Senate agenda only at the request of the committee or at the request of the Senate.

### **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 5:02 p.m.