

## ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

**DATE:** September 13, 2001

<b>PRESENT:</b>	George Benedict	Doxey Hatch
	Sandie Rietz	Mark Hardt
	Paul Bauer	Connie Landis
	Randall Gloege	George White (ex-officio)

<b>ABSENT:</b>	Doug Brown – <i>excused</i>	David Gurchiek – <i>excused</i>
	George Madden	
	Bob Carr (ex-officio)	Scott Harris (ex-officio)
	Randy Rhine (ex-officio)	Dan Zirker (ex-officio)
	Terrie Iverson (ex-officio)	Janie Park (ex-officio)
	Jennifer Gerondale (ex-officio)	Lee Peters (ex-officio)

**PRESIDING:** Sandie Rietz, Chair

Sandie Rietz called the meeting to order at 3:59 p.m. on September 13, 2001, in room B8 of the College of Technology.

The April 26, 2001 meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

### GRADUATE STUDIES/GRADUATE COMMITTEE:

Dr. George White, Director of Graduate Studies, discussed the upcoming Graduate Catalog. He stated that it is imperative that the Senate inform all departments of the importance of getting their changes in to the Academic Senate in a timely manner. Departments must be proactive in addressing their issues, because the past year was extremely difficult in getting the catalog out (which at meeting time was still not back from the publishers). Fatal deadlines and perhaps publishing the Graduate Catalog every five years were suggested as aides. Dr. White also suggested cutting down on substitution of classes. He enthusiastically endorsed an electronic catalog, which would save a great deal of paperwork. He pointed out that today's traditional students select their college over the Internet. They are not concerned with a paper catalog. This electronic catalog could then be printed out and copied on campus, should the need arise. It was then suggested that the introductory material in the Graduate Catalog be cut down.

Sandie Rietz volunteered to go to the Graduate Committee meeting on September 20 to present these ideas to the committee.

George Benedict moved to send a memo to the Graduate Committee about three new charges to the committee. The charges are to streamline the introductory text of the Graduate Catalog, to set up firm deadlines for departments to submit changes, and to establish an online version of the catalog with no printed copy. The motion was seconded and passed.

## I. OLD BUSINESS

**A. BSLS Degree.** An inquiry was made as to what progress has occurred in the ad hoc committee formed to investigate the requirements of the BSLS Degree. It had been handed back to Dean Zirker at the end of spring semester, since ad hoc committees sunset at the end of the academic year.

George Benedict moved that a memo be sent to Dean Zirker, inquiring as to the status of the investigation. Connie Landis stated that she is interested in this topic. Others stated that Dan Gross and St. John Robinson are also interested in the topic. The memo was amended to include these names as interested parties, and the motion was seconded and passed.

## II. NEW BUSINESS

**A. General Education, presented by Mark Hardt, Chair of the General Education Committee.** Mark Hardt presented the results of the General Education Committee Retreat on August 31. He stated that there are two models for general education: build an entirely new system, or tinker with the old. He said the important part of both models is to decouple general education from individual departments. It is also key to distinguish classes from categories, and to tell students why they are taking a general education course. New general education courses should be designed, and this may constitute a reduction in required general education credits. In opposition to the reduction of the credits are capstone classes at the beginning and end of the student's academic career. Mark Hardt also stated that the position Director of General Education Assessment no longer exists. He then referenced a Core Faculty Group made up of general education instructors that would be in charge of assessment, with the Academic Senate General Education Committee being an oversight body. He pointed out that there are no extra funds for implementing a new General Education Department, but decoupling general education from the departments would generate the necessary funds. However, the decoupling raises sensitive issues in an FTE driven system. Double rubrics are an option. Integrated courses were brought up in the designing of new general education courses which could be team-taught, but it is more expensive.

Sandie Rietz, who was present at the General Education Retreat, handed out an article from *The Chronicle* that discusses integrating content.

**B. Elections.** There has been no response to the memo sent out September 10 asking for nominations. Randall Gloege, Connie Landis, Doxey Hatch, and Paul Bauer volunteered to speak to colleagues about election to the Senate. A suggestion was made to fill out the petition form for the candidates, to make it all the easier for them. It was also noted that representation from the College of Business would be most favorable for both the COB and the Senate.

**C. Bylaws Changes.** The bylaws changes for the General Education Committee and the Graduate Committee were held over for the next meeting.

**D. Executive Members.** It was suggested that there be four vice-chairs rather than the sanctioned two, to help enhance the Executive Committee. Further discussion of this change was held over for the next meeting.

**E. Chair Elect Policy.** Held over for the next meeting.

**F. Senate Appointment to the UBC.** Creation of this policy, particularly as it applies to faculty representation at BOR meetings, was held over until the next meeting.

### III. OTHER

**A. Representatives to BOR.** Sandie Rietz asked for a volunteer from the Senate to accompany her to the Board of Regents meeting. She stated that the Chair of the Senate usually needs help, and the volunteer would learn a great deal. The information learned then comes in handy the following year when newcomers look to those with experience, and the end result is a shift of influence.

The meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

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