EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Anaya, LaCost, Rinkevich, Woodman, Wysocki

Absent: Guevara, Lindquist, Purdum, Schubert, Shea, Struthers, Varner

Date: Wednesday, January 4, 2012

Location: Faculty Senate Office

Note: These are not verbatim minutes. They are a summary of the discussions at the Executive Committee meeting as corrected by those participating.

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1.0 Call to Order
LaCost called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

2.0 Announcements
2.1 Welcome to Senator Woodman
LaCost welcomed Woodman who is replacing Nickerson during the spring semester while Nickerson is on leave.

2.2 Lack of Faculty at Graduation Ceremony
LaCost reported that while attending an event she was approached by a couple of Regents who pointed out to her the lack of faculty members attending the graduation ceremony. She noted that only six faculty members were sitting in the twenty five assigned seats for faculty. She stated that she is planning to mention to the Chancellor that if he is not going to mandate to the Deans that a faculty member from each department needs to attend graduation, the least that could be done is to have faculty members respond if they are attending so the appropriate amount of chairs would be available. Woodman asked where the Marshals sit. Rinkevich responded that they sit in the back. Woodman suggested that providing parking permits for the faculty might help increase faculty attendance.

3.0 Approval of 12/14/11 Minutes
Due to the lack of a quorum no vote was taken on the minutes.

4.0 Unfinished Business
4.2 Honorary Degrees Guidelines
LaCost noted that Nickerson recommended that nominations for honorary degrees be solicited twice a year, that the letter calling for nominations be revised, that the procedure of presenting the nominations to the Faculty Senate be revised, and that the nominator must provide persuasive information on why a person is being suggested for an honorary degree.

Anaya reported that she spoke with Professor Boudreau, a long time member of the Honorary Degrees Committee, and reported that Boudreau is very open to suggestions on
how the process can be improved. She noted that after Associate to the Chancellor Howe retired the process of soliciting nominations had to be rebuilt.

LaCost noted that the Chancellor indicated that nominees should have some ties to the university and only in exceptional cases should retired faculty members receive an honorary degree.

Anaya reported that Boudreau receives the nominations and then uses the libraries resources to compile information on the nominees. The Honorary Degrees Committee then reviews the information and determines which nominations should be put forward to the Faculty Senate for a vote. She pointed out that more specificity on the nominee is needed on the application. Woodman asked if supporting documents and letters are required. Anaya stated that she does not think this information is needed and that Boudreau does the research on each of the nominees. Woodman wondered if the Honorary Degrees Committee gets to review complete biographical information on the nominees. Anaya stated that she will check with Boudreau to see if more extensive information is provided to the Committee.

Woodman noted that when he was on the Honorary Degrees Committee a number of years ago, typically eight or nine nominations would be made. He pointed out that an issue is when the honorary degrees are actually presented. He stated that sometimes it is three or four years before someone may actually receive an honorary degree.

Anaya reported that she will speak with Boudreau and Associate to the Chancellor Nunez about possible changes to the process and she will report back to the Executive Committee.

4.2 University Curriculum Committee Proposed Revisions
Griffin reported that she did some checking on the proposed revisions that Professor Moore, chair of the UCC is suggesting. She stated that there are two sets of revisions: there are changes to the Committee syllabus, and then there are changes to the UCC’s ACE Subcommittee Governance and Assessment document. Both sets of revisions will need approval by the Faculty Senate since the UCC is a Faculty Senate committee. LaCost noted that Professor Moore felt that the UCC can approve the changes to the Governance and Assessment document because there are representatives from each of the colleges on the UCC, but he did not understand that the Senate must approve the changes. Griffin noted that Professor Moore will be presenting the UCC annual report to the Senate on Tuesday and he might discuss the proposed changes at that time.

5.0 New Business
5.1 General Counsel’s Proposed Revisions to the Academic Rights & Responsibilities Procedures
LaCost reported that she received an email message from Alison Basye, Associate General Counsel, about some very minor changes that need to be made to the ARRC procedures before they are presented to the Board of Regents. The revisions involve
spacing and inserting the correct title of the Office of Research and Economic Development. The Executive Committee agreed with these changes.

5.2 Executive Committee Member
LaCost reported that Irmak has resigned from the Faculty Senate and the Executive Committee and needs to be replaced. Griffin noted that there is no representative from the Colleges of Architecture, Fine and Performing Arts, or Business. She stated that no additional members can be from IANR because the number of representatives has reached the maximum, but the other colleges can have a representative. The Executive Committee discussed possible candidates. LaCost stated that she will make an announcement calling for nominations for a new Executive Committee member at the January Senate meeting.

5.3 Faculty Senate Meeting
Griffin reported that President Milliken will be speaking to the Senate at the January 10 meeting. She stated that a presentation will be made on the ADVANCE program by Professors Holmes and DiRusso.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:21 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Wednesday, January 11, at 3:00 pm. The meeting will be held in the Faculty Senate Office. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Pat Shea, Secretary.