

APPROVED BY THE
COMMITTEE

JUN 08 2011

Michele M. Thompson

MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
SECRETARY OF THE BOARD
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

MARCH 22, 2011

This meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee was held in Rooms C and D, Public Affairs Center, University of Illinois at Springfield, One University Plaza, Springfield, Illinois on Tuesday, March 22, 2011, beginning at 3:00 p.m. Trustee Karen Hasara, chair of the committee, welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked the clerk to call the roll. The following committee members were present: Mr. Ricardo Estrada, Ms. Karen Hasara, Ms. Patricia Brown Holmes, Dr. Timothy N. Koritz, and Mr. Lawrence Oliver. Mr. Daniel Soso¹, voting student trustee from the Urbana campus, was present. The following nonvoting student trustees were also present: Ms. Roshina Khan, Chicago campus; and Mr. Charles Olivier, Springfield campus. Ms. Hasara welcomed Mr. Estrada and Ms. Holmes and said they will be wonderful additions to this committee.

Also in attendance were President Michael J. Hogan; Dr. Mrinalini C. Rao, vice president for academic affairs; Mr. Walter K. Knorr, vice president/chief financial officer, and comptroller; Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; Dr. Michele M. Thompson, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University; Dr. Lynn Pardie, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Springfield; Dr. Peter Mortensen, associate provost for academic affairs, Urbana; Dr. Mo-Yin Tam, vice provost for faculty affairs, Chicago.

¹ Mr. Soso arrived at 3:25 p.m.

Ms. Hasara asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the committee meeting that was held on November 17, 2010. On motion of Dr. Koritz, seconded by Mr. Oliver, these minutes were approved unanimously.

Ms. Hasara then stated that Mr. Samuel K. Gove, who was well known to many throughout the University and the State, recently passed away. She said he had a huge impact on the State and a great influence on academic affairs at the University, and she told the committee of his many accomplishments, stating that his leadership and mentoring helped shape many of the political leaders in Illinois. She stated that she thought it important to recognize Mr. Gove and his accomplishments in this setting, and said he will be missed throughout the State.

REVIEW OF RECOMMENDED BOARD ITEMS

Next, Ms. Hasara provided a brief overview of the items within the purview of the committee that were on the agenda for the Board of Trustees meeting the following day, and indicated that information regarding these items had been sent to committee members in advance of this meeting. She provided clarification for the items, "Appoint Associates to the Center for Advanced Study, Urbana" and "Appoint Fellows to the Center for Advanced Study, Urbana," stating that associates are tenured faculty, while fellows are tenure-track faculty. She provided additional information about the Center for Advanced Study and explained how these appointments differ from sabbaticals, adding that a recommendation for these appointments is considered an honor. She also reviewed the items, "Rename the Department of Performing Arts, College of Architecture and the Arts, Chicago" and "Rename the Institute of Natural Resource Sustainability, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, Urbana," and she referred to an informative presentation made last year on sabbaticals when discussing the item, "Sabbatical

Leaves of Absence.” She provided some information about the number of sabbaticals that are granted each year, and Dr. Rao explained how absences of faculty members are handled by departments to meet teaching obligations. Dr. Rao also informed the committee of the benefits of sabbaticals, the differences between appointments at the Center for Advanced Study and sabbaticals, and the types of work that may be completed during this time. Ms. Hasara also reviewed the items, “Appointments to the Faculty, Administrative/Professional Staff, and Intercollegiate Athletic Staff” and “Approve Amendments to the Operating Agreement of the University of Illinois Research Park, LLC.” There were no concerns or objections expressed regarding these items.

PRESENTATION: THE MULTIPLE FACETS OF TEACHING

Ms. Hasara asked Dr. Rao to begin the presentation on the multiple facets of teaching (materials on file with the clerk), which included a discussion of the programs for development of good teaching, assessment and celebration of teaching at the University. Dr. Rao stated that the idea for this topic originated in a request from Chairman Kennedy to provide a report on the evaluation of teaching, and said that after discussing the topic with Ms. Hasara, the decision was made to contextualize the topic and broaden it to include the multiple facets of teaching. She thanked her colleagues for their assistance in preparing this presentation, and she introduced the panelists, Dr. Peter Mortensen, associate provost for academic affairs, Urbana; Dr. Mo-Yin Tam, vice provost for faculty affairs, Chicago; and Dr. Lynn Pardie, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Springfield. She provided an overview of the format for the presentation, which she said would include information about teaching, advising, and mentoring, and explained that each presenter would expand on these topics.

Dr. Rao briefly discussed the forms of teaching, including classroom teaching and individual mentoring, and provided information regarding the number of undergraduate class sections, size of classes, number of teaching staff, and online enrollment growth. Panelists responded to questions from committee members regarding class size, and they also described mentoring and advising programs on each campus. They discussed the honors colleges at Chicago and Urbana and the honors program at Springfield, focusing on admission, mentoring, and advising, and student trustees described their experiences in these programs. A video was then shown featuring faculty at the Springfield campus discussing teaching methodologies in online and face-to-face instruction.

Dr. Rao then asked Dr. Pardie to present information on activities and programs for developing good teachers. Dr. Pardie discussed the selection, cultivation, and recognition of teachers, and she defined qualities of teaching excellence. She described indications of excellent teachers in the hiring process, and she provided examples of faculty development programs, resources, and workshops on each campus. Committee members and presenters discussed the level of participation in these programs, and the panelists indicated that participation varies based on the type of program. After the discussion, a video was shown that focused on the teaching philosophy of Dr. Karina Reyes, an award-winning faculty member in the department of psychology, college of liberal arts and sciences, Chicago.

Next, Dr. Rao asked Dr. Mortensen to report on the metrics of teaching, including a discussion of evaluations by students and peers. He described evaluation and assessment as crucial and provided examples of the many ways evaluation and assessment might occur, including self-evaluation, student evaluation, student placement, peer evaluation, and resident

and fellow feedback. He described uses of teaching evaluations, and concluded with a video featuring award-winning Urbana campus faculty members.

Dr. Rao then asked Dr. Tam to present information on the celebration and reward of teaching at the University. Dr. Tam provided examples of awards for teaching excellence from students, alumni, departments, and colleges, as well as those at each campus. She indicated that there is variation among the types of awards offered at each campus, and she concluded with quotations describing the many ways that faculty members have inspired students at the University. Committee members inquired about the process for improving the teaching styles of some faculty members, and the presenters provided examples of methods to improve teaching, including mid-semester feedback and mentoring. Additional discussion included the handling of student complaints regarding faculty members, and Dr. Mortensen explained that while in some instances, it is necessary to address the expectations of students, there are other occasions where intervention is needed. Dr. Rao emphasized that many faculty are self-evaluating throughout the teaching process.

Dr. Rao then reviewed the final portion of the presentation, which focused on instructional challenges and solutions. She described challenges in the current learning environment, such as changing social norms and etiquette, demands on student time, increasing diversity in the classroom, infrastructure issues, and differences in student preparedness, and she provided examples of ways that these challenges have been met. She also described demands on faculty time, including time for research, scholarship, and service, the need to stay current in one's discipline, regulatory and administrative burdens, and the adaptation of new technology. She also discussed current teaching adaptations, such as the utilization of different modalities,

organizing to endeavor teaching at appropriate levels, establishing learning goals, extending teaching beyond the classroom, and fostering engagement through mentoring.

Committee members briefly discussed the presentation. When the discussion ended, President Hogan congratulated Dr. Donald A. Chambers, professor of biochemistry and molecular genetics, and physiology and biophysics, college of medicine, Chicago, on a recently published book on the evolution of medical education. He said that Dr. Chambers was the editor, wrote the introduction, and contributed to some essays. Dr. Chambers was present at the committee meeting as a representative of the Chicago senate.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no business presented under this aegis.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Hasara announced that the next meeting of this committee is scheduled for Wednesday, June 8, 2011, at 3:00 p.m., at the Chicago campus.

COMMITTEE MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele M. Thompson
Michele M. Thompson
Clerk

Karen Hasara
Karen Hasara
Chair

Eileen B. Cable
Eileen B. Cable
Assistant Clerk