October 22, 2010

TO: Senators and Executives

FROM: Belinda Orzada, Vice President
University Faculty Senate

SUBJECT: Regular Faculty Senate Meeting November 1, 2010

In accordance with Section IV, paragraph 6 of the Constitution, the regular meeting of the University Faculty Senate will be held on Monday, November 1, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. in 104 Gore Hall.

I certify that hard copies of the approval page for each undergraduate and graduate studies academic item on the agenda are filed in the Faculty Senate Office with the appropriate signatures of approval up through the Chair of the Faculty Senate Coordinating Committee on Education. The Agenda will be as follows:
MINUTES

I. Adoption of the Agenda

Senator Morrison raised the question regarding the structure of the agenda and if the order should be changed to make certain important matters are allowed sufficient time for discussion.

A motion to adopt was made seconded and passed.

II. Approval of the Minutes: October 4, 2010

A motion to approve was made seconded and passed.

II. Remarks: Provost Tom Apple

Reported on a discussion with the chairs regarding writing across the disciplines and academic rigor. The need for better methods to evaluate teaching was mentioned along with a brief presentation of grade data from Institutional Research indicating that grade inflation may have become a problem over the past several years.

Professor John Morgan made the following statement: “I guess I would first say that I do think that the data needs to be checked because I’ve seen some reports from the Registrar’s Office where averages have not been computed correctly. I have been very concerned about the issue of grade inflation on this campus ever since the mid 1980’s. I think it’s fair to say that when the studies were done back in 2004/2005 they showed a steady increase…. a few 100ths of a point per year which when multiplied by 20 or 25 years would amount to maybe about ½ a letter grade. Now, of course, we think that our students are getting better during that time and I think it’s important that each department try to develop some procedures to try to make sure that the grades it’s assigning correspond with actual increases in performance which could be measured by such things as performance on standardized exams that students take after they graduate such as particularly a subject test in a specific area which some departments such as Physics and Chemistry, English and, I think History, are able to do. There may be other criteria such as placement of your students in good graduate schools; maybe performance on law school admission tests, or medical college admission tests. I think wherever possible departments should be trying to factor those criteria into their procedures for determining whether their grade distributions are appropriate and whether their faculty are in deed doing a much better job of teaching better students.”
Professor Bowers mentioned that in her experience over the past several years many students who get a grade below a C on the first exam drop her courses.

IV. Announcements: Senate President John Madsen

Presentations by:
Dean Conrado Gempesaw – Alfred Lerner
College of Business and Economics

Dean Kathleen Matt – College of Health Sciences

Dean Nancy Targett – College of Earth, Ocean and Environment

Senate President Madsen provided an overview of the current pipeline of issues and motions currently under consideration by the senate and its various committees. They are as follows:

Faculty Senate Announcements – 11/1/10

1) Proposal to Faculty Senate to consider the listing of particular religious holidays on the University academic calendar. Has been reviewed by Rules Committee, Undergraduate and Graduate Studies Committees and Executive Committee, and will be sent back to the Rules Committee for a recommendation.

Expect to have on agenda for December Faculty Senate meeting.

2) At the April 2010 meeting of the University Faculty Senate a motion presented by Senator James Morrison to appoint an ad hoc committee to investigate the impact that responsibility based budgeting (RBB) is having on faculty governance and academic quality at the University was seconded and
approved.

The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate is working with the Committee on Committees and Nominations (COCAN) to select the members of this ad hoc committee.

3) At the April 2010 meeting of the University Faculty Senate a motion presented by Senator James Morrison that, when there are plans by the administration for reorganization of units within the University, the faculty members of the affected units be informed within one week and the faculty members have an opportunity with sufficient time to discuss the proposal and respond with their recommendations to the Dean and Chair of those units.

Currently in review by the Executive Committee
4) Resolution sponsored by Senators Galileo, Bruening, Hastings, Morgan, Izard introduced at 9/13/10 Faculty Senate Meeting - Stipulates new conditions necessary for changes to be made to the University of Delaware Faculty Handbook.

This resolution has been sent to the Rules Committee for discussion.

5) Faculty Survey on Classroom Scheduling System

E-mail sent to faculty Monday, Oct. 18th. 391 responses received so far. Deadline was Nov. 1st – E-mail will be sent to all faculty tomorrow Nov. 2nd encouraging participation in survey. Deadline will be extended to Nov. 5th.

Similar survey will be sent to Administration (Provost, Deans, Chairs, etc.) later this week.

After initial evaluation, similar survey will be sent to all students later this month.

6) Faculty Senate consideration of Student Evaluations of Courses and Evaluations of Teaching

The Coordinating Committee on Education will hold initial discussions at their next meeting.

V. Consent Agenda

1. Announcements for Challenge:

   a. Recommendation from the Faculty Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (Fred Hofstetter, Chair) with the concurrence of the Coordinating Committee on Education (Jeff Jordan, Chair) and the Executive Committee (John Madsen,
b. Recommendation from the Faculty Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (Fred Hofstetter, Chair) with the concurrence of the Coordinating Committee on Education (Jeff Jordan, Chair) and the Executive Committee (John Madsen, Chair) for the request to revise the International Business Studies Major in Business Administration (attachment #002)

c. Recommendation from the Faculty Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (Fred Hofstetter, Chair) with the concurrence of the Coordinating Committee on Education (Jeff Jordan, Chair) and the Executive Committee (John Madsen, Chair) for the request to revise the Operations Management Major in Business Administration (attachment #003)

d. Recommendation from the Faculty Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (Fred Hofstetter, Chair) with the concurrence of the Coordinating Committee on Education (Jeff Jordan, Chair) and the Executive Committee (John Madsen, Chair) for the request to revise the Management Major in Business Administration (attachment #004)

e. Recommendation from the Faculty Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (Fred Hofstetter, Chair) with the concurrence of the Coordinating Committee on Education (Jeff Jordan, Chair) and the Executive Committee (John Madsen, Chair) for the request to revise the Marketing Major in Business Administration (attachment #005)

The motion was approved.

VI. Regular Agenda

1. Unfinished Business:

   a. Resolutions:
1. Recommendation from the Faculty Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (Fred Hofstetter, Chairperson) with the concurrence of the Coordinating Committee on Education (Jeff Jordan, Chair) and the Executive Committee (John Madsen, Chair) for the request to add a Major in Marine Science with a Concentration in Marine Biology (resolution attachment revised #006) (attachment revised 10-20-10 #007)

Whereas, The State of Delaware and the University of Delaware have rich traditions connected to the marine environment and the study of marine science; and

Whereas, We are a coastal state and as such, it is imperative to have a citizenry that is well versed in the issues that impact our marine and coastal areas; and

Whereas, there are currently limited opportunities for undergraduate students to study marine ecosystems, species and the rich biodiversity in the region; and

Whereas, A Marine Science degree with a concentration in Marine Biology best reflects the interdisciplinary nature of the field, and is philosophically consistent with our graduate academic programs; and

Whereas, the Bachelor of Science degree in
Marine Science provides students with a solid academic foundation and a complementary pathway for success for entrance into graduate programs or careers in the field; and

Whereas, the Marine Programs within the College of Earth Ocean and Environment are internationally renowned academic programs taught by faculty that are leaders in the field, the Undergraduate Major capitalizes on this valuable resource and provides undergraduate students with an intellectually rigorous experience enabling them to emerge as the next generation of leaders; be it therefore

Resolved, that the Faculty Senate approves provisionally, for five years, the establishment of a new major entitled Bachelor of Science in Marine Science with a concentration in Marine Biology effective February 7, 2011.

The motion was approved

2. Recommendation from the Faculty Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (Fred Hofstetter, Chairperson) and the Committee on Graduate Studies (Bob Opila, Chair) with the concurrence of the Coordinating Committee on
Education (Jeff Jordan, Chair) and the Executive Committee (John Madsen, Chair) for the request for a move of the School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy to the College of Arts and Sciences and a name change to School of Public Policy and Administration (attachment #008) (revised attachment 10-14-10 name change explanation #009)

Whereas, The University of Delaware has undertaken a reorganization of certain programs and activities, and the faculty in the School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy has voted to approve a plan to move in toto, the faculty, personnel, academic and other programs and activities in the School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy and its affiliated Centers including the Center for Community Research and Service, the Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, the Institute for Public Administration, and the Center for Historic Architecture and Design to the College of Arts and Sciences; and

Whereas, The School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy wishes to strengthen its existing academic programs and raise their prominence externally and at the University; to better connect faculty to students; and to improve the management of subvention resources under the
Whereas, The faculty and staff in the School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy has voted to recommend the transfer and to change the School’s name to the School of Public Policy and Administration; and

Whereas, The School has agreed to submit undergraduate curriculum change proposals to allow undergraduate requirements in the Organizational and Community Leadership major and the Public Policy major to be aligned with undergraduate requirements and expectations of the College of Arts and Sciences; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Faculty Senate recommends the transfer of the faculty, personnel and programs of the School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy to the College of Arts and Sciences with the name changed to the School of Public Policy and Administration be effective as of January 1, 2011.

The motion was approved

2. New Business: None
VIII. Introduction of New Business
Such items as may come before the Senate. (No motion introduced under new business, except a motion to refer to committee, shall be acted upon until the next meeting of the Senate.)

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved.