University Senate Minutes for Thursday, May 8, 2008

**Biological Science**
*E. L. Beard*
(Maureen Shuh, proxy)
*Maureen Shuh*

**Business (College of)**
Karen Arnold
Wing Fok
Pat Lynch
Chris Screen
Stuart Wood
Lee Yao

**Chemistry**
*Lynn Koplitz*
*Joelle Underwood*

**Classical and Modern Languages and Cultures**
*Connie Rodriguez*
*Bob Dewell*

**Criminal Justice**
*Dee Harper*

**Education/Counseling**

**English**
*Ted Cotton*
*Barbara Ewell*
*Marcus Smith*

**History**
*Robert Gerlich, S. J.*
*Maurice Brungardt*

**Law (College of)**
*Lloyd (Trey) Drury*
Robert Garda
*Jim Klebba*
*Lawrence Moore, S. J.*
Markus Puder

**Law Library**
*Cathy Wagar*

**Library**
*Richard Snow*
*Alicia Hansen*

**Mass Communication (School of)**
*Anita Day*

**Mathematics**
*Maria Calzada*

**Music**
*Alice Clark*
*James MacKay*
*Janna Saslaw*

**Philosophy**
*Joe Berendzen*
*Mark Gossiaux*

**Physics**
*Mickie King*
*Armin Kargol*

**Political Science**
*Conrad Raabe*

**Psychology**
*Glenn Hymel*
*Lawrence Lewis*

**Religious Studies**
*Robert Gnuse*

**Sociology**
*Marcus Kondkar*

**Theater Arts and Dance**
*Geoffrey Hall*

**Visual Arts**
*Simeon Hunter*

**Law Library**
*Cathy Wagar*

Ed Kvet, Provost
The meeting was called to order at 3:38 PM.

1. Invocation by Fr. Robert Gerlich, S. J.

2. The minutes from the April 10, 2008 meeting were approved.

3. Chair’s Remarks – Fr. Gerlich explained the process for the committee elections. Those whose terms were ending were asked if they were willing to serve again, and open nominations were solicited as well. He also explained some technological problems in disseminating the information about committee openings. He then introduced Edward Kvet, the new Provost, who was present to address any questions from Senate members.

4. Dean Kvet stated he might not be able to answer a lot, since he was still trying to get a handle on the position, but he was willing to do what he could.

   Marcus Smith stated that there were rumors going around about a gag order issued to faculty and staff regarding communications with the plaintiffs who were dismissed. Dr. Kvet had no information about it. Dr. Smith felt it might be useful to get a statement clarifying the situation. Dr. Kvet asked Dr. Smith to send him an email about it.

   Dr. Smith also asked whether there was any information on how the endowment has managed in the past few months with the fund meltdown in the stock market. Dr. Kvet answered that according to Jay Calamia, one of the candidates for the position of Vice President of Finance, it appears from whenever the last target date was, to Mar. 1, 2008, there is around a 30 million dollar difference (lower) as a result of the stock market situation.

   Mickie King asked about the basis of the 30 million dollar loss. It was out of a total endowment of 330 million. Dr. Kvet explained that about 60% of the endowment is general and 40% restricted. The restricted portion is more conservatively managed. The portion hooked up with the S&P 500 is what took the downturn.

   Maria Calzada asked if there were any information on student deposits. Yes. For new first-year freshmen, last year at this time we had 515 confirmations, this year we have 693. The total including transfers last year was 550, this year 744.

   Fr. Gerlich asked about contracts, and when they would be finally issued. Dr. Kvet replied that the president is going to the trustee meeting with two proposals about merit pool based on enrollment data. He didn’t know what those were, but they would obviously be above the 3%. Fr. Gerlich then asked when the letters might go out. The deans generate the contract letters. In his college, Dr. Kvet replied, he can get the contracts out within a week of receiving the pool. Fr. Gerlich was assured by the President and Provost that contracts would be in our
hands by the end of May. Barbara Ewell asked, “what if you’re out of town for the summer?” Fr. Gerlich responded that the President and Provost claimed there were ways to reach people. Dr. Kvet could only say what his college does. Alice Clark inquired when the trustees were meeting. Dr. Kvet replied, the end of next week. He felt that the end of May was realistic.

Maurice Brundardt inquired, “Do you have any particular agendas that you have set for yourself?” One of the things that Dr. Kvet really wants to provide is a cogent university wide planning process that he doesn’t see now. We’re going through a process that was proposed right before the storm. It will go to all the bodies. Dr. Kvet believes that people will like the overall structure that will result. He wants to try to get that into place by January 1, 2009. He wants to get all the parties together for comprehensive planning for the future. In his discussions with people around the university, Dr. Kvet has found unanimity of thinking that we need to get our act together.

Maureen Shuh said there’s a lot of talk about student retention, but what about faculty retention? Dr. Kvet had a conversation with Melanie McKay about this. The issue is bound up in a lot of things. Support for faculty is very important. It is very important that we offer lots of hands on support for new faculty, but we should also do this for senior faculty. He had no process yet but it’s on the President’s mind to look at the compression of salary issues. He will also look at this issue for staff. If faculty members have ideas, they would be welcome.

5. Reports
A. Kurt Birtwhistell – Endowment Committee of the Board (submitted in writing)


7. New Business – Elections to University Committees, including Senate Chair and Executive Committee

A list of committees and those elected follows:

University Senate Executive Committee: one-year terms
   Chair – Robert Gerlich
   Vice chair – Barbara Ewell
   Secretary – Janna Saslaw
   Members-at-large – Alice Clark and Conrad Raabe

Fringe Benefits Committee: 3-year term
   Barbara Bihm (subject to the candidate’s approval)
   Gwen George (subject to the candidate’s approval)

Institutional Advancement Committee of the Board: 3-year term
   Georgia Gresham
Intellectual Property Policy and Rights: 3-year term  
Deborah Poole

Mission and Identity Committee of the Board:  3-year term  
Maria Calzada

Student Affairs Policy Advisory Committee: 2-year term  
Trish Nugent  
Cathy Rogers

University Board of Appeals: 2-year term  
Mary Brazier  
Robert Gerlich  
Laura Hope (subject to the candidate’s approval)

University Board of Communications: 2-year term  
Sherry Lee Alexander  
Marcus Kondkar  
Janna Saslaw

University Board of Review: 2-year term  
Glenn Hymel  
Joelle Underwood

University Budget Committee: 2-year term  
Mary Brazier  
Dee Harper  
Armin Kargol  
Artemis Preeshl  
Maureen Shuh  
Tom Spence

Note: Before the voting, Georgia Gresham inquired about the number of members to be elected, and whether we were staggering terms. Dr. Clark noted that there really are 10-12 Senate members on the committee with two-year terms, so staggering is in place. Fr. Gerlich pointed out that as the committee membership has increased, the number of faculty representatives has automatically increased due to a stipulation of UBC constitution.

University Faculty Handbook Revision Committee: 3-year term  
Steve Scariano

University Parking Committee: 2-year term  
Mary Brazier
University Planning Team: 3-year term
Frank Jordan

8. New Senate members were introduced.

9. Fr. Gerlich stated that when the contracts are issued we will be readjusting the Senate membership numbers. The numbers we get from the administration do not correlate with the numbers that the departments say they have.

10. Lynn Koplitz made a couple of suggestions or motions to be taken up by Senate at its next meeting; 1) the Senate might consider requesting that the administration discontinue using the title “Pathways” on plans or reports or updates or enhancements in future, 2) the Senate might consider requesting that the title of Dr. Kvet be changed from Provost back to Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty. Fr. Gerlich asked Dr. Koplitz for written motions for our next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.