Council members present: Kim Hays, Steve Klay, Gail Lamb, Annette Levitt, Mindy Mangialardi, Sally Pyne, Jess Ray, Amy Roser, Mark Vegter

Ex-officio members present: Paul Jarvis, Kaye Johnson, Joe Rives, Maureen Smith

Guests present: Bill Cummins, Administrative Information Systems

Council Chair, Mindy Mangialardi, called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

Approval of minutes

The Council approved the minutes of the January 27 meeting, as read. Minutes of meetings are available on the Council Web site, http://www.apcouncil.ilstu.edu/.

Chair’s Remarks – Mindy Mangialardi

- Mangialardi thanked those who were involved in the planning of the A/P Council-hosted UClub meeting. Those in attendance were mostly Illinois State annuitants and current Council members. Though it may not have served the purpose for which it was initially intended, it was an enjoyable time and increased the visibility of the Council. The hosting of future UClub meetings will be evaluated.
- A reminder that the NCA accreditation visit takes place next week. An open forum for staff members has been scheduled for 3 – 4 p.m. on Monday 2/14 in the Old Main Room.
- Larry Lyons will be taking over as the Council’s representative on the Foundation Board. He will fulfill the remainder of Joe Rives’ term.
- The A/P and Civil Services Employee Recognition Ceremony has been set for April 20.

Liaison Remarks – Kaye Johnson

Johnson reported that she has followed up on concerns raised that potential Illinois State employees from the private sector may not be aware of how their Social Security benefits will be affected, should they accept employment with the state. Johnson shared that notification of this issue is now included in Illinois State’s interviewing process.

Johnson also shared that she continues to follow up on other concerns voiced by the Council at the beginning of this year, and will report on these issues at future meetings.

Academic Senate – Mboka Mwilambwe

Mwilambwe was unable to attend the February 9 meeting of the Senate, but provided the following report from the minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 7pm.
Chair and Vice Chair Remarks:

Senator Crothers welcomed Senator Perez of the History Department who joined the Senate for the remainder of the semester. Senator Crothers reminded the audience of the meetings scheduled with the NCA accreditation team (Academic Senate and Faculty open forum). He also reiterated his previous concern that not many committees had brought items forward to the Senate Executive Committee and that this would make for very long sessions as we get closer to the end of the semester.

Senator Rinker thanked the group working to put together the Redbird for relief commission. Questions about this can be addressed to studentbodypresident@ilstu.edu or Zach Koutsky at zakouts@ilstu.edu. A kickoff is scheduled for the week of the 28th (February) (many area businesses have donated items to be raffled off on the 28th in the Bone Student Center). There will be different events going on throughout that week to help to get information to the community about what is going on.

Senator Rinker also indicated that he and several others had an opportunity to meet with other student leaders at a conference in Las Vegas and it helped him realize how much better off things are at ISU in terms of being able to participate in the governance process.

Elections for student government are underway. The Student Elections Committee is having candidate information sessions; any student interested in running for student government must attend one of these sessions. That includes Association of Residence Halls, Student Trustee as well as for our Black Student Union President and Vice President. The location and times for the sessions are Student Services Building, 314, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Thursday and Friday.

Administrator’s Remarks

President Bowman made the following remarks:

- The flag on the quad is at half staff to recognize a graduate of Illinois State who was killed in Iraq, Christopher Zimni, graduating in the year 2000. He was a 27 year-old young man who was in the Marines.

- ISU announced a $5.8 million training initiative that was sponsored by Congressmen Weller and Hastert last week. He visited with Congressman Weller in Washington last Wednesday and talked about funding for the wind energy initiative. ISU needs another million dollars to make that project move forward and we will just have to see how this whole budget process unfolds. Congressman Johnson will be on campus on February 21st; he will be announcing another federal initiative, this time for displaced IRS and Mitsubishi workers. Then, just yesterday, we learned that Congressman LaHood will be on campus on February 28th. He will announce funding for a special education project. Then he will spend some time talking about other initiatives with him.

- The Governor’s office has a new staff member for higher education, a young attorney named Elliot Rigenstein. He was invited to campus last week. He had a very good first visit with the campus.

- The Governor’s Commission on State Pension will release a report later this week and it is expected that the Governor to say something about pensions when he gives his budget address. The commission is encouraging lawmakers to consider both reductions in benefits and increased individual payment. Both of these if they happened would apply to new members, not existing members. The public university presidents obviously are very concerned about how this might affect their employees and we plan to lobby very hard. They have asked our vice presidents for finance to meet as a group and to review the proposed changes and provide them with some impact analyses and alternative recommendations.
Founders Day is just around the corner. Jane Seymour will be here. He encouraged students to participate in that day. There is typically not a lot of student involvement. She will do an hour-long question and answer session at the Center for the Performing Arts on Founders Day, February 17th at 9:00 a.m. Then the convocation is at 1:00 p.m. in the Bone Ballroom. That will include a historical video that will cover the ten-year period from 1967 to 1977, as well as awards for various accomplishments.

The University received a very nice award from the Chamber of Commerce. ISU was awarded the large business of the year for its ability to make progress despite a challenging economy and for completing the first major fundraising campaign.

The Athletic Director Search Committee is moving forward getting lots of applications. There will be open forums for all of the finalists.

Dr. Bowman provided a brief admissions update: ISU has 2% more applications than we had last year. The ACT average for admitted students is 24.3 right now. There are now 400 students on the wait list. The minority applications are very strong; in fact, there are 14% more minority apps that we had a year ago, so we are quickly approaching 11,000 applications. Demand for Illinois State is very strong.

Provost’s Presley was not present.

Vice President Mamarchev: congratulated the University Program Board for a very successful Winterfest last week and the opening of their facility. She also thanked the SGA Elections Committee for getting elections underway. They have been working hard on that and she is hoping for a good turnout of candidates. Dr. Mamarchev gave a brief update of some of the facility work that is going on. McAllister’s Deli (former Giuseppe’s location in the Bone Student Center) opening is now projected for the week of March 28th. Some special invitation sessions will be going out to the Senate for people to see what is happening a little while before the actual opening. At Wilkins Hall, one side of the building has all of the new energy efficient windows. The work for the Haynie Hall renovation is in the design phase.

Vice President Bragg indicated that he does not expect the Governor to make specific recommendations for Illinois State University during his budget address on 2/16, but he believes he will certainly make recommendations about all of higher education. Vice-President Bragg also reminded the Senate about Founders Day and the Board of Trustees meeting for which he suggested that the audience take a close look at the agenda for that meeting. Specifically, there is an item on policies for university pricing. This is a comprehensive set of policies that they are asking the Board to take a look at. We currently have very little Board policy on tuition setting and pricing and this will move the University along in that realm.

Committee Reports.

Academic Affairs Committee: The committee completed its discussion on the Distance Education Report by the University Curriculum Committee, a previous Academic Affairs Committee and Galen Crow of the Office of Extended Education. They will be presenting to the Senate recommendations based upon the previous recommendations, modified recommendations plus a proposed philosophy of distance education. They also discussed the Withdrawal from Course Policy recommendations, essentially to eliminate the need for a professor’s approval when a student withdraws from a course before the end of the eight week. They will bring that to the Senate. They discussed the Academic Progress Alert review; they will bring that to the Senate as well.

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee: The committee discussed the proposed Academic Calendar for the 2000-2010 school year; that will be coming to the Senate at the next meeting. They also discussed the Solicitation and Amplification Policies.
Faculty Affairs Committee: The committee discussed their faculty recruitment and retention report that they are working on.

Planning and Finance Committee: Senator Bragg finished his presentation on the budget priorities for his division. They ranged from a low of $30,000 for University Housing and Campus Dining long-range housing and dining plan to a $22 million request for design and building of a satellite power plant to cope with the rising energy demands on campus. Again, it was not an optimistic presentation in the sense that again the university is losing capacity because of its inability to keep up with just the basic maintenance at the University. That is going to be Senator Bragg’s primary focus in the coming year to at least try to maintain so that the university doesn’t fall any farther behind in its capital maintenance. The committee discussed faculty involvement in the planning and budgeting process. This was a process started as long as three years ago and the committee has been working through it. Next year, the committee wants to get a jump start on getting faculty more actively involved in setting the finance and planning budgets for the campus.

Rules Committee: The committee finalized plans for their Faculty Code of Ethics review which will include among other things mass e-mails to faculty and students referring them to a web page and asking for comment on the code. The committee approved in principle a request for non-tenure track representation on Administrative Five-Year Review Committees; I guess that would be college deans, school directors and department chairpersons. They will formalize that very quickly. The committee thanked Senator Adams for meeting with them and helping them understand that request. The committee also began discussion of the issue of reorganization of external Senate committees without Senate consent. They will likely continue that discussion next time probably with representatives from Student Affairs present.


Information Items:

09.28.04.01 Graduate Certificate for Director of Special Education (Academic Affairs Committee)

Senator Crothers pulled this item from the consent agenda because he had some questions about it. The item was submitted to the Senate as an action item and passed.

01.31.05.01 Display of Flags Policy (Administrative Affairs Committee)

After discussion, it was decided that this policy will come back to the Senate at a later date.

01.26.05.01 Tailgating Procedures (Alcohol Policy, Pages 12-13) (Administrative Affairs Committee)

The committee brought this policy to the Senate’s attention only to show that it was not changing anything and address possible concerns. It was brought forward as a former student trustee had questions about it.

Communications:

02.01.05.01 Academic Affairs Annual Planning Presentations

This item is an invitation to the Academic Affairs Annual Planning Presentations. They are to take place on March 22nd and 23rd and will involve various deans and other senior administrators making presentations.
NCA Steering Team Sense of the Senate Resolution

The Senate unanimously approved the Sense of the Senate Resolution thanking Paul Borg, Jan Shane and other members of the NCA Steering committee. This item was brought forth on behalf of the Senate Executive Committee.

Adjournment

Committee Reports

Shared Governance – Kim Hays

A current listing of shared governance opportunities was distributed at the last meeting for Council review. It was shared that a number of A/P employees serve on Academic Senate committees, and there was some discussion as to how the Council, and other A/P employees, might utilize these representatives to their full potential. Kaye Johnson will provide the Council with a full listing of these committee representatives.

It was agreed that the issue of shared governance continues to be of concern, with the primary question being, “Are we satisfied with the amount of involvement and input with which we are currently provided”? The committee will follow up on the report that was generated in 2000 by the Select Committee on Shared Governance. Council Chair Mangialardi will also address the issue in her next meeting with President Bowman.

New Business

Constitutional Review – Annette Levitt & Deb Gentry

Levitt shared the second draft of constitutional changes, based upon previous feedback from the Council. Following discussion and some additional feedback, a motion was made and seconded by Annette Levitt and Sally Pyne, respectively, that the constitution be approved, as amended, and be submitted for constituent review in the next A/P election. The motion passed.

Educating Illinois – Joe Rives

Rives shared the latest Educating Illinois presentation, which highlights specific progress and accomplishments related to the plan.

Board of Trustees Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees (BOT) will take place on February 18. The Council participated in discussion concerning the agenda for the meeting, specifically a proposal concerning the freezing of student fees. A number of concerns have been raised as to how such a freeze would impact many A/P-related employees and programs. The Campus Communications Committee will address this issue in their letter to the BOT.

Adjournment

The Council adjourned at 3:04 p.m. Moved and seconded by Gail Lamb and Jess Ray, respectively.
Respectfully submitted,
Steven Klay, Secretary

Future 2005 Meetings

- February 24     SSB 314
- March 10        Spotlight Room
- March 24        SSB 314
- April 14        SSB 314
- April 28        Spotlight Room
- May 12          Spotlight Room
- May 26          Spotlight Room