

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY
Administrative/Professional Council Meeting
May 22, 2003 - 1:30 p.m.
Spotlight Room, Bone Student Center

Present: Molly Arnold, Mike Baum, Deb Gentry, Julie Goodlick, Elaine Graybill, Larry Jobe, Kaye Johnson, Steve Klay, Gail Lamb, Annette Levitt, Rick Lewis, Mindy Mangialardi, Chika Nnamani, Sally Pyne, Joe Rives

Absent: Kris Harding, Paul Jarvis, Betty Kinser, Jeff Lopez

Guests: President Al Bowman

Guest Remarks – President Al Bowman

Chika Nnamani introduced President Bowman, asking him to give a brief overview of his mission and plan for the University, and how the Council might fit within it, and be supportive.

President Bowman indicated that he is optimistic about Illinois State's future, in spite of the current budget situation. He cited a few examples for this optimism:

- Illinois State's institutional reputation has never been better – our admission statistics indicate that we are increasingly the institution of choice within Illinois.

- We are seen as having a good sense of identity – we know where we are going. This will help us in getting what money will be available for higher education.

- We have done a good job in managing our budgets, thus allowing us to make less drastic choices than might be expected, given the state's financial picture.

- The comprehensive campaign continues to do well – we will reach our goal. President Bowman has been spending a great deal of time working on the campaign, and he anticipates that that will continue.

Following these opening comments, Dr. Bowman opened the floor for questions:

Q. Is there a plan to lift the current hiring freeze when the final budget is established?

A. Will probably not be lifting the freeze completely. However, each VP has been asked to come up with a budget reduction plan for their respective areas, and the implementation of these plans should allow for more flexibility in hiring decisions.

Q. The President was asked to comment on this statement made by President Boschini on May 9,

“In addition to the human costs of reductions, some services to students, faculty and the

outside community will be diminished, including advisement, technology support and university outreach to prospective students,” specifically as it relates to advising.

A. This statement does not mean that individual advisors will be losing their jobs. It is directed more toward the administration of these programs.

Q. What is the likelihood that University will be receiving a pay raise?

A. Raises for faculty and staff continue to be the top priority. If the budget picture remains as it is (as of this date, May 22), employees should receive a merit raise of some kind.

Q. There have been recent concerns raised as to the attrition rate of “employees of color.” Do you have any plans to address this issue?

A. Bowman indicated his awareness of these concerns, and agrees that Illinois State does not have a good track record in this area. He will be looking at this seriously, as well as from the student angle. He will particularly be looking at the amount of financial aid made available to talented minority students.

Q. If employees wish to talk with you about something, do you have a preferred method of communication?

A. Email is quick and convenient, but Bowman also encourages face-to-face meetings when the situation warrants.

In closing, Dr. Bowman thanked the Council for the invitation, and said that he looks forward to working closely with the Council during the year ahead.

Approval of minutes

The Council approved the minutes of the May 15, 2003 meeting. Moved and seconded by Lamb and Goodlick. The minutes were amended with two corrections: Elaine Graybill was absent, but this was not reflected in the minutes, and the minutes indicated that Mike Baum, related to the Academic Senate, gave “no report”. It was requested that this be changed to “no oral report”, as written reports are sent electronically by Baum to Council members following each Senate meeting.

Chair’s Remarks

- Nnamani reported that the outgoing Council members are charged with proposing a slate of officers to serve for the upcoming year. He requested that anyone interested in serving as President, Vice President or Secretary should contact him.
- One of the first tasks for the new Council will be to select a replacement for Carolyn Bartlett, as she is vacating her position as the administrator for the A/P Grievance Board. Nnamani also requested that the Council be thinking of an appropriate way to thank her for her many years of service in this role.

- Nnamani recognized Council member Larry Jobe, who was attending his last meeting. Jobe is retiring from his position as Associate Director of Admissions on June 1.

Liaison Remarks – Kaye Johnson

No report.

Committee Reports

President’s Campus Communication Committee – Arnold/Nnamani

No report. This committee has not met.

Illinois Foundation Board – Rives

No report. The next meeting is June 7.

Parking Committee – Jarvis/Jobe

No report.

Academic Senate – Baum

No report. The Senate does not meet during the summer.

Elections – Graybill/Mangialardi

The letter to Sharen Mays regarding the maintenance of the election records has been completed and sent.

University Sick Leave Bank – Lopez

No report.

University Web Planning and Advisory Committee – Baum

No report.

150th Anniversary Celebration Planning Committee – Harding

No report.

Old Business

- Continue discussion on desired qualifications and attributes for the 17th President – The Council had no additional comments. Nnamani indicated that the input gathered at the previous meeting has been communicated, through Dr. Richard Dammers, to the search firm. This information will be used to develop materials designed to attract candidates to the position and the University. More information will be requested from the campus as the search progresses.

New Business

No New Business was discussed.

Adjournment

The Council adjourned at 2:35 p.m. Moved and seconded by Graybill and Gentry.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven Klay, Secretary

Future 2003 meetings:

June 26 TBA, if needed

July 24 TBA, if needed

August 28 Spotlight Room

September 25 Spotlight Room

October 23 Spotlight Room

November 20 Spotlight Room

December 18 Spotlight Room