Date: January 27, 2006

Call to Order: The meeting was convened in room 1-301 of the Technology – Enhanced Learning Center. President (Dr.) Beheruz N. Sethna called the meeting to order at 3.00 pm.


Not in Attendance: Cluskey, Dwight, Holland, Stevens, Pencoe.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2005 meeting of the Faculty Senate was made, subject to modifications (to be made by the executive secretary). It was approved unanimously.

Action Items:

Committee I: Undergraduate Academic Programs Committee:
1) Course changes in College of Education and the Richards College of Business were voted on en-block and were approved unanimously. No questions were raise regarding the information items.

Committee V: Student Life:
1) Professor Morris will table the e-mail policy later.

Committee IX: Graduate Studies:
Dr. Jenkins discussed the modifications to the MBA program. Dr. Hynes stated for the record that this proposal was brought up to the senate committee for approval without any prior information on “additional resource needs,” by the RCOB. He then brought up the question of “additional resource needs.” His stand is that though these changes would be good for the program, the “additional resource needs” ought to be clarified.

Dr. Sethna voiced three concerns on top of the “additional resource needs”:

1) He feels these changes would make the program less attractive for undergraduates.

2) It could result in an increase in the number of core courses, resulting in additional pressure on the RCOB faculty.
3) The number of electives may shrink, reducing the number of students in those electives, but on the other hand the number of core courses would increase.

The overall feeling was that these changes would be good for the future standing of the MBA program. It was approved unanimously.

Information Item:
Information Item on graduate studies was discussed by Prof. Jenkins.

Other Announcements:

A) Ms. Lisa Ledbetter distributed and then discussed a draft proposal of the “May 2006, commencement Rain Plan.” The final version will be made available soon.

B) Dr. Sethna and Dr. Hynes discussed the need for another look at the university “Mission Statement,” since the present one is ten years old. A new draft proposal has been posted for the perusal of the faculty and for their reaction / suggestions. The senate will likely vote on it in March 2006.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 3.40 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Swarna (Basu) Dutt, Executive Secretary.