MINUTES

I. Call to order
Chair Gormley called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

II. Introductions
Chuck Cornett, Vice Chair of Faculty Senate
Regina Pauly, Secretary of Faculty Senate
B. J. Reed, Parliamentarian of Faculty Senate and Chair of Bylaws Committee
Lisa Kress, Recording Secretary of Faculty Senate

III. Approval of minutes of general faculty meeting on March 14, 2013
Minutes approved as presented by general consensus.

IV. Announcements and reports
1. Report on proposed revisions to Faculty Bylaws (B.J. Reed)
Bylaws and constitution issues should first be brought forward to the Faculty Senate; then Faculty Senate will forward onto the bylaw committee. The next general faculty meeting voting will be taking place so please plan on attending the January 15, 2014 meeting. Email B.J. Reed with any concerns or questions.

2. URSTPC: calendar/procedures for transition to new RST process; recommendations for changes to 2014 evaluation plans (E.Rawling)
Last general faculty meeting voting took place regarding some new bylaw changes; the changes are in process but will take approximately two years for the transition to happen.

3. Report from Academic Planning Council on revisions to institutional review process of academic programs (L. Riedle)
Starting this fall seven engineering programs will be the test subjects for the new review process. There will be two forms which will give snapshot of all academic areas; form A will be an annual report and form B will be an in-depth six year report of the academic programs. Form B will be reviewed not only by the Academic Planning Council but four other committee’s as well. There will be training for these and those dates will be announced soon and will be beneficial for your completion of these forms.

4. Report on biennial budget and update on fall 2013 budget (R. Cramer)
More updates on the budget will be shared later this semester. Divisions and colleges are being asked to come up with ideas for the planning process; first review taking place in the spring.

V. State of the Faculty Address
1. Chancellor Dennis Shields
Regarding the budget, there is time to deal with the challenges brought forward; if we do nothing we can survive but only for a couple of years. Compensation is the number one challenge and is a priority in every institution including the Board of Regents. The industry will not allow us to remain
the same so there will need to be some changes. Points of discussion will include: how do we use technology; how do we deliver education, being affordable and accessible to our students and find other avenues to generate revenue, not tuition. The governance process is moving forward and looking for everyone’s input to help with this. Deans are being encouraged to engage faculty in each college to find supportive ways to generate funding. Promotions will be reviewed closer; there are two major responsibilities: teaching and delivering; and selection, development, and assessment of peers; the University’s future is in the people we put in front of the students and our conscious decision to hire people that will uphold those responsibilities. Administration and Faculty have a collaborative relationship in the future; everyone makes a difference.

2. Provost Mittie Nimocks Den Herder
The vision of the Provost is to have more collaboration among all divisions of campus in educating our students; therefore Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Laura Bayless will be reporting to the Provost this semester. There has been some reorganization to help with clearer communication Assistant Vice chancellor for Student Affairs will be focusing on student success in the classroom; this position is held by Joanne Wilson. The new Director of Graduate Studies and Academic Projects will be in charge of the graduate school as well as creating clearer communication between the office of the Provost and Faculty; this position is held by Dominic Barraclough. The Provost will be meeting with every program to discuss what your definition of an outstanding education is and what we as a campus need to do to handle the upcoming challenges. The Provost will be looking for input on what knowledge should a student have when graduating, what is effective teaching, how do we know when we are performing effectively, how do our peers cause discomfort, how are our peers performing, and what are best practices. The University is laboring towards becoming the preferred employer; a COACH survey will be administered which will help us determine what we need to do to make this University a place to be and being satisfied. The Provost is going to be focusing on her performance as the Provost, office hours are 7-9 a.m. and by appointment. The Provost wants to participate in things on campus so invite her to join your classrooms, events, meetings, and any thing you would like to have her be a part of.

Recognized the URSTPC (University Rank, Salary, Tenure Procedure Commission), COW (Committee of the Whole) and APC (Academic Planning Council), HLC (Higher Learning Committee), and the Strategic Planning steering committee for all of their efforts in creating new processes and policies, noting they did not receive extra compensation for their time and efforts.

VI. Next General Faculty Meeting, January 15, 2014

VII. Adjournment
There being no further business to come before the General Faculty, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Gormley at 11:03 a.m.