

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Minutes of 21 September 2007

Members present: Osama Abudayyeh, John Jellies, Mary Lagerwey, Dasha Nisula, William Rantz, Judith Rypma, and Dennis Simpson.

Guest: Keith Hearit, interim vice provost for enrollment management and dean, Lee Honors College.

Also present: Suzanne Davenport, Faculty Senate Office.

The meeting was called to order by Senate President Lagerwey at 3:05 p.m.

Action/Discussion Items

Western Edge – Keith Hearit

Keith Hearit began his presentation by saying the Western Edge was first proposed for fall 2008; however, it was decided to begin fall 2007 instead.

He discussed latest developments and progress of the initiative.

- He has been attending meetings with departments and advisors.
- Two committees are being developed: implementation committee and policy committee.
- He has been working with University Relations to develop a brochure to be used for recruitment.
- A new Web update is being developed.
- All departments are to submit to their deans by September 28 a listing of all their programs, indicating if they are four or five year programs.
- A legal contract is being developed to be signed by the students participating.
- Seating in a limited admission course is not guaranteed.
- Some of the goals of the program are service to the students, internal student success, and increased retention.
- There will be a push to deans and chairs to make faculty available to teach classes outside of 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Board members asked questions, including one of wanting to be sure classes are taught by qualified instructors. Some programs have too few faculty. A problem was brought up that there is not a cap in Banner on the number of courses a student can register for. When students register for excessive credits, they block other students from getting into courses. Hearit was thanked for his presentation and he left the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Acceptance of the Agenda

Simpson moved, supported by Rypma, acceptance of the agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of the Faculty Senate Executive Board minutes of 7 September

Rantz moved, supported by Simpson, approval of the Faculty Senate Executive Board minutes of 7 September 2007. Motion carried.

Review of 13 September 2007 Senate Meeting

Lagerwey said she will be meeting with the AAUP regarding the mid-term grading memorandum of action that had been withdrawn from the 13 September Senate agenda.

Updates – Mary Lagerwey

Lagerwey informed the Executive Board she has monthly meetings scheduled with President Dunn through the fall semester and with Interim Provost Harik through the academic year.

Senate Council Meeting Dates and Times – Dennis Simpson

Simpson inquired about the recent change in meeting times for one of the councils. The meeting times have been set by the Executive Board, not the councils. He also asked about the recent reduction in the time allotted for a council meeting, noting that one hour is not long enough for faculty to consider the issues on the agenda and express their views.

Senate Council Reports

Lagerwey reported on council meetings that had taken place thus far in September, with two yet to be held the last week of the month. Presidential appointees have been put on hold. The membership of some of the councils has been discussed. She stressed that council actions need to come before the Executive Board as memoranda of action.

Council Charges

Lagerwey indicated that all councils received their charges and she is expecting the councils to make final decisions on the charges at their October meetings.

Membership of Councils

Lagerwey noted that changes to the Faculty Senate constitution were approved by the Board of Trustees at its September 14 meeting, which moved composition of the councils to the bylaws. The next task is to review all council memberships including the proportion of administrative members to faculty.

Other

Nisula requested consideration of a problem with the library late return policy on DVDs. Lagerwey suggested she send her concern to Bruce Haight, chair of the Library Committee.

Minutes

1. Campus Planning and Finance Council, 21 May
2. Research Policies Council, 14 June

Correspondence Received

1. Agenda, Undergraduate Studies Council, 11 September
2. Agenda, Research Policies Council, 13 September
3. Agenda, Campus Planning and Finance Council, 18 September

4. Agenda, International Education Council, 20 September
5. Agenda, Committee to Oversee General Education, 26 September

Correspondence Sent

1. Letters, to the University deans, on behalf of the Professional Concerns Committee, requesting the dean of each college to make appointments to fill vacancies on the Grade and Program Dismissal Appeals Committee.
2. Letter, to President Dunn and Interim Provost Harik, with suggested discussion topics for the Executive Board's meeting with them.

A motion was made by Jellies, supported by Nisula, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Suzanne Davenport

Faculty Senate Office