

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Minutes of 5 October 2007**

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

**Guests:** Leonard Ginsberg, interim vice president for research; Paula Kohler, chair of Research Policies Council; and Susan Stapleton, vice chair of Research Policies Council.

**Also present:** Janice Varasteh, Faculty Senate Office.

*The meeting was called to order by Senate President Lagerwey at 3:10 p.m.*

**Action/Discussion Items**

***RPC Charges and Role Statement***

Drs. Ginsberg, Kohler, and Stapleton reported on the activities of the Research Policies Council during 2006-07 and reviewed its planned charges for 2007-08. RPC has and will continue to spend time on reviewing procedures for Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund, which the Office of the Vice President for Research oversees. RPC is working to resolve several FRACASF problems, including:

What is FRACASF? Necessary to educate WMU faculty that it is a research fund designed to provide support of their research, scholarly and creative activities.

There is confusion about the three current categories of research: qualitative, quantitative, and creative arts. For the short term, those categories will remain in place, with the criteria for all three made uniform. RPC will be reviewing the criteria this year.

Further clarification is needed explaining that the FRACASF is a competitive award. Applicants should not expect to receive the award just because they submit an application. [Application forms and guidelines for the 2007-08 competition are available at <http://www.wmich.edu/research/funding/fracasf.html>]

Jellies congratulated both the OVPR and RPC for their efforts to streamline and clarify FRACASF procedures so faculty can receive funding for research. Kohler said RPC would provide further information to the Board and should be able to present a memorandum of action to the Senate in February or March of 2008.

There was discussion of the Q positions that were developed into the R positions (external, grant funded positions) currently listed on the WMU's Human Resources Web site. It was reported to the Senate Executive Board that discussion of these positions was presented to RPC as information, rather than an action items and were not a Senate issue. Development of the policy on the HR site was done outside of the Senate.

Ginsberg said overall research at WMU was in decline and steps need to be taken to reverse that. He asked for and received full support of the Board to bring this issue to the forefront. Ginsberg will present to the full Senate on ways to increase research at WMU in the near future.

Ginsberg mentioned preparations for a flu pandemic were being developed. Simpson said that faculty members affiliated with the Centers for Disease Control had made it clear that WMU, as a state institution, would be shut down. Ginsberg said that a plan to inform researchers on campus of procedures for closing down their labs, care for research animals, etc. during a university shutdown was important to have in place prior to that happening.

[At this point, Drs. Ginsberg, Kohler, and Stapleton left the meeting.]

As a follow-up to the conversation above, Lagerwey suggested Lowell Rinker, vice president for Business and Finance and chief financial officer be invited to attend an upcoming Board meeting.

### ***Acceptance of the Agenda***

#### ***Approval of the Executive Board minutes of 21 September***

#### ***Approval of Faculty Senate minutes of 13 September***

Acceptance of the agenda was moved and carried unanimously.

Approval of the draft Faculty Senate Executive Board minutes of 21 September 2007 was requested. Simpson requested three editorial changes. With those made, the minutes were approved as amended.

It was moved the 13 September Senate minutes be approved by an email vote due by Tuesday, 9 October. [The minutes were approved unanimously.]

### ***Updates - Mary Lagerwey***

Lagerwey reported members of the Provost Search Committee had been selected. As announced by President Dunn at the 17 September Senate meeting, Lagerwey will be serving on the committee. Names of the other members will be announced by the administration.

### ***11 October Faculty Senate Meeting Agenda***

It was suggested that in addition to his update on Branding, Greg Rosine, senior vice president for advancement and legislative affairs, be asked to give an update on the legislature at the 11 October Senate meeting. Lagerwey announced there would be a first reading of the proposed amendments to the Senate bylaws regarding Senate council memberships.

### ***Councils-Membership Composition and Charges***

Lagerwey attended each of the first council meetings to present the council charges for 2007-08. The councils were to discuss them and move final acceptance of those at the next council meeting.

Vote on AAUP Appointment to Athletic Board

Fred Sitkins, chair of the Athletic Board, had emailed Lagewey requesting the Senate Executive Board make a recommendation on the WMU American Association of University Professors' recommendation of a specific individual for membership on the Athletic Board. Simpson moved, seconded by Jellies, approval's Caucus

The Board was contacted by the Women's Caucus requesting affiliation with the Senate. Uncertain of how that could be developed, it was decided to invite a member of the Caucus to an upcoming Board meeting for clarification of their request.

### **Other**

The Executive Board's next meeting is scheduled for Friday, 26 October, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Faculty Lounge of the Bernhard Center.

### **Minutes**

1. Committee to Oversee General Education, 11 April
2. Committee to Oversee General Education, 25 April
3. Undergraduate Studies Council, 11 September

### **Correspondence Received**

1. Agenda, Technology and Operations Council, 25 September
2. Agenda, Committee to Oversee General Education, 26 September
3. Agenda, Graduate Studies Council, 27 September
4. Copy of letter from President Dunn, 17 September, to David Dakin, associate director of campus facilities, appointing him as a 2007-08 presidential appointee to the Campus Planning and Finance Council.
5. Copy of letter from President Dunn, 17 September, to Dean Honsberger, associate vice president for budgets and planning, reappointing him as a 2007-08 presidential appointee to the Campus Planning and Finance Council.
6. Copy of letter from President Dunn, 18 September, to Craig Kaml, regarding his appointment as the Internet technology representative member of the Human Subjects Institutional Review Board.

### **Correspondence Sent**

Letter, 25 September, to Cindy Linn, biological sciences, confirming her three-year appointment to the Professional Concerns Committee, ending May 2010.

Letter, 1 October, to Heather Addison, congratulating her on election as the Faculty Senator for the School of Communication.

A motion was made by Lagerwey, supported by Jellies, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Janice Varasteh

Faculty Senate Office