

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Minutes of 26 October 2007

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

Member absent: Osama Abudayyeh.

Guest: Lowell Rinker, Vice President for Business and Finance and Chief Financial Officer.

Also present: Janice Varasteh, Faculty Senate Office.

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

Action/Discussion Items

Discussion with Lowell Rinker, Vice President for Business and Finance and Chief Financial Officer

Lowell Rinker informed the Board about two successful initiatives implemented on campus which provide a centralized and immediate response when problems occur. The Bronco Fix-It Center assists with residence halls concerns and the Classroom First Initiative provides immediate response to faculty classroom needs.

Rinker reported renovation of Sangren Hall is first on WMU's capital outlay request to the state and explained the process for requesting state funding. It is fully expected the renovation of Brown Hall will be completed in November 2007 and available for use during the Spring 07 semester, pending occupancy certification.

He commented on the WMU budget situation and noted how increasing enrollment of international and out-of-state students assists in deficit reduction. WMU had the lowest tuition and room and board increase in the state, which while attractive to students, does not help the overall budget picture of the University, especially since Michigan currently has a low high school graduation rate.

Rinker welcomed comments from the Board on campus issues and provided answers, suggestions and direction to several specific questions raised by the Board.

Acceptance of the Agenda

Approval of the Executive Board Minutes of 5 October 2007

Approval of the Faculty Senate Minutes of 11 October 2007

Jellies moved, supported by Simpson, acceptance of the agenda.

Motion carried.

Jellies moved, supported by Rantz, approval of the Executive Board

minutes of 5 October 2007. Motion carried.

Approval of the Faculty Senate minutes of 11 October was moved and seconded. Motion carried.

Updates Mary Lagerwey

Lagerwey reported meeting with Joyce Lew, director of student conduct, to discuss the Academic Integrity Committee.

Lagerwey and Executive Board members determined the language in the 2007 year end report submitted by the Research Policies Council was in conflict with the AAUP. It was moved by Simpson, seconded by Nisula, to add an addendum from the Executive Board stating one of the charges RPC addressed in that report should not have been included as it was determined by the Board to be in conflict with the AAUP. Motion carried.

MOA-07/06, Advising Statement

This Memorandum of Action was approved and forwarded to the Undergraduate Studies Council by the Committee to Oversee General Education. At its 9 October meeting, USC approved it and forwarded it to the Executive Board. The MOA states, "Directors of Advising shall have the formal authority to grant substitutions in general education requirements for undergraduate advisees." During review of the MOA and its rationale, Board members felt the intent of the MOA needed clarification. Jellies moved, seconded by Nisula, that MOA-07/06 be presented at the 1 November Senate meeting for discussion, rather than as an action item. Motion carried.

1 November Faculty Senate Meeting Agenda

Leonard Ginsberg, interim vice president for research, is scheduled to present on increasing research at WMU.

Administrative Evaluations

This item was discussed, but no final decision on how to proceed was determined.

Councils Membership Composition and Charges

The second reading and vote on changes to the Bylaws regarding council membership composition is scheduled for the 1 November Senate meeting.

The Board discussed a revision to the proposed composition that had been submitted by the Research Policies Council.

Nomination of a Member of the Technology and Operations Council

A faculty member from Fine Arts who had expressed interested in serving on TOC was unanimously confirmed as a candidate by the Executive Board pending his reply to an email requesting he confirm his intent.

Faculty Fees Budget for FY 2007

Faculty Fees Proposed Budget for FY 2008

An overview of the faculty fees budget information was given and approved for presentation at the 1 November Senate meeting.

Other

The Executive Board's next meeting is scheduled for Friday, 9 November, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Faculty Lounge of the Bernhard Center. Dr. Elke Schoffers, Women's Caucus, will be the guest.

Minutes

1. Research Policies Council, 13 September
2. Campus Planning and Finance Council, 18 September
3. International Education Council, 20 September
4. Graduate Studies Council, 27 September
5. Undergraduate Studies Council, 9 October

Correspondence Received

1. Agenda, Research Policies Council, 11 October
2. Agenda, Campus Planning and Finance Council, 16 October
3. Agenda, International Education Council, 18 October
4. Agenda, Technology and Operations Council, 23 October
5. Agenda, Graduate Studies Council, 1 November
6. Letter (copy), 5 October, from President Dunn to M. Peter McPherson, president, National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, regarding the Voluntary System of Accountability.
7. Letter (copy), 8 October, from President Dunn, appointing Stephen Craig, counselor education and counseling psychology, to a three-year term on the Athletic Board.

Correspondence Sent

MOA-07/05, Changes to the Curriculum Review Process, 18 October, to James Gilchrist, vice provost for academic operations and chief information officer, to forward to the Provost's Office.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 p.m. Motion carried.

Janice Varasteh

Faculty Senate Office