

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Minutes of 12 June 2008**

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

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

*The meeting was called to order by Senate President John Jellies at noon.*

**Action/Discussion Items**

*Acceptance of the Agenda*

*Approval of the 21 May Executive Board Minutes*

*Approval of 1 May Faculty Senate Minutes*

Simpson moved acceptance of the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.

Approval of the 21 May Executive Board minutes was moved by Abudayyeh and seconded by Simpson. Motion carried.

Approval of the 1 May Faculty Senate draft minutes was moved by Lagerwey (with the editorial changes requested by Nisula) and seconded by Simpson. Motion carried.

*Updates – John Jellies*

Jellies reported he had a meeting with President Dunn and they discussed four major issues. He will also be meeting with Interim Provost Bassam Harik and incoming Provost Timothy Greene individually.

Turnitin, the plagiarism prevention software used at WMU, is under review as several issues concerning it have arisen. The program was to be discontinued but Lagerwey reported the program will continue to be available on campus for limited use.

Jellies plans to have the Academic and Information Technology Council and the Professional Concerns Committee review the program first then the charge will be forwarded to the Undergraduate Studies and Graduate Studies Councils as well.

Members suggested Carol Hustoles, vice president for legal affairs and general counsel, and Andrea Beach, director for faculty development in Academic Technology and Instructional Services, be invited to attend an upcoming Board meeting to discuss Turnitin and student issues.

Jellies attended a meeting to discuss issues surrounding application/intent of MOA-03/05, Accelerated Degree Program. University policy does not allow 6000 level courses to be taken for undergraduate credit. The MOA was originally approved in conjunction with the accelerated bachelor/master's degree

program in mechanical engineering which only uses 5000 level courses. An accelerated degree program the Music School hopes to introduce would allow undergraduates to get credit for 6000 level courses. Whether the MOA allows students to take over 12 credit hours is another issue in question. There are numerous programs interested in accelerated degree programs so the intent of the language in the MOA needs to be clarified. The Graduate Studies Council will take up this discussion at its June meeting.

### ***Executive Board Meeting Schedule***

Meeting dates over the summer were set for Thursday afternoons from noon to 2 p.m. on the following dates: 26 June, 10 and 24 July, 7 and 21 August.

### ***Status of Professional Concerns Committee's Pending Revisions to the Grade and Program Dismissal Appeals Policy and Procedures***

Lagerwey volunteered to meet with John Miller, past president of PCC, to formulate final details for either one or two MOAs from the informational item Miller presented at the 1 May Senate meeting. Lagerwey said PCC members felt there were three important changes to recommend to the current policy:

- Define hardship
- Create a hardship assessment panel
- Provide clarification to the language surrounding drops and withdrawals

While these changes are pending, Rypma requested administration be reminded the existing policy for grade appeals and grade changes should be followed. Jellies said he could possibly draft a brief memo to administration and would discuss the outstanding PCC issues with Interim Provost Harik at their upcoming meeting.

### ***Outstanding Issues from 2007-08 Senate Year***

Abudayyeh said the Research Policies Council would be doing further work on the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund.

Board members requested Eileen Evans, vice provost for institutional effectiveness, be invited to meet with them for an update on University assessment activities.

Simpson asked members to carefully read the draft report from AITC that was provided in their agenda packets.

### ***Council Reports and Summaries***

Only one council has submitted its year end summary to the Board so far, although the other councils will be submitting theirs following the June meeting dates.

### ***2008-09 Senate Year***

Senate Board members would be serving as representatives on the following councils and committee during 2008-09:

- Academic and Information Technology Council – Dennis Simpson

- Campus Planning and Finance Council – William Rantz
- Graduate Studies Council – Van Cooley
- International Education Council – Mary Lagerwey
- Research Policies Council – Osama Abudayyeh
- Undergraduate Studies Council – Dasha Nisula
- Professional Concerns Committee – Judith Rypma
- In addition, Senate President Jellies will be attending as many of the meetings as possible.

### **Other**

A schedule grid will be sent out so dates for the fall 2008 Board meetings can be arranged.

### **Minutes**

1. Research Policies Council, 8 May
2. Undergraduate Studies Council, 13 May
3. International Education Council 15 May

### **Correspondence Received**

1. Agenda, Research Policies Council, 12 June
2. Memo, 20 May, from Paul Wilson, president of the WMU-AAUP, recommending approval of MOA-08/03, Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund.

### **Correspondence Sent**

1. Email, 30 May, to Timothy Greene, congratulating him on his selection as the provost and vice president for academic affairs, effective 1 August 2008.
2. Email, 2 June, to Brandi Pritchett, congratulating her on being selected as chair of the Graduate Student Advisory Committee (GSAC) and requesting graduate student appointments to the 2008-09 Senate councils.
3. Email, 2 June, to Danielle Harik, congratulating her on being selected as president of the Western Student Association (WSA) and requesting undergraduate appointments to the 2008-09 Senate councils.
4. Memorandum of Action, to Interim Provost Bassam Harik, forwarding MOA-08/07, supporting WMU's membership in the Internationalization Laboratory.
5. Memo, 2 June, to Interim Provost Harik, forwarding MOA-08/05, Comprehensive Campaign Faculty Input Process, and MOA-08/06, Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund Project Award for administrative action. Both of these were approved at the 1 May Senate meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Janice Anderson