

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Minutes of 3 December 2009

The Faculty Senate met in the Fetzer Center Auditorium. There were 65 Senators and substitutes present. **Absent:** S. Asefa, J. Berkow, R. Cooper, A. Curtis, P. Farber, K. Hearit, R. Manley, K. McDonnell, J. Oh, S. Rao, J. Ruhl, D. Salisbury, K. Smith, K. Wirtz. **Also present:** Janice Anderson and Suzanne Davenport, Faculty Senate Office; Andrea Beach, director of faculty development; Betty Dennis, associate dean, Extended University Programs; Sebastian Fryer, Western Herald; Dawn Gaymer, associate provost for Extended University Programs; Carol Hustoles, vice president for legal affairs and general counsel; Nate Knappen and Andrew Smith, Western Student Association; Patrick Munley, chair, Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology; David Reinhold, associate provost for assessment and undergraduate studies; Peter Strazdas, associate vice president for facilities management; Cam Vossen, emergency management administrator, Public Safety; Raymond Thompson, associate dean, College of Aviation; Gary Wegenke, dean, College of Education and Human Development; Paul Wilson, AAUP.

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Faculty Senate President John Jellies called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

Acceptance of the Agenda
Approval of the Minutes of 5 November 2009

It was moved and seconded to accept the agenda. Motion carried. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of 5 November. Motion carried.

Faculty Senate Executive Board Report – John Jellies, Faculty Senate President

Jellies made the following remarks:

- The nominating petitions available for Senate president, vice president, and three representatives-at-large are due back to the Senate Office in late January. The timing for elections is designated in the Senate bylaws which determine each year's election timetable.
- Initial response to the annual Faculty Fee request has been good.
- He thanked Bill Rantz and his committee for revising the appraisal instrument for the president and provost and noted the committee's report would go to the Senate Executive Board on 4 December. The appraisal process is planned during spring 2010.
- Fall 2009 Commencement is on Saturday, 19 December.
- He was grateful to faculty for their contributions to service and wished everyone a peaceful respite during the holiday closure.

Remarks by Provost Tim Greene

Provost Greene's remarks:

- Updates on dean searches:

- Haworth College of Business – Airport interviews are being held and he expects on-campus interviews in mid January.
- College of Education and Human Development – The search is close to being finalized.
- College of Arts and Sciences – The committee has been established, except for two members to be selected – a faculty specialist and a Ph.D. student. The committee has met and is working on a job description.
- At the upcoming commencement, graduates will be awarded degrees by college, rather than all together.
- Final grades are due on Tuesday, 22 December.
- In response to President Dunn's charge, a new committee has been formed on strategic planning of enrollment management.
- Although the intent was to complete the Academic Affairs Strategic Plan by the end of the calendar year, he anticipates it will be close to the first of February before it is completed. The delay is due to a tremendous amount of input into the draft from colleges, departments, Senate councils, and individually submitted comments that needs to be reviewed.

Remarks by John Dunn – WMU President

President Dunn commented on the following:

- There will be a search for a vice president for development and alumni relations to replace Bud Bender, vice president for development, who will retire in August 2010.
- An announcement is expected shortly regarding the search for a vice president for research.
- The opening of the Confucius Institute was quite impressive and in attendance were six faculty members from China. Xiaojun Wang, WMU professor of Chinese, was acknowledged for his efforts in getting the institute established here, along with Emeritus Tim Light.
- The Board of Trustees encouraged the president to move ahead in establishment of a Medical School. Much work needs to be done, and \$1.8 million in private funds has been provided to assist with this. He is committed to faculty input as planning moves forward.
- There will be no stimulus money to assist in covering next year's budget. If a directive comes from the state which further cuts funding, representative groups will be involved to review necessary actions.
- In January, an email will be sent to the campus community to seek input on ways to trim spending. WMU has a tremendous talent pool on campus from which to draw for input.
- The Board of Trustees will meet 9 December to approve two items: (1) sabbatical leaves, and (2) contract for the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME).
- Governor Jennifer Granholm was on campus for a public forum with students regarding the Michigan Promise. President Dunn acknowledged the Western Student Association for taking the lead in organizing this event. He was very proud of the great attendance and Western's students who were enormously respectful of the office of governor.

- The United Way campaign brought in \$260,000, exceeding its goal. WMU was the most giving per population in this effort of state universities.
- He announced the University would be closing at noon on 24 December, instead of 5 p.m. and wished everyone a happy holiday season.

ACTION ITEMS

*Memoranda of Action from the International Education Council –
Maira Bundza, Chair*

The International Education Council provided recommendations in three memoranda of action to (1) encourage student participation in Study Abroad courses, (2) reduce barriers to Study Abroad, and (3) clarify existing provisions in the Undergraduate Catalog.

MOA 09/07, Residency Requirement – Study Abroad

Bundza moved approval of MOA 09/07, Residency Requirement – Study Abroad, for additional language (in bold below) to be added to the existing catalog language:

7. Minimum residence requirements. All candidates must present a minimum of 30 hours through Western Michigan University. Ten of the last 30 hours must be taken through Western Michigan University. Correspondence credit and credit by examination may not be used to satisfy any of the minimum requirements. Individual colleges and departments may have additional residency requirements. **[MOA 09/07 to be inserted here:] Courses completed in a WMU-sponsored study abroad program (i.e. listed on WMU's study abroad website as directly administered by WMU) will count toward the residency requirements for majors and minors. Courses taken in non-WMU study abroad programs will not count toward residency requirements.**

The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

MOA 09/08, Credit/No Credit – Study Abroad

Bundza moved approval of MOA 09/08, Credit/No Credit – Study Abroad for additional language (in bold below) to be added to the existing catalog language:

3. A student may elect for "Credit/No Credit" any course approved for General Education or General Physical Education credit, as well as other courses not counting toward his/her major or specified in his/her curriculum as defined in the University *Undergraduate Catalog*. **[MOA 09/08 to be inserted here:] The same policy applies for approved courses taken at an overseas institution. Policy may vary across colleges.** Intern Teaching, a required course, is however, taken on a credit/no credit basis. Acceptance of "Credit/No Credit" in required courses may be permitted on an individual basis by the head of the department or dean of the college requiring the course.

The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

MOA 09/09, Repeated Course – Study Abroad

Bundza moved approval of MOA 09/09, Repeated Course – Study Abroad for additional language (in bold below) to be added to the existing catalog language:

The following is the general University policy regulating repeated courses. Some academic Colleges, however, have a somewhat different policy regulating students in academic programs within those Colleges. You are advised to seek the counsel of the academic advisors in the College advising offices regarding the specific repeated course policy for that College. Any course in which a student may have been enrolled more than once is considered a repeated course. A grade must be presented for each course, and any course first elected for a letter grade must be elected for a letter grade when repeated. **[MOA 09/09 to be inserted here:] If a student wishes to repeat a course taught by an overseas institution during study abroad, and the student's department can identify an appropriate equivalent course on campus, it may be repeated for credit.**

The motion was seconded. Senator Parker questioned substituting an equivalent course and thought this might be a problem. It was stressed this would be a departmental decision to determine an equivalent course. Motion carried.

Bundza commented on recognition of internships taken abroad, which she brought forth from the IEC as a recommendation, not an MOA: *The IEC recognizes international experiential education, e.g. internships, teaching practicums, volunteer work, as an integral component of the internationalization of our academic community and the learning experience. Department chairs are encouraged to work with their faculty to determine interest in international internships and practicums taken for credit and, if interest exists, to establish course numbers for international internships and to communicate the results to the IEC and the Haenicke Institute for Global Education.*

In order to expedite moving the three approved MOAs forward, Bundza moved suspension of the thirty day waiting period to allow these MOAs to be forwarded to the administration. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

*WMU Mass Notification Systems Update –
Peter Strazdas, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management, and
Cam Vossen, Emergency Management Administrator, Public Safety
<http://www.wmich.edu/facultysenate/downloads/mass.notification>*

Establishment and maintenance of several types of notification systems is of major importance for the safety of the campus community and its guests. WMU has been updating its infrastructure and fire alarm systems in the last twelve years and has the most advanced system, relying on multiple mechanisms.

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC CONCERNS

Senator Nibert inquired about switching student evaluation forms to an online, rather than paper, format. Her departmental colleagues were concerned the

response from students would be greatly reduced. A question was asked as to who made this decision, when it was made, and why. It is unclear whether there were opportunities for faculty input. It was determined that Eileen Evans, vice provost for institutional effectiveness, should be the contact person and a follow-up will occur with her to provide answers to those questions.

Senator Aravamuthan inquired about the effective date for the MOAs regarding Study Abroad, asking if there was some urgency that would affect current students. It was indicated there are students who would be impacted by the changes.

ADJOURNMENT

Senate President Jellies adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Janice Anderson
Suzanne Davenport

Faculty Senate Office