

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Minutes of 11 March 2010**

The Faculty Senate met in the Fetzer Center Banquet Rooms. There were 63 Senators and substitutes present. **Absent:** S. Asefa, T. Bailey, V. Cooley, R. Cooper, R. Gedeon, J. Gilchrist, C. Klekar, P. Krawutschke, C.R. Krishna-Swamy, R. Landeros, J. Oh, D. Pence, J. Petrovic, J. Ruhl, P. Solomon, G. Veeck. **Also present:** Janice Anderson and Suzanne Davenport, Faculty Senate Office; Michele Behr, Barbara Cockrell, Joseph Reish (dean), and Michael Whang, University Libraries; Aaron Booth, Nate Knappen, Alexander Smith and Josh Weaver, Western Student Association; Paula Davis, Kalamazoo Gazette; Alexander Enyedi, senior associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Eileen Evans, vice provost for institutional effectiveness; Dawn Gaymer, associate provost for Extended University Programs; Bassam Harik, vice provost for budget and personnel, academic affairs; Josh Holderbaum, Western Herald; Carol Hustoles, vice president for legal affairs and general counsel; Paula Kohler, associate vice president for research; Dan Litynski, vice president for research; John Miller, chair, Professional Concerns Committee; Tabitha Mingus, member, Academic and Information Technology Council; Bradley Morgan, Office of Information Technology; Suzie Nagel, associate dean of students; Cheryl Roland, executive director, University Relations; Andrew Targowski, Business Information Systems; Anthony Vizzini, dean, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Faculty Senate President John Jellies called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Acceptance of the Agenda

It was moved and seconded to accept the agenda. The agenda was adopted.

Approval of the Minutes of 4 February

The minutes of 4 February were approved as published.

Faculty Senate Executive Board Report

Faculty Senate President John Jellies commented on the following:

- The General Election has concluded with the following results:
 - Peter Krawutschke, Foreign Languages, was elected president and William Rantz, Aviation Sciences, was elected vice president.
 - Dennis Simpson, Specialty Program in Alcohol and Drug Abuse and Physician Assistant, was selected representative-at-large. The other two open representative-at-large positions were not filled and will be filled at the next General Election.
 - Nineteen departments elected senators, with 12 of the current senators being re-elected, and 7 new senators.
 - The terms of the officers and senators will all begin at the May 6 Senate meeting and they will be acknowledged individually at that time.
- He thanked those in attendance for their dedication to service and for the privilege of serving alongside them.

Remarks by Tim Greene – Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Provost Greene made the following remarks:

- Dean searches:
 - Haworth College of Business – Additional candidates have been identified by a search firm and airport interviews are anticipated April 7 and 8.
 - College of Arts and Sciences – The search committee identified four outstanding candidates, and their resumes are posted on the Web.
 - Lee Honors College – This is an internal search and the search committee will include faculty and staff members. On campus interviews are expected the end of spring semester.
- In response to Memorandum of Action 09/05 faculty input to and participation in the fundraising process, approved by the administration in June 2009, development ideas received by the faculty will be submitted to Bud Bender, vice president for development.
- Mid-term grades are due on Sunday, 14 March.
- Efforts continue to increase yield of students. Students accepted into the programs should be contacted. The number one reason students decide to accept admission is the relation established with a faculty member.
- Effective in April, federal law will require that once student course schedules are published, textbooks for each course must be identified.
- The final draft of the Academic Affairs Strategic Plan is expected to be completed and posted on the Web by the end of the semester.

Remarks by John Dunn – WMU President

President Dunn commented on the following:

- He was delayed in arriving as he was attending a presentation of the Distinguished Speaker Series by the Trainor Brothers. The three brothers and one sister involved in this international glass company are all WMU alumni.
- Recognition was given to Nate Knappen, outgoing president of the Western Student Association, for his work for the students and the University.
- Congratulations were extended to Peter Krawutschke and William Rantz on their election as Senate president and vice president, respectively.
- The state legislature is recommending a 3.5 percent reduction in appropriations.
- A proposal by the governor to make changes to the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System is being considered by the state legislature and would affect approximately 270 WMU employees eligible for retirement.
- The process of filling the position of vice president for development and alumni relations is underway.
- The School of Medicine process has moved to application status. The members of the School of Medicine Dean Search Committee have been selected and have begun meeting.
- Enrollment numbers in both applications and admissions look encouraging. He stressed the importance of retention efforts to encourage students. He also noted the unemployment rate in the state for those with bachelor's degrees was about one half of those without an undergraduate degree.

- Eileen Evans was recognized for her hard work with the Higher Learning Commission. The draft report of the self-study is available on the Web site and input is requested by 15 March.
- Demographics in enrollment have changed with numbers increasing in Troy, Lansing, and Detroit.

ACTION ITEMS

2nd Reading, Amendment to Article VII: Committees, Sec. 1 of Bylaws, to Make the Committee on Extended University Programs/Online Education a Standing Committee of the Faculty Senate – Dennis Simpson, Committee Chair

At its 4 February meeting, the Senate heard the first reading of the following amendment:

Bylaws, Article VII: Committees

Sec. 1. In addition to those committees named in Article VII, Sec. 5, of the constitution (Nominations and Elections Committee), the following shall be standing committees of the Senate: **Committee on Extended University Programs/Online Education**, Faculty Retirement Recognition, Professional Concerns and Library.

A motion was made by Simpson and supported to amend the Bylaws by adding the Committee on Extended University Programs/Online Education as a standing committee of the Senate. Motion carried.

Professional Concerns Committee Memoranda of Action – John Miller, Committee Chair
<http://www.wmich.edu/facultysenate/downloads/MOA1001.hardship.handout.pdf>
<http://www.wmich.edu/facultysenate/downloads/MOA1002.course.actions.handout.pdf>

Two charges to the Professional Concerns Committee are to oversee the Academic Integrity process and the Grade and Program Dismissal Appeals process.

PCC Chair John Miller provided background information on MOA 10/01, Hardship Definitions and Verification, and MOA 10/02, Course Actions. In 2007-08, the Provost's Office asked the PCC to review the policies dealing with late withdrawal and hardship. In November 2008, two MOAs: MOA 08/09, Hardship Definitions and Verification, and MOA 08/10, Course Actions, were presented to the Senate and approved. However, neither MOA was approved by administration. Those original MOAs were revised by the PCC and were presented for approval.

A motion was made by Judith Rypma, supported by Barbara Havira, to accept MOA-10/01 Hardship Definitions and Verification. Motion carried. During discussion of this MOA, Keith Hearit asked that the minutes reflect that if a student never attended a class for which he/she enrolled, that individual would be covered by the policy on late withdrawal and this would not be part of the hardship policy.

A motion was made by Rypma, supported by Havira, to accept MOA-10/02 Course Actions. Rypma moved to amend the MOA by changing the second bullet under Hardship Panel-Approved Withdrawal to remove the word "and" in the first sentence so that it reads "Except for documented exceptional circumstances..." to clarify the language. Simpson seconded the motion. The amended motion carried. The main motion carried.

Graduate Studies Council Memorandum of Action – Mark Wheeler, Council Chair
<http://www.wmich.edu/facultysenate/downloads/MOA1004.residency.requirement.handout.pdf>

Senate President Jellies remarked that this MOA from the Graduate Studies Council was being presented to the Senate without specific recommendation or endorsement from the Faculty Senate Executive Board. GSC Chair Mark Wheeler presented the MOA, noting that the Graduate College reports that there is a problem with the existing University residency requirement. The current policy allows departments to opt out of this requirement, where the proposal would remove the existing requirement and allow departments to opt in and create a requirement, which would need approval through the curriculum review process. Wheeler moved to accept MOA-10/04 Doctoral Residency Requirement, supported by Paul Pancella. The motion carried.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM

iClicker: The Choice for University-Supported Student Response System – Tabitha Mingus, Member, Academic and Information Technology Council

Tabitha Mingus explained that President Dunn had referred a concern to the AITC regarding an increasing cost to students being required to purchase multiple clickers. These remote devices can be used during class to solicit student responses to questions posed by an instructor. Last May the Senate adopted a resolution to support WMU adopting a single universal student response system (clickers) for classroom purposes. Since that time, the AITC has been working to recommend one vendor that would be supported by the Office of Information Technology. Four vendors were invited to campus representing clickers that are currently being used on campus. The council is recommending iClicker. There were several comments and questions from faculty who use clickers and from those who were interested in learning more about them.

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC CONCERNS

There were no concerns expressed.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 1 April, in the Fetzer Center. Senate President Jellies adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Janice Anderson
 Suzanne Davenport

Faculty Senate Office