

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**  
**FACULTY SENATE MEETING**  
**Minutes of 3 February 2011**

The Faculty Senate met in the Fetzer Center banquet rooms. There were 60 Senators and substitutes present. **Absent:** T. Bailey, B. Barton, H. Dooley, J. Dunn, P. Farber, K. Hearit, R. MacDonald, G. Mezei, M. Mickus, D. Nisula, J. Oh, P. Parker, A. Rea, W. Sauck, D. Swoboda, J. Wiebold. **Also present:** Janice Anderson and Suzanne Davenport, Faculty Senate Office; Barbara Cockrell, Associate Dean, University Libraries; Eileen Evans, Vice Provost for Institutional Effectiveness; Bassam Harik, Vice Provost for Budget and Personnel; Terry Hudson, Director, WMU Bookstore; Carol Hustoles, Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel; W. Jensen, Sociology; Ashley King, student, Higher Education and Student Affairs (HESA) Leadership Program; Dan Litynski, Vice President for Research; Heather McGee, Psychology; Margaret Merrion, Dean, College of Fine Arts; Kay Palan, Dean, Haworth College of Business; Dave Reinhold, Associate Provost for Assessment and Undergraduate Studies; Joe Reish, Dean, University Libraries; Gail Rouscher, Aviation; Raymond Thompson, Associate Dean, College of Aviation; Anthony Vizzini, Dean, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Michael Whang, University Libraries; Aoi Yamanaka, student, Foreign Languages.

Faculty Senate President Peter Krawutschke called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

**PROCEDURAL ITEMS**

*Acceptance of the Agenda*

It was moved by Senator Asefa and seconded by Senator Pancella to accept the agenda. The agenda was accepted.

*Approval of Minutes*

The 9 December 2010 minutes were approved with an editorial correction.

*Faculty Senate Executive Board Report – Peter Krawutschke, Faculty Senate President*

- President John Dunn is unable to attend as he had another commitment.
- The following is an example of faculty working with the Senate to implement good ideas: Several faculty members contacted the Academic and Information Technology Council to suggest that student picture IDs be integrated into course rosters to help faculty interact more effectively with students. The AITC has looked into this and reported the administration agrees this is a good idea.
- To date, there has been a 40% response rate to the Senate's request for faculty fees. Out of 948 requests sent to faculty, 375 have responded. Reminders will be going out, and he thanked those who have already contributed.
- The Graduate Studies Council has been reviewing and formulating a response to the report on the Graduate College.

*Remarks – Tim Greene, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs*

- President Dunn attended a meeting of the Michigan-Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (MI – LSAMP), a partnership between the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Wayne State University, and WMU. Its purpose is to increase the number of minority students earning baccalaureate degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematical (STEM) fields from these universities and prepare them for entry into graduate programs.
- This evening President Dunn is in Troy at a Gold Pride recruitment reception.
- Provost Greene thanked the 60+ groundskeepers who cleared sidewalks and parking lots on Wednesday, when WMU closed due to inclement weather.
- The Board of Trustees will have a new member, Dana Debel, at its meeting on 24 February. Ken Miller has been reappointed to another eight-year term.
- Provost Greene is chairing the Strategic Planning Committee. A draft plan is expected to be completed by 30 June, after input is received from the Faculty Senate, department chairs, senior leadership, and the community.
- Federal regulations require book orders for summer I and II to be in the bookstore by 24 January, and fall orders to be in by 21 February.
- Input is being received on the Graduate College Review Committee Report. The provost announced there will be a graduate college with a dean otherwise the role of graduate education will be viewed as diminished.
- Diversity is being stressed in hiring faculty for 47 open positions.
- Student enrollment applications are running about the same as last year.
- The Higher Learning Commission noted four areas that needed attention: diversity, mission statement, general education assessment and graduate education. The Strategic Planning Committee is working to address these areas.
- A reception will be held on 24 February for the new founding dean of the medical school, Hal B. Jenson.

**ACTION ITEMS**

*Memorandum of Action -10/05, Undergraduate Enrollment Caps – Robert Eversole, Chair, Professional Concerns Committee*

Rob Eversole, chair of the Professional Concerns Committee, introduced himself to the Senate. He is in Biological Sciences and a member of the Animal Care and Use Committee. After a brief overview of the PCC, he introduced MOA-10/05, Undergraduate Enrollment Caps. This MOA is designed to prevent students from registering for more classes than they intend to take, which prevents other students from enrolling in those classes.

Senator Rypma moved to approve MOA 10/05, Undergraduate Enrollment Caps, supported by Senator Jellies.

A motion was made by Senator Pancella to amend the MOA by striking the word "regular" under (1) after the word "all" and prior to the word "undergraduate". The motion was seconded and approved.

Senator Addison made a motion to change the "and" to "or" in two places under (1) between the words "fall" and "spring" and between "summer I" and "summer II." The motion was seconded and approved.

A motion was made to change the title of the MOA from "Undergraduate Enrollment Caps" to "Undergraduate Credit Hour Caps." Motion to amend carried.

The motion to approve the MOA, as amended, carried.

As amended and approved, MOA-10/05, will be forwarded to administration as:

MOA-10/05, Undergraduate ~~Enrollment Caps~~ *Credit Hour Caps*, recommends:

(1) All ~~regular~~ undergraduate student enrollments will not exceed 24 hours for the fall ~~and~~ or spring semesters and will not exceed 12 hours for the summer I ~~and~~ or summer II sessions.

(2) These enrollment caps can only be increased for a given semester by prior permission from their college advisor.

### INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

*Differential Tuition – Richard Gershon, Chair, Campus Planning and Finance Council; Margaret Merrion, Dean, College of Fine Arts; and Kay Palan, Dean, Haworth College of Business*

Richard Gershon, CPFC chair, introduced this item. Deans Kay Palan and Margaret Merrion explained the features of the differential tuition proposal as it would relate to their colleges.

Haworth College of Business:

- a \$40 per credit hour increase in tuition to be imposed on business students beginning with their junior year
- this would affect resident and non-resident students
- strengthen undergraduate programs
- one quarter of the increase would provide financial aid for business students
- a lower faculty to student ratio, which is currently significantly higher than six other comparable Michigan institutions
- all existing course fees will be eliminated.

College of Fine Arts:

- programs in the college have a high demand and a high cost
- it would preserve the quality of the programs

- a \$50 per credit hour increase in tuition, affecting all the college's students from freshmen through seniors
- this would affect resident and non-resident students
- one quarter of the increase would provide financial aid for fine arts students
- eliminate course fees for all existing non-consumable expenses associated with a specific class.

There were many comments and concerns regarding differential tuition during the discussion period.

*E-Books – Terry Hudson, Director, WMU Bookstore*

Senate President Krawutschke shared a summary of actions on the Academic and Information Technology Council's charge to develop an E-Book pilot experiment in consultation with the WMU Bookstore, which AITC Chair Alan Rea had provided.

- The council is studying the challenges and opportunities of adopting electronic textbooks at Western.
- A joint working group has been formed with members from the council, the WMU bookstore, and the University's Educational Technology Strategic Planning Committee. This group has been researching eBook formats, delivery mechanisms and issues of accessibility and choice.
- Following continued research and discussion, the group plans to conduct an eBook pilot in fall 2011.

Terry Hudson spoke to faculty concerns and timelines regarding implementation of e-books. Concerns were raised about the costs of e-books and the platform required.

*First Reading of Bylaw Amendment to Change Research Policies Council Membership – William Rantz, Faculty Senate Vice President*

Faculty Senate Vice President William Rantz provided background on the rationale for the Research Policies Council request that the chair of the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award Committee be added as a member to RPC.

- Steve Ziebarth, chair of RPC, reported that RPC is charged with allocating almost half a million dollars of WMU monies that provide for the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award; Support for Faculty Scholars Award; Travel; and Publication of Papers and Exhibition of Creative Works, of which the largest is the FRACAA awards. As much of RPC's funding allocations are in the hands of the FRACAA chair, that person should have direct link to the council, which council membership would provide.
- Based on this rationale, the chair of the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award Committee would be added as an ex officio member to RPC.
- The Senate Executive Board supports this request, and is bringing this first reading to the Senate, as additions to Senate council membership requires changes to the Bylaws.

The Senate Bylaws, Article VI, Sec. 1., would be changed to read:

The Research Policies Council shall be composed of at least ~~eighteen~~ *nineteen* members including the vice president for research, the dean of the Graduate College, the provost, the vice president for business and finance, eleven faculty members elected by the Senate (three from Arts and Sciences - with representation from each division suggested, one from each of the other colleges, one from unaffiliated units, and one at large), the Faculty Senate president or executive board designee as an ex officio member, *the chair of the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award Committee as an ex officio member*, and two graduate students selected by the Graduate Student Advisory Committee.

A second reading and vote will take place at the 10 March Senate meeting.

### **PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC CONCERNS**

There were continued comments and concerns about differential tuition.

As the Senate is still receiving concerns from faculty regarding low response to student course evaluations now that they are online, Eileen Evans, Vice Provost for Institutional Effectiveness, was invited to address those concerns.

She noted that the online evaluations were implemented in fall 2010. There were discussions with the steering and implementation committees as they reviewed what some other colleges were doing in terms of online evaluations. Further information is available at <http://www.wmich.edu/poapa/ices>

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

The next Faculty Senate meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 10 March 2011 in the Fetzer Center.

Janice Anderson and Suzanne Davenport  
Faculty Senate Office