

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Minutes of 7 April 2011

The Faculty Senate met in the Fetzer Center banquet rooms. There were 57 Senators and substitutes present. **Absent:** D. Areaux, B. Barton, E. Bradburn, P. Farber, O. Gabor-Peirce, R. Gershon, T. Greene, K. Hearit, C. Henderson, H. Koole, R. MacDonald, A. Manley, M. Mickus, J. Oh, L. Bierlein Palmer, P. Parker, A. Rea, D. Swoboda, S. Ziebarth. **Also present:** Janice Anderson and Suzanne Davenport, Faculty Senate Office; Regina Buckner, Director of Operations, Libraries; Sharon Carlson, Director, Archives and Regional History; Barbara Cockrell, Associate Dean, Libraries; Alexander Enyedi, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Carol Hustoles, Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel; W. Jensen, Sociology; Erin Kaplin, President, Western Student Association; John MacKenzie, Office of Information Technology; Dave Reinhold, Associate Provost for Assessment and Undergraduate Studies; Cheryl Roland, Executive Director, University Relations; Gail Rouscher, Aviation Sciences; Fred Sitkins, Chair, Athletic Board; Susan Stapleton, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Jeff Stone, Associate Athletic Director, Intercollegiate Athletics; Raymond Thompson, Associate Dean, College of Aviation; Amy Tuley, Social Work; Millennial Project – Bob Wertkin (chair), Kevin Abbott, Andrea Beach, Dan Jacobson, Tracey Moon, Adam Newsted, Sue Oole, and others.

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

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Acceptance of the Agenda

Senate President Krawutschke asked for a motion to amend the agenda to change the order of the Information/Discussion Items to move the update on the Millennial Project to the last item. It was moved and seconded to accept the amended agenda. The agenda was accepted as amended.

Approval of Minutes

The 10 March 2011 minutes were approved as published.

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

Faculty Senate President Krawutschke reported on the following:

- Provost Tim Greene won't be attending tonight, as he is out of the country.
- Erin Kaplan was introduced as the new Western Student Association president.
- Faculty were thanked for their continued support of the Senate. The faculty fee return rate is at 46% this year.
- Last month, Senator Bradburn expressed a concern on behalf of the English Department asking why it hadn't been notified when a student suspended for disruptive behavior was allowed to return to classes in that department. Suzie Nagel, associate vice president for student affairs, who handled this

particular case, was consulted and met with the Senate's Professional Concerns Committee. She explained this case fell under FERPA regulations which prevented the university from providing notification of that nature to the department. Senate Director Judith Rypma followed up with the department to advise them of this. There are situations where FERPA does not apply so, at an upcoming Senate meeting, Suzie Nagel and Diane Anderson, vice president for student affairs and dean of students, will review student conduct policies.

- A Freedom of Information Act request for a list of all employees, job titles and salaries has been requested from WWMT reporter, David Bailey.
- Due to news stories regarding outside groups requesting faculty emails from various universities, Carol Hustoles, vice president for legal affairs and general counsel, and Jim Gilchrist, vice provost for academic operations and chief financial officer, addressed WMU's position on this issue. Gilchrist noted e-mail is backed up every night and kept for 30 days. All employees were encouraged to have a separate e-mail account for personal business. Hustoles noted FOIA is broadly worded regarding writing, that each request is reviewed on a case by case basis, and there are numerous exceptions.
- He noted the passing of Edward Galligan, an emeritus faculty and former chair of English.

Remarks – John Dunn, WMU President

President Dunn commented on the following:

- Additional legislative funding of \$18.3 million has been secured for Sangren Hall. The initial funding amount was \$11.7 million.
- Enrollment is on course with the number of applications received and those admitted. Faculty were encouraged to reach out to potential students.
- On March 30 he participated in a joint Senate and House hearing with presidents of Central Michigan University and Wayne State University. He thanked the legislature for Sangren funding, emphasized the work we do on campus, and expressed concern that the proposed reduction of 20.8% was too severe. The base budget for next year has not been provided, and he noted that although WMU has the 10th lowest tuition in the state, no reward or acknowledgement has been forthcoming from the legislature. Metrics measurement should be specific to each campus. New funding sources need to be identified.
- He commented on an issue with the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System, affecting 7 of the 15 state universities. Although WMU is no longer a member of MPERS for new employees, we continue to pay for people not in this system. He has asked for meetings to address this.
- A recent Detroit Free Press article was on administrative costs over a period of time as part of the percentage of the cost of higher education. This brings up the question of who is considered an administrator.
- His April 5 letter on Challenges and Opportunities.
- Operation Historic Moment on March 22 announced 100 million cash gift for the medical school.
- Haworth College of Business is fully accredited by the American Association of Collegiate Schools of Business, as is the Accountancy program.

- Four new electric charging stations are on campus – the first university in Michigan to have them.
- Marlene Breu, professor emerita of Family and Consumer Sciences, co-authored a book “Splendor & Pageantry: Textile Treasures from the Orthodox Churches of Istanbul,” discussed in the New York Times.
- Gary Miron, educational leadership, research and technology, is lead researcher on a recent report on the charter school movement which has received considerable national attention.
- Karim Essani, biological sciences, was awarded a \$400,000 grant from the National Cancer Institute to develop a new treatment for colorectal cancer.
- Bonnie Jo Campbell, an English Department alumna, is one of the recipients of a Guggenheim Fellowship in Fiction.
- Graduate student Mikala Hansen won a Kennedy Center award for playwriting.
- The WMU engineering team won the first annual Stryker challenge competition.

Senator Kent Baldner expressed concerns about a lack of funding to support faculty in his department. The president responded there are not enough federally funded external grants, the university needs more business and corporate friends, and we need to be more innovative and creative in the budget.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Missed Class Policy – Fred Sitkins, Chair, WMU Athletic Board

Professor Sitkins gave a presentation on oversight of intercollegiate athletics. He discussed WMU’s Class Attendance Policy and the NCAA Bylaws regarding classes and practices. He commented on graduation success rates – recognizing Jeff Stone, associate athletic director, as responsible for those – and provided a breakdown in ethnicity and college of enrollment for WMU’s 355 student athletes.

University Libraries Archives and Shared Stacks Facilities – Sharon Carlson, Director, Archives and Regional History, and Regina Buckner, Director of Operations

Sharon Carlson provided some information on the archives:

- Its location in East Hall was to be “temporary.” That was 21 years ago.
- It stores records for archival purposes, correspondence, and regional history for 12 counties.
- During the academic year classes visit the archives and First Year Experience students have a lesson on WMU’s history and tour the archives.
- Public history majors have interned in the archives
- North Hall and Valley III are used for archival storage as well.

Regina Buckner described the libraries’ shared stacks:

- Since the major renovation of Waldo Library from 1989-91, 9,000 linear feet of shelving has been added to the library.
- Special Collections has outgrown its space.
- For lack of space, Waldo Library is down to one conference room.

- In the proposed new building to house the archives, the shared stacks could be incorporated into this facility.

Overview of LibQUAL Survey Results – Barbara Cockrell, Associate Dean, University Libraries Collections and Technical Services

Barbara Cockrell reviewed results of the 2010 LibQUAL survey, which provides a better understanding of student, faculty and staff information needs and concerns with respect to library services.

During discussion, Senators commented on the great library, the courtesy of the staff, service, and ease of use. It was noted that further comments, questions, or concerns could be brought to the faculty liaison for each department or the Faculty Senate’s Library Committee.

Millennial Project Update – Robert Wertkin, Project Chair, and Kevin Abbott, Project Lead Interactive Media

Robert Wertkin presented an update on the Millennial Project, aimed to make WMU as millennial friendly as possible. Efforts are geared to promote recruitment and retention. Broncoland and Bronco Tour were created to aid in this effort. Upcoming workshops for supervisors of student employees are planned. Wertkin noted the recent passing of Millennial Project member, Rollin Douma, who retired as associate vice president for academic affairs and associate professor emeritus of English.

Kevin Abbott gave a showing of the Bronco Tour, an interactive 3-D tour of campus, the first of its kind, which was about two weeks away from being launched. It is a web-based program. He acknowledged the students who participated in this project. Advisory groups are being set up and this will be available for mobile use, including iphone and ipad.

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC CONCERNS

No new concerns were expressed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. The next Senate meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 5 May, in the Fetzer Center.

Janice Anderson and Suzanne Davenport
Faculty Senate Office