

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Minutes of 2 February 2012

The Faculty Senate met in the Fetzer Center Banquet Rooms. There were 64 Senators and substitutes present. **Absent:** B. Applegate, B. Barton, S. Falan, P. Farber, R. Gershon, R. MacDonald, J. Oh, A. Rea, J. Ruhl, D. Swoboda, B. Wagner. **Also present:** Janice Anderson and Suzanne Davenport, Faculty Senate Office; Nick Andreadis, Dean, Lee Honors College; Andrea Beach, Director of Faculty Development; Barbara Cockrell, Associate Dean, Libraries; Alexander Enyedi, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Carol Hustoles, Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel; Walter Jensen, Sociology; Hal Jenson, Dean, and Michele Serbenski, Director of Planning and Performance Excellence, WMU School of Medicine; Erin Kaplan, President, Western Student Association; Richard Long, Associate Dean, College of Health and Human Services; Margaret Merrion, Dean, College of Fine Arts; David Reinhold, Associate Provost for Assessment and Undergraduate Studies; Cheryl Roland, Executive Director, University Relations; Nancy Schullery, Business Information Systems; Sarah Stegman, graduate student, Psychology; Jim Thomas, Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations; Raymond Thompson, Associate Dean, College of Aviation; Anthony Vizzini, Dean, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Tom Wolf, Chief Technology Officer, Office of Information Technology; Alan Zagarell, President, WMU-AAUP.

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

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Acceptance of the Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

The 10 November 2011 minutes were approved as published.

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

Faculty Senate President Peter Krawutschke gave the following report:

- He welcomed Ila Baker, a new Faculty Senator from the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students (CELCIS).
- Four memoranda of action recommended by the Faculty Senate have been approved by the administration:
 - Syllabus Template [MOA-11/02]
 - Accelerated Degree Program Revision [MOA-11/03]
 - College Level Examination program (CLEP) Exam Policy [MOA-11/04]
 - Credit by Departmental Recommendation (CBDRO) Referral Process [MOA-11/05]

They are all available on the Faculty Senate website.

- The Senate Executive Board has endorsed the creation of the Center for Educational Leadership and Policy, to be housed in the Department of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology under the direction of Drs. Van Cooley and Jianping Shen.
- Senate Executive Board Director Van Cooley has been named interim dean of the College of Education and Human Development and will be going off the Board when his term ends in May.
- The Faculty Fee collection to date stands at a 36% response rate.
- He noted that Senate Past President Paul Pancella was recently mentioned for his work on converting his Honda to an electric car
- Rick Gershon, chair of the Campus Planning and Finance Council, is planning to make a presentation at an upcoming Senate meeting regarding the plaza to be constructed in front of Sangren Hall.
- Upcoming from the administration is a proposal on how to look at program evaluation.
- In recognition of Black History month, mention was made of several current and former faculty members and administrators who have served our University well.

Remarks – John Dunn, WMU President

President Dunn commented on the following:

- A town hall meeting was held on 1 February regarding possible future use of East Campus with Randy Doran, from KDC Real Estate Development and Investments, selected to redevelop the 35-acre East Campus site. The high cost makes receiving state and federal tax credits essential for development and makes the uncertainty surrounding Michigan's new tax-credit structure a point of concern. President Dunn acknowledged the work of Robert Miller, associate vice president for community outreach, in this effort.
- Enrollment numbers are down slightly from last year and the number of credit hours taken has dropped. There has been a significant increase in the graduate student enrollment.
- There was a good turnout in faculty and staff support for the Medallion Competition.
- Faculty support is needed for retention. He thanked the faculty for their good work in this effort.
- Sangren Hall construction is on schedule and the building will open in fall semester. WMU has made a commitment to green space in front of the building, which will be landscaped this summer.
- He recently traveled to the Dominican Republic and Haiti.
- He attended the State of the State Address and noted the governor's interest in WMU's foster care initiatives.
- The proposed state initiative to allow community colleges to grant four-year degrees is being considered by the legislature for a few disciplines.
- Tererai Trent, who grew up in Zimbabwe, graduated with a Ph.D. in interdisciplinary evaluation from WMU, and was recognized by Oprah Winfrey as her favorite guest of all times, is planning to send one or two of her children to attend WMU.

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

Provost Greene commented on the following:

- He congratulated and thanked Van Cooley for taking on the responsibility of interim dean of the College of Education and Human Development, while a search is conducted for a permanent dean.
- The Higher Learning Commission representatives will make a site visit to campus on March 19 and 20 to verify compliance with the creation of a strategic plan which has received campus wide discussion and input.
- He discussed student success and relayed an experience he was made aware of from an adult learner. The provost asked the senators to consider whether we are all doing the best we can for student success and posed the questions of whether faculty were providing a meaningful learning experience in their classes and whether every class period was used to its full potential.

ACTION ITEMS

Nominations for Faculty Senate President and Vice President

One nominating petition for Senate president was received from William Rantz, in Aviation, currently serving as Senate vice president. One petition for Senate vice president has been received from Dennis Simpson, from Physician Assistant, and Program Director of the Specialty Program in Alcohol and Drug Abuse (SPADA), who has previously served as Senate Vice President. Since fewer than two nominating petitions were received for each position, there was an opportunity for eligible and consenting candidates to be nominated from the floor. Hearing none, nominations were closed. Ballots will be sent on Monday, 6 February.

INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

WMU School of Medicine – Hal Jenson, Dean

Hal Jenson is the founding dean of the WMU School of Medicine.

- He noted that when he came to the University in March 2011, we had just received a 100 million dollar donation for the new school.
- The two hospital partners, Borgess Health and Bronson Healthcare, are critically important, as is the support of the community.
- More than 300 members of the community are serving on committees – planning for curriculum, physical facilities, library and IT resources, a simulation center, student services, business operations and communication.
- The school and committee members are working at an accelerated pace to submit accreditation materials with a goal of welcoming the first class in the fall of 2014.
- It is estimated that by 2020 there will be a shortage of 4,000 physicians in Michigan.
- The mission of the WMU School of Medicine is to advance the health of humanity through excellence in medical education, clinical care, research, and service.

Higher Learning Commission Update – Margaret Merrion, Chair, Higher Learning Commission Focus Visit Steering Committee, and Dean, College of Fine Arts

As chair of WMU's Higher Learning Commission Focus Visit Steering Committee, Margaret Merrion addressed the Senate regarding the upcoming visit on March 19 and 20. The purpose of the visit is to "verify that the university has a comprehensive institution-wide strategic plan in place that was created after an inclusive process involving faculty, staff and students and includes assessments and outcome measures." The two members of the committee who will be coming to WMU will be looking for evidence throughout the campus that this goal has been met. Merrion was confident the HLC will find it has been.

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC CONCERNS

A concern of the low response to the Instructor and Course Evaluation System was expressed.

Keith Hearit, vice provost for strategic enrollment management, indicated that assistance in procuring textbooks has been made easier for faculty via the goWMU portal.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m. The next Senate meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 1 March, in the Fetzer Center.

Janice Anderson and Suzanne Davenport
Faculty Senate Office