

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Minutes of 1 November 2012

The Faculty Senate met in Rooms 208-210, West Ballroom of the Bernhard Center. There were 53 Senators and substitutes present. **Absent:** B. Applegate, B. Barton, C. Crotchett, A. Curtis, C. Emerson, J. Gilchrist, K. Harvey, B. Johnson, D. Lemberg, S. Malcolm, K. McDonnell, M. Mickus, L. Bierlein Palmer, J. Ruhl, W. Sauck, R. Siebert, K. Smith, B. Wagner. **Also present:** Britne Amos, Chair, Graduate Student Advisory Committee; Janice Anderson and Suzanne Davenport, Faculty Senate Office; José Brandão, Chair, and James Cousins, History; Jan Gabel-Goes, Associate Director, Office of Faculty Development; Harold Glasser, Executive Director for Campus Sustainability; Bassam Harik, Interim Dean, Haenicke Institute for Global Education; Carol Hustoles, Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel; Carla Koretsky, Associate Dean, Lee Honors College; Kirk Korista, Chair, Physics; Marilyn Kritzman, Chair, University Assessment Steering Committee; Dwandra Lampkin, Theatre; Dave Reinhold, Associate Provost for Assessment and Undergraduate Studies; Cheryl Roland, Executive Director, and Paula Davis, University Relations; Andrew Targowski, Business Information Systems; Mary Louise Totton, Art; Gay Walker, Physician Assistant/Integrative Holistic Health and Wellness; Tom Wolf, Chief Technology Officer, Office of Information Technology. Committee to Oversee General Education – Raja Aravamuthan, Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging; Sharie Falan, WMU Bronson School of Nursing; and Nancy Schullery, Business Information Systems. Extended University Programs – Andy Burghardt, Instructional Design Specialist; Brian Carnell, Director of Instructional Technology; and Betty Dennis, Associate Dean. Western Student Association – Christine Davenport, Anthony Haduch and Anna Salvaggio.

Faculty Senate President William Rantz called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Acceptance of the Agenda

The agenda was revised to add Professional and Academic Concerns before the start of the forum at 6 p.m. if time allowed. It was moved and seconded to accept the revised agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

The 4 October 2012 minutes were approved as published.

*Faculty Senate Executive Board Report – William Rantz,
Faculty Senate President*

Senate President Rantz gave the following report:

- He welcomed
 - new senators Abby Wang, Management and Christopher Biggs, Music
 - Britne Amos, Chair, Graduate Student Advisory Committee
 - Anna Salvaggio, Christine Davenport, and Anthony Haduch from the Western Student Association.

- The curricular enhancement process to put review of proposals online is making progress and beta testing is anticipated for spring semester.
- The Academic Program Review and Planning document is being reviewed by Senate councils with their feedback due to the Executive Board 30 November.
- A seven year review of the Senate's councils and committees is mandated by our bylaws and a committee has been established to work on a self-analysis and bring forward recommendations. The membership includes several past presidents of the Senate.
- In response to professional concerns from last meeting, two e-mails were sent from the Office of Information Technology (1) from Tom Wolf, Chief Technology Officer, providing the support structure for Elearning and (2) Arnold Taylor, Director, Customer Services, re VCRs in classrooms.

Remarks – John Dunn, WMU President

President Dunn commented on:

- Meeting with John Nixon, state budget director, who has requested metrics to assess higher education institutions.
- Meeting with local legislatures at the College of Aviation in Battle Creek and Sangren Hall.
- Attending a presentation of Eds and Meds sponsored by the Urban Land Institute. Presidents of Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Borgess Health and Bronson Healthcare were in attendance. It was stressed that educational institutions and medical facilities are anchors in a community and have a very prominent place in the continued vitality and economic impact on a region.
- Meeting with a delegation of 40 people from Austria where WMU, Eaton, Stryker and Whirlpool were showcased. WMU received compliments from these companies on the quality of our students.
- A Chamber of Commerce meeting that included WMU, Kalamazoo College and KVCC, with a focus on what we do together and how we interact.
- Attending alumni events in New York with a focus on the arts and in Chicago with a focus on business students.
- International Education Week is 12-16 November.
- Jordan representatives want to export more students to WMU.
- Brazil Initiative – WMU is one of 14 U.S. colleges Brazil is sending students to.
- The Campus Climate Study Survey, funded by a W.K. Kellogg grant, received over 5,000 responses.
- The School of Medicine received preliminary accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education. Recruitment can begin for the first class in fall 2014.

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

Provost Greene commented on:

- Searches
 - Associate provost for the Haenicke Institute for Global Education – three candidates are coming to campus in November
 - College of Education and Human Development Dean – Walter Burt was appointed interim dean. Professional recruiters will be utilized for this search.

- Associate provost for enrollment management – over a dozen applications have been received and are being reviewed.
- Lee Honors College Dean – The search committee is being finalized.
- Mid-term grades – over 32,000 were turned in.
- The Provost Office and the Senate Office are working to add a search feature to memoranda of action on the Senate’s website to access approved policies.

ACTION ITEMS
Memoranda of Action

Four memoranda of action recommending additions or revisions to the WMU General Education Policy were presented by Ariel Anderson, chair of the Undergraduate Studies Council.

[MOA-12/10, Lee Honors College in General Education Policy](#)

Recommendation: Insert of a new section entitled “The Lee Honors College” into the General Education Policy. Senator A. Anderson moved to approve MOA-12/10, Lee Honors College in General Education Policy, supported by Senator Pancella. Motion carried.

[MOA-12/11, COGE and Syllabi](#)

Recommendation: Use MOA-11/02 Syllabus Template for courses submitted to COGE for approval in general education. Senator A. Anderson moved to approve MOA-12/11, COGE and Syllabi, supported by Senator Jellies. Motion carried.

[MOA-12/12, Revision to General Education Area VI Natural Sciences, with Laboratory](#)

Recommendation: Revise the criteria in Area VI in the general education policy. Senator A. Anderson moved to approve MOA-12/12, Revision to General Education Area VI, Natural Sciences with Laboratory, supported by Senator Asefa. Motion carried with one objection.

[MOA-12/13, Revision to General Education Area VIII, Health and Well-Being](#)

Recommendation: Revise the criteria in Area VIII in the general education policy. Senator A. Anderson moved to approve MOA-12/13, Revision to General Education Area VIII, Health and Well-Being, supported by Senator Asefa. Motion carried with one objection.

Senator Baldner remarked it is not easy to locate the General Education Policy on the website, noting versions appear in more than one place and some are not up-to-date. He said the policy should be more readily accessible to faculty who need to use it.

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC CONCERNS

As a follow-up to last month’s professional concern regarding Elearning, Brian Carnell, Director of Instructional Technology, Online Education, made comments. He chairs the Change Management Team overseeing Elearning, and noted they work

closely with the HelpDesk. Work is being done with the registrar to extend the functionality of entering mid-term grading. There is a federal requirement (effective 1 July 2012) to record the last day of attendance for students earning an E or X grade in a course. This pertains to financial aid funding. It was requested an e-mail be sent near the end of the semester to let faculty know of this mandate.

Senator Nibert thanked Diane Anderson, vice president for student affairs, for her office’s assistance to a student that had been referred there from Nibert’s department.

Senator Boston discussed the professional concern from the last Senate meeting regarding VHS tapes and efforts to address it:

- video tapes are obsolete technology, prompting the decision to retire VCRs
- copyright laws prohibit transferring from one media to another
- Libraries prefer to purchase streaming videos or DVDs

Senator A. Anderson remarked that the cost to transfer VHS tapes not copyrighted to another format was \$10.00 and felt this could become quite costly for faculty.

Senator Krawutschke reiterated his comment from last month that the main issue was that faculty away from campus for the summer had not been given advance notice of the removal of VCRs from their classrooms prior to the start of the fall 2012 semester. Advance notice would have allowed faculty to reconfigure course material; look into purchasing videos in another format; or have the existing videos transferred to another media.

Forum on General Education – 6 p.m.

Where Do We Go From Here? – Presented by the Undergraduate Studies Council

Undergraduate Studies Council Chair Ariel Anderson introduced the first Faculty Senate forum of 2012-13. David Reinhold, associate provost for assessment and undergraduate studies, and USC member facilitated the forum.

Reinhold provided an overview of the existing general education program, noting the four proficiency and eight distribution areas. He indicated which of the educational skills outlined in the Academic Affairs Strategic Plan were currently addressed in the General Education Policy. He commented that assessment of student learning was an area in which the Higher Learning Commission indicated WMU was lacking.

Attendees formed discussion groups to consider two questions: (1) What should our general education program look like in the year 2015? and (2) What should be the process by which we assess all the learning outcomes of our general education program?

A few of the comments expressed from the discussion groups included:

- consider a leaner general education program with fewer distribution areas
- consider assessment being done at the departmental level
- explain to students why they are learning what is taught in the course
- include students in future discussions on the general education program.
- How do we assess general education?

Reinhold said he hoped this forum was just the beginning. His goal was to receive feedback from faculty to get the conversation about general education started for continued campus wide discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

The next Senate meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 6 December. The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.

Janice Anderson and Suzanne Davenport
Faculty Senate Office