

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**  
**FACULTY SENATE MEETING**  
**Minutes of 4 April 2013**

The Faculty Senate met in the Fetzer Center. There were 49 Senators and substitutes present. **Absent:** H. Addison, A. Anderson, I. Baker, K. Baldner, B. Barton, L. Bierlein Palmer, C. Biggs, E. Bradburn, C. Crotchett, A. Curtis, C. Emerson, P. Farber, G. Flamme, R. Gershon, D. Lemberg, S. Malcolm, R. Manley, J. Schulman, R. Siebert, K. Smith, J. Van Der Kley, G. Veeck, M. Villarreal, B. Wagner, R. Wall Emerson. **Also present:** Janice Anderson and Suzanne Davenport, Faculty Senate Office; Raja Aravamuthan, Chemical and Paper Engineering; Todd Barkman, Biological Sciences; Michele Behr, Chair, Senate Committee on Extended University Programs; Jody Brylinsky, Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness; Brian Carnell, Director of Instructional Technology, Online Education; Barbara Cockrell, Associate Dean, Libraries; Alex Enyedi, Dean, Arts and Sciences; Jan Gabel-Goes, Associate Director, Faculty Development; Tarun Gupta, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering; Bassam Harik, Vice Provost, Haenicke Institute for Global Education; Carol Hustoles, Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel; Dean Johnson, Electrical and Computer Engineering; Paula Kohler, Associate Vice President for Research; Dan Litynski, Vice President for Research; Sean Nicholl, President, Western Student Association; Dasha Nisula, World Languages and Literatures; Cheryl Roland, Executive Director of University Relations; Edward Roth, School of Music; Fred Sitkins, Chair, Athletic Board; Sue Stapleton, Dean, Graduate College; Sandy Steinbach, Associate Vice President for Business and Finance; Peter Strazdas, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management; Raymond Thompson, Associate Dean, Aviation; Anthony Vizzini, Dean, Engineering and Applied Sciences; Auxiliary Enterprises and Campus Bookstore: Baiba Stepe, Director; Bob Armbrister, Director of Computing Services; John Kraus, Regional Manager, Follett; Terry Hudson, Manager of campus bookstore. Research Policies Council Members: Mary Ann Stark, Stephen Tasko.

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

**PROCEDURAL ITEMS**

*Acceptance of the Agenda  
Approval of Minutes*

Senator Heun moved and Senator Huang seconded to accept the agenda. Motion carried. Two editorial corrections were noted in the 14 March minutes and they were approved as corrected.

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

Senate President Rantz commented on:

- The Senate is hosting its third and last forum of the academic year so this will be an abbreviated meeting.
- Sean Nicholl, outgoing Western Student Association president, was invited to the podium. He thanked the faculty for inviting students to be part of the Senate, to listen to their ideas and to interact with the faculty.

- Results of the provost's appraisal will be reported at the May meeting.
- The Senate's Committee on University Strategic Planning will hold its first meeting in May.
- The Senate's new Ad Hoc Committee on General Education still needs members from the Haworth College of Business and the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.
- The Senate's Restructuring Committee will present its recommendations to the Senate in the fall.

*Remarks by John Dunn, WMU President*

President Dunn commented on the following:

- News from Lansing: The Appropriations Committee on Higher Education is looking at a 2% funding increase to universities that keep a 3% cap on tuition increases.
- Newell Rubbermaid is moving into the Business Technology and Research Park. It's a huge company that is the umbrella company for many well known brands. The company will provide jobs to the community and looks forward to working with the university on design projects.
- He expanded on his email regarding discussions for a relationship between Cooley Law School and WMU and has received a positive response to that announcement.
- American Council on Education Fellowships have been awarded to Keith Hearit, professor of communication, and Linwood Cousins, director of the School of Social Work.
- WMU is the first all Steinway campus in Michigan with 118 pianos valued at two million dollars.

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

Provost Greene reported on:

- Three candidates for the dean of the Lee Honors College are Allen Webb, English; Carla Koretsky, Geosciences; and Edmund Tsang, Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering.
- Campus presentations:
  - Associate provost for Haenicke Institute for Global Education will be May 12-18.
  - Dean of Fine Arts will be held May 28-June 4.
  - Dean of Education and Human Development will be 5-15 June.
- Dean Anthony Vizzini has accepted a position as provost at Witchita State University. Dean Earle Washington will chair the search committee for the dean of Engineering and Applied Sciences starting in the fall.

**ACTION ITEMS**

*Second Reading and Vote of a Proposed Bylaw Change to Make the Committee on University Strategic Planning a Standing Committee of the Faculty Senate*

The University Strategic Plan includes a role for the Faculty Senate to annually monitor the outcomes of the plan. The Senate Executive Board is recommending

the creation of a standing committee to accomplish this task, which requires a Bylaw change.

The first reading occurred at the 14 March Senate meeting.

Article VII: Committees

Sec. 1. In addition to those committees named in Article VII, Sec. 5, of the constitution, the following shall be standing committees of the Senate:

Committee on Extended University Programs, **Committee on University Strategic Planning**, Faculty Retirement Recognition, Professional Concerns, Library, and Transfer of Credit.

The motion to make the Committee on University Strategic Planning a standing committee of the Faculty Senate was made by Senate President Rantz and seconded by Senator Krishna-Swamy. Motion carried.

[MOA-13/01 Elearning Course-Level Criteria](#) – Michele Behr, Chair, Senate Committee on Extended University Programs

Behr said the Senate Committee on EUP memorandum of action was developed to align WMU policies for online programs to be consistent with Higher Learning Commission requirements and the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Acts. The MOA originated in the EUP Committee of the Senate and was also endorsed by the Senate's Academic and Information Technology Council. This MOA will allow WMU to show compliance with HLC and federal laws when the university reports to those bodies over the summer. Senator Nibert suggested an editorial change, which was accepted. Senate Vice President Simpson moved and Senate Executive Board Director Ayers seconded approval of MOA-13/01. The motion carried.

### INFORMATION ITEMS

[Faculty Book Adoption Process](#) – John Kraus, Regional Manager, Follett Higher Education Group Inc., and Bob Armbrister, Director of Computer Services, Auxiliary Enterprises

With the management change of the campus bookstore, Follett Regional Manager Kraus gave a PowerPoint presentation on the new faculty book adoption process and answered questions. Follett operates the bookstores at 950 universities.

[Athletic Board Report](#) – Fred Sitkins, Chair, Athletic Board

Sitkins provided his yearly report to the Senate on the importance of Division I Athletics to the university community. WMU is very proud of the fact that its student athletes maintain high overall grade point averages in numerous majors and exceeds the national graduation success rate. He encouraged the WMU faculty to support its student athletes.

*Academic Program Review and Planning – Tim Greene, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Provost Greene provided an update on the status of the academic program review and planning process. He expects the proposal will be finalized in May.

Provost Greene noted WMU's current portfolio of courses includes 250 undergraduate and graduate majors and is too large considering there are approximately 800 tenure track faculty. It's time for the university to strategically decide on a portfolio of programs. Regular programs reviews are required by the Higher Learning Commission for accreditation. Both the university and academic strategic plans call for program planning and review too.

There will be two phases: 1) program review – assess how well an academic program is doing and 2) planning – decide where a program is going in the future. The process will be transparent and results of each step in the process will be available on the provost's website. All academic programs will be reviewed within a tight timeframe, using a similar set of criteria for all programs. A beta test using a small subset of departments and programs will be done in 2013-14. Following that, all undergraduate and graduate programs will be reviewed in 2014-15. The provost said the timeline is the one major change from the original plan. The established Faculty Senate process will be followed for program merging or closure.

### PROFESSIONAL CONCERNS

Senator Heun commented on the inconsistencies with security in each building across campus. Senator Petrovic expressed a concern regarding Parking Services. Both concerns will be forwarded to Jan Van Der Kley, vice president for business and finance, who was not in attendance.

Professor Todd Barkman, biological sciences, voiced concern regarding the proposed elimination of 500 trees in the Goldsworth Valley. Diane Anderson, vice vice president for student affairs, and Peter Strazdas, associate vice president for facilities management, responded to his concerns.

Rantz noted the Thursday, 16 May, Senate meeting will be held in the Fetzer Center. He adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m. to move into the Research Forum.

Janice Anderson and Suzanne Davenport  
Faculty Senate Office

### Research Policies Council Forum: Pathways to Discovery: Research, Scholarship and Reputation of WMU Faculty, Staff and Students

Senate President Rantz introduced Brooks Applegate, chair of RPC, to facilitate the forum. Applegate introduced a panel consisting of Susan Stapleton, dean of the Graduate College; Dan Litynski, vice president for Research; and Edward Roth, associate professor, School of Music.

Vice President Litynski informed the Senate that discovery driven is the pillar of the University Strategic Plan which most affects his office and OVPR is tasked with administrative support and planning. Departments were asked to create discovery plans which OVPR collected for planning and development. Several in attendance participated in discussion, and the Research Policies Council is interested in receiving ideas and feedback.

The forum concluded at 7:10 p.m.