

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Minutes of 15 May 2014
2013-14 Faculty Senate**

The 2013-14 Faculty Senate met in Rooms 208-209 of the Bernhard Center. There were 55 Senators and substitutes present. **Absent:** B. Applegate, S. Asefa, J. Berkow, L. Bierlein Palmer, C. Emerson, P. Farber, G. Flamme, R. Gershon, T. Greene, W. Huang, D. Karowe, T. Kent, D. Lemberg, R. Manley, G. Mathews, H. Nibert, J. Oh, J. Pellerito, J. Petrovic, E. Phillips, W. Sauck, G. Veeck, M. Villarreal, B. Wagner. **Also present:** Janice Anderson and Suzanne Davenport, Faculty Senate Office; George Brown, Associate Dean, College of Fine Arts; Jody Brylinsky, Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness; Susan M. Carlson, Sociology; Betty Dennis, Associate Dean, Extended University Programs; Dan Fleming, Chemical and Paper Engineering; Janet Hahn, Gerontology and Interdisciplinary Health Programs; Duane Hampton and Nivedita Bhadarka, Common Read; Carla Koretsky, Dean, Lee Honors College; Marilyn Kritzman, Undergraduate Studies Council and WMU-AAUP; Debra Lindstrom, Occupational Therapy; Dan Litynski, Vice President for Research; Lisa Minnick, English, and President, WMU-AAUP; Suzie Nagel, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs; Lisa Paulius, Physics; Mary Peterson, Speech Pathology and Audiology; Doris Ravotas, Interdisciplinary Health Programs; David Reinhold, Associate Provost for Assessment and Undergraduate Studies; Joe Reish, Dean, and Barbara Cockrell, Associate Dean, University Libraries; Cheryl Roland, Executive Director, University Relations; Alvin Rosenthal, Physics; John Saillant, English and History; Zoann Snyder, Sociology; Susan Stapleton, Dean, Graduate College; Patti Van Walbeck, Associate Vice President for Business and Finance; Abby Wallace, President, and Connor Smith, Vice President, Western Student Association; Bill Warren, History; Earlie Washington, Dean, College of Health and Human Services; Tom Wolf, Chief Technology Officer, Office of Information Technology; Steve Ziebarth, Mathematics.

Faculty Senate President William Rantz called the last meeting of the 2013-14 Faculty Senate to order at 5 p.m. There will be two brief meetings which are special sessions and their agendas are not subject to amendment. As the Undergraduate Studies Council had requested another opportunity for discussion of academic program review and planning, a forum on that process will follow after the Senate meeting.

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Approval of Minutes of 3 April Senate Meeting

The 3 April minutes were approved as published.

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

Senate President William Rantz's report included the following:

- He thanked Senators for their service and recognized those whose terms were ending:
 - Kirsten Harvey, Dance
 - Johnson Asumadu, Electrical and Computer Engineering
 - Jana Schulman, English
 - Adam Manley, Family and Consumer Sciences
 - George Boston, University Libraries, and
 - Cynthia Pietras, Psychology.
- He welcomed new Western Student Association President Abby Wallace and Vice President Connor Smith.
- His term as Senate President concludes with this meeting, yet he will continue on the new Executive Board as past president for one year. Rantz said he was honored to have served as Senate president and thanked the Executive Board members who served with him the last two years: Vice President Dennis Simpson, and directors Osama Abudayyeh, Suzan Ayers, Richard Gershon, Alan Rea, and Delores Walcott.
- Provost Greene is out of the country this evening.
- Summary results of the 2014 presidential appraisal have been provided to President Dunn and the Board of Trustees. The appraisal was sent to 943 faculty with a 26% response rate.

Remarks by John Dunn, WMU President

President Dunn's remarks included the following:

- He thanked Senators and the Senate leadership for their service. He was pleased the new WSA leadership was in attendance.
- He thanked faculty for their participation in the presidential evaluation, noting it is very instructive and helpful and feedback was very good. He commented he wished that more than 26% of the faculty would have participated and suggested perhaps the instrument was too long.
- The administration continues to keep an eye on Lansing regarding funding.

ACTION ITEM

Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) States Initiative Resolution

David Reinhold, associate provost for assessment and undergraduate studies, presented the following resolution regarding the LEAP States Initiative:

A Resolution to Support Western Michigan University Joining Other Institutions in the State of Michigan to Seek LEAP State Designation from the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U)

Whereas, associate provosts at all fifteen public universities in the State of Michigan have begun exploring the AAC&U Leap States Initiative;

Whereas, Western Michigan University supports the basic philosophy and merits of a liberal education as articulated by the AAC&U;

Whereas, the value of higher education has come under fire in recent years;

Whereas, higher education institutions in the state have not effectively communicated to the public the benefit of a bachelor's degree;

Whereas, higher education institutions across the state can benefit from discussions across institutional boundaries of common concerns;

Whereas, Michigan institutions of higher education could benefit from the facilitated interaction and opportunities for collaboration with other LEAP states through the AAC&U;

Therefore Be It Resolved, that Western Michigan University formally accepts inclusion into the Michigan LEAP State Initiative and pledges participation in the process to establish Michigan as an AAC&U LEAP State.

Reinhold noted the resolution has been endorsed by the Senate's Undergraduate Studies Council, Committee to Oversee General Education and the Ad Hoc Committee on General Education. A motion was made by Baldner, supported by Jellies, to approve the resolution. Motion carried.

INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

WMU Library of the Future

Joe Reish, dean of University Libraries, provided an update on the University's library system. The current system is 15 years old and predates Google and smartphones. It is overtaken and has minimal vendor support. To provide state-of-the-art technologies, new products are being researched for an integrated library system in the cloud to address print and electronic content.

2014-15 University Common Read

Duane Hampton, from Geosciences and a member of the University Common Read Committee, announced the 2014-15 selection is Life of Pi by Yann Martel. It will be used in the First-Year Experience Program and the committee hopes to get students engaged through upcoming events and opportunities, including a campus visit by the author on 23 October.

Introduction of 2014-16 Faculty Senate President-Elect C. Dennis Simpson

Senate President Rantz introduced C. Dennis Simpson, the 2014-16 Faculty Senate president. Simpson joined the WMU faculty in 1978 and is a professor in

the Physician Assistant Department and Director of the Specialty Program in Alcohol and Drug Abuse. He has served twice as Senate vice president and for seven years on the Executive Board. He also served as president and vice president of the WMU Chapter of the AAUP.

ADJOURNMENT

Senate President Rantz adjourned the 2013-14 Faculty Senate at 5:45 p.m.

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PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Faculty Senate President Dennis Simpson called the 2014-15 Faculty Senate to order at 5:45 p.m. He announced the amendments to the Senate Constitution and Bylaws, approved by the Senate and the faculty, will go before the Board of Trustees on 10 June. Included in the changes is the transition of the Senate Committee on Extended University Programs from a committee to a council. Over the summer, nominations will be sought for membership on this new council.

Introduction and Welcome of New Senators

Senate President Simpson welcomed and expressed appreciation to continuing and re-elected Senators and representatives-at-large to the 2014-15 Senate.

He individually recognized and welcomed new Senators:

- Nina Nelson, Dance
- Dean Johnson, Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Scott Slawinski, English
- Nicole Eckerson, Family and Consumer Sciences
- Sharon Carlson, University Libraries
- Richard Spates, Psychology.

ACTION ITEMS

Election of Faculty Senate Executive Board Members

Faculty Senate President Simpson had asked the current Senate Executive Board directors to continue for new two-year terms, as they represent diverse academic areas, so he requested the Senate elect the following: Osama Abudayyeh, Suzan Ayers, Alan Rea, and Delores Walcott. With no additional nominations from the floor, Senate President Simpson moved approval of these four nominations. The motion was approved by acclamation.

Election of Council Members

For some of the council elections, nominees were running unopposed. Senate

President Simpson moved approval of the single nominations, and the motion was approved by acclamation. The remaining nominees were selected by ballot. The following were elected to the Faculty Senate councils for three-year terms, unless noted:

Academic and Information Technology Council

- Christopher Biggs, Music (elected)

Campus Planning and Finance Council

- Todd Barkman, Biological Sciences (elected)
- Cheryl Bauman-Bruey, Theatre (re-elected)
- Glen Langworthy, Aviation (elected)
- Gay Walker, Integrative Holistic Health and Wellness/Physician Assistant (re-elected)

Graduate Studies Council

- Scott Boerma, Music (elected)
- Amy Curtis, Interdisciplinary Health Sciences/Physician Assistant (re-elected)
- Michael G. Miller, Human Performance and Health Education (re-elected)

International Education Council

- Said AbuBakr, Chemical and Paper Engineering (re-elected)
- Maira Bundza, University Libraries (elected)
- Stephen Covell, Comparative Religion (re-elected)
- Mary Lagerwey, Nursing (elected)
- Natalio OHanna, Spanish (elected)
- Ann Miles, Sociology (re-elected)

Research Policies Council

- Martha Councell-Vargas, Music (re-elected)
- Cat Crotchett, Art (elected to 2-year term to fill vacancy)
- Andre Venter, Chemistry (elected)
- Udaya Wagle, Public Affairs and Administration (elected)

Undergraduate Studies Council

- Raja Aravamuthan, Chemical and Paper Engineering (re-elected)
- James Cousins, History (elected)
- Geoffrey Whitehurst, Aviation (re-elected)

ADJOURNMENT

Before concluding the meeting, Senate President Simpson invited Senators to stay for the forum on Academic Program Review and Planning. He announced a University-wide forum will be held on that topic on Thursday, 11 September, at 5 p.m. and will be sponsored by Academic Affairs and the Faculty Senate (location pending.)

The 2014-15 Senate meeting dates will be emailed to Senators shortly, with the next meeting to be held in October. Senate meetings will continue to be held in the Bernhard Center.

The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m.

Janice Anderson and Suzanne Davenport, Faculty Senate Office

SENATE FORUM ON ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEW AND PLANNING

Senate President Dennis Simpson introduced Jody Brylinsky, associate provost for institutional effectiveness, to conduct the forum. She reaffirmed that a forum will be held on Academic Program Review and Planning on Thursday, 11 September, for the final roll-out.

Members of the APR&P Beta Test Group and Project Management Team were in attendance and facilitated discussions in four large break-out groups. The forum was well-attended and concluded by 7 p.m.