

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Minutes of 5 February 2015**

The Faculty Senate met in Rooms 208-209 of the Bernhard Center. There were 56 Senators and substitutes present.

Members Present: J. Ruhl, J. Eng, A. Rea, B. Young, A. Venter, J. Oh, R. Gershon, R. Siebert, D. Nelson, S. Burns, W. Huang, D. Johnson, P. Ikononov, L. Minnick, S. Slawinski, N. Eckerson, G. Veeck, J. Thakurta, H. Dooley, S. Ayers, T. Gupta, S. Carlson, J. Mueller, B. Ferrin, D. Pence, J. Petrovic, W. Liou, K. Smith, C. Chase, K. Baldner, D. Schuster, J. Corder, U. Wagle, W. DeCamp, S. Rao, G. Flamme, L. Heun, J. Berkow, O. Gabor-Peirce, O. Abudayyeh, R. Aravamathan, S. Asefa, K. Fogarty, C. Simpson, J. Jellies, W. Rantz, B. Wagner, D. Walcott, J. Dunn, T. Greene, M. Kritzman, D. Anderson, J. Gilchrist, C. Cumming (for C. Tremblay), J. Van Der Kley, P. Krawutschke

Members Absent: C. Crotchett, G. Langworthy, D. Karowe, R. Wall Emerson, I. Baker, W. Moncrief, L. Palmer, C. Krishna-Swamy, M. Konate, M. Villarreal, C. Biggs, E. Phillips, D. Areaux, C. Spates, G. Mathews, M. Braun, P. Farber, C. Emerson, G. Whitehurst, M. Wheeler, J. Butterfield, P. Ciccantell

Guests: James Hettinger, Chair, Board of Trustees; Jody Brylinsky, Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness; Barbara Cockrell, Associate Dean, Libraries; Raghe Gejji, Electrical and Computer Engineering; Keith Hearit, Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Carla Koretsky, Dean, Lee Honors College; Ming Li, Dean, College of Education and Human Development; Steve Malcolm, Biological Sciences; Nancy Mansberger, Director, Academic Collective Bargaining; Suzie Nagel; Associate Vice President for Student Affairs; David Reinhold, Associate Provost for Assessment and Undergraduate Studies; Cheryl Roland, Executive Director, University Relations; Wolfgang Schlör, Associate Provost, Haenicke Institute for Global Education; Susan Stapleton, Dean, and Christine Byrd-Jacobs, Associate Dean, Graduate College; Raymond Thompson, Associate Dean, College of Aviation; Patti Van Walbeck, Associate Vice President for Business and Finance; Abby Wallace, President, Connor Smith, Vice President, and Sarah Mead, Academic Affairs Chair, Western Student Association

Staff: S. Brodasky, S. Davenport

Faculty Senate President C. Dennis Simpson called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. He encouraged everyone to sign-in and noted that attendance is monitored. He asked that everyone identify themselves prior to making a motion or comment.

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Acceptance of the Agenda

A motion was made by Heun, supported by Pence, to accept the agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of 4 December 2014 Senate Meeting

The minutes were approved as published.

Faculty Senate Executive Board Report – C. Dennis Simpson, Faculty Senate President

Senate President Simpson's report included the following:

- Welcome senators and guests.
- Introduction of new Faculty Senate Administrator, Sue Brodasky.
- Two time past Faculty Senate president, Dr. Ellen Page Robin, recently passed away. A memorial service will be held March 21 in the Kiva Room at Friendship Village.
- Ad Hoc Plagiarism Committee held its first meeting and plans to have recommendations to the Senate in October.
- The Senate is recruiting for an Ad Hoc Committee on Centers and Institutes.
- At a prior meeting a discussion was cut off and referred to AAUP. In the future any discussions pertaining to a topic covered by the AAUP contract will be closed, according to parliamentary procedures.

Remarks by John Dunn, WMU President

President Dunn's remarks included the following:

- Presentation at Grand Rapids Rotary this morning.
- Governor's Budget: started this year with optimism for higher education funding. Faced reduction of 15% in 2010-11. Governor has been working to restore those monies as the state recovered. Adjustments were initially modest, and then a 5.9% gain last year, with expectations this coming year being good. However, there is a 350 million shortfall in this current year with a projected decrease of 550 million next year. The governor will release his budget on February 11. It is anticipated that higher education will not face a mid-year reduction and while there may be only a slight increase next year it is hoped higher education will stave off reductions.
- Tuition restraint language is being reviewed.
- Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System (MPSERS) continues to be problematic.
- There are requests in Capital Bill for the College of Aviation.
- The incident on Monday at LaFevre Hall was not a random act; the individuals involved had prior differences. As is our responsibility the campus wide notification system was used to alert the campus community. All expressions of concern are addressed by the president's staff. Diane Anderson, vice president for student affairs, has met with residence living and campus police in response to the incident. Police Chief Scott Merlo and his staff are constantly reassessing.
- The proposed Sexual Misconduct Policy has been widely distributed to seek input. Dr. Anderson has reviewed the initial comments and they have proved very helpful. Input is being collected through May.
- Aon-Hewitt Study: conducting a comprehensive analysis of 1,300 classified personnel. There was participation by 1,000+ employees in the on-line job duties tool. The study is making progress and results are expected in May to be implemented in July.
- The new Board of Trustees member, Jeffrey Rinvelt, lives in Ann Arbor and attended WMU as did his father and brother.
- Acknowledged Board of Trustee Chair Jim Hettinger in attendance.

- There will be a meeting of the MAC Presidents which will provide an opportunity to meet with the NCAA President.
- Traveling to Punta Gorda to explore options related to the Aviation College. Traveling to D.C. for the American Council on Education Annual meeting.
- ACE Board meeting-serving new presidents
- Acknowledged Mark Hurwitz, political science, who has worked for several months as the faculty liaison with Cooley Law School. Promotional materials about the Minor in Legal Studies, the location, and opportunities for WMU students are available from University Relations.
- The Career and Student Employment Services offices have made an impressive effort to track our graduates. In the past three months data has been collected on 3,590 students out of 5,252, which represents 68.35%. Of those 89.1% are actively engaged in positions.
- Congratulations
 - Bilinda Straight, anthropology, NSF grant on the impact of intercommunity violence on young people in rural northern Kenya.
 - Fahad Saeed, electrical and computer engineering, NSF grant on high performance algorithms and architectures for Big Data.
 - Richard Katrovas, English, book titled "Raising Girls in Bohemia"
 - Peter Blickle, world languages and literatures, novel titled "The Grammar of Men"
 - Andrew Targowski, business information systems, editor of "Virtual Civilization in the 21st Century"
- Kudos to the WMU ground crew for the work they are doing clearing snow this winter.

C. Chase, Occupational Therapy, asked about a sales tax increase and its impact on higher education, to which the president explained the governor's new initiative for people with disabilities support by gas tax, but it has yet to be determined.

Remarks by Tim Greene, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Provost Greene's remarks included the following:

- The median income of WMU graduates is between \$40 and \$50 thousand.
- 70% of WMU's income is from enrollment. The retention rate of fall to spring freshman is 93% which is the highest it has been since 1998. Spring enrollment is down 0.8%. On-line enrollment is up 6.7%. The total credit hours are down 450 hours. Fall new beginner admissions are up 10%, transfer admits slightly down, and graduate applications are good. There are three on campus yield events scheduled and three scheduled for off campus. We had the largest on record participation at the Medallion Scholar event.
- The fall 2014 pilot of the "Reclaim the W" program targeted first year students with a WMU GPA between 1.0 to 1.99 that were dismissed at the end of their second semester. 213 students were identified (7% of the incoming class) of which 104 were invited to participate, and led to 46

students that completed the program. Ultimately 31 students were eligible to attend spring 2015 semester.

- Dean Joe Reish, Libraries, has announced his retirement at the end of this calendar year. A search committee has been convened.
- Keith Hearit has accepted the position of interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. A search committee will soon be convened.

G. Veeck, Geography, asked if the change in leadership in the College of Arts and Sciences will impact the schedule of the Academic Program Review and Planning process, to which it was confirmed it will have no impact.

S. Malcolm, Biological Sciences, asked if the firing of the dean for the College of Arts and Sciences means there is an inclination to move WMU away from humanities and toward sciences. Provost Greene clarified that the dean was not fired but rather his contract was not reviewed. The college has a strategic plan in place which is expected to be followed; however, he reassured that he is a strong proponent of humanities. Upon further questions Provost Greene stated that he will not discuss the details of the personnel issue.

ACTION ITEMS

[Memorandum of Action 14/02 Undergraduate Certificate Programs](#)

Undergraduate Studies Council Chair Marilyn Kritzman introduced MOA-14/02. The Undergraduate Studies Council is recommending establishment of undergraduate certificate programs. A certificate would be awarded for satisfactory completion of a non-degree undergraduate program designed around a narrow, applied, and coordinated curriculum with a professional focus.

A motion was made by J. Petrovic, seconded by J. Jellies, to approve MOA-14/02. Motion carried.

[Memorandum of Action 14/05 Experiential Learning, Service-Learning, Co-Curricular Learning, and Volunteerism](#)

Undergraduate Studies Council Chair Marilyn Kritzman introduced MOA-14/05. The Undergraduate Studies Council is recommending the creation of consistency in these definitions used at WMU and to place them in the catalog. Standardization of these terms will assist in assessment and service award purposes.

A motion was made by K. Fogarty, seconded by R. Gershon, to approve MOA-14/05. Motion carried.

[Memorandum of Action 14/06 Revisions to General Principles of Curriculum Change and Request to College Curriculum Committee for Curricular Improvements Form](#)

Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness Jody Brylinsky introduced MOA-14/06. Revisions are proposed to align with Institutional Effectiveness' strategic planning document to integrate specialized program accreditation, certification, and licensure to include assurance that revisions comply with specific agency standards.

A motion was made by S. Ayers, seconded by M. Kritzman, to approve MOA 14/06. Motion carried.

INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

*Academic Program Review and Planning Update – Jody Brylinsky,
Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness*

Vice Provost Brylinsky's remarks included the following:

- The process is progressing as planned.
- The observation committees have begun to review the self-studies and will have comprehensive reports by March 6.
- The provost will have until mid-June to provide comments.
- The oversight committee will review the successfulness of the process.
- A student support program committee has been formed and will be meeting at the end of March to begin process planning for those units.

*Western Student Association – Abby Wallace, President, Connor Smith, Vice
President, and Sarah Mead, Academic Affairs Chair*

The WSA representatives gave an overview of the fall semester accomplishments, awards given, resolutions, and specific areas of effectiveness.

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC CONCERNS

C. Chase, Occupational Therapy, expressed that her college curriculum committee is questioning the purview of the committee in relation to resources. D. Simpson confirmed that requests for resources, such as staff/faculty, space, and monies should be part of the request/review form. Further, those resource requests should be discussed with the chair and dean prior to submission of the form.

ADJOURNMENT

The Senate will meet next on 5 March 2015, in the same location. The meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Sue Brodasky, Faculty Senate Office