

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE BOARD  
Minutes of 15 May 2015**

**Members Present:** Suzan Ayers, Richard Gershon, John Jellies, William Rantz, Alan Rea, C. Dennis Simpson, Delores Walcott (joined by phone)

**Member Absent:** Osama Abudayyeh, Bret Wagner

**Guests:** Jim Butterfield, Chair, International Education Council; Cynthia Wagner, Webmaster, Haworth College of Business; Julie Scott, Elearning Administrator, Office of Information Technology; Alonzo Wilson, Ecommerce Technical Administrator, Office of Information Technology

**Staff:** Sue Brodasky

Faculty Senate President C. Dennis Simpson called the meeting to order at 10:58 a.m. Introductions were made.

**ACTION / INFORMATION ITEMS**

*Acceptance of the Agenda*

A motion was made by Ayers, supported by Rantz, to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

*Approval of the Faculty Senate Executive Board Minutes of 17 April*

A motion was made by Rantz, seconded by Ayers, to approve the minutes of 17 April. Motion carried.

*Acceptance of the Faculty Senate Minutes of 23 April*

A motion was made by Ayers, seconded by Rantz, to accept the Faculty Senate minutes of 23 April. Motion carried.

*MOA-15/03: Creation of a University-Wide Faculty Award for Global Engagement –  
Jim Butterfield*

Rantz questioned if the Haenicke Institute for Global Education (HIGE) will be administering the process of the award, or will it be done by the International Education Council, to which Butterfield confirmed that it will be HIGE. Discussion was held regarding the funding source and honorarium amount. Concern was expressed that nominations be solicited campus-wide. The council was clear in its definition of the award about who should be considered. Jellies noted that none of the University academic awards are determined by a Faculty Senate council but rather a recommendation is made and the provost determines the winner. Additionally it needs to be clarified if the award will be presented every year and the maximum number of awards per year. Butterfield was asked to take the feedback provided by the Executive Board to the International Education Council for edits to be made to the Memorandum Of Action (MOA). Afterward, the MOA will be on a future agenda of the Executive Board for a vote. It is anticipated to be presented to the Faculty Senate in October.

*MOA-15/04: Adoption of University-Wide Global Learning Outcomes –  
Jim Butterfield*

Butterfield clarified that the global learning outcomes will need to be specifically developed by each college, then tailored for use by the departments and ultimately applied by faculty in course work. Discussion was held regarding the recommendation listed at the end of the MOA. It was determined that item would be better served if included as a skill. Butterfield was asked to take the feedback provided by the Executive Board to the International Education Council for edits to be made to the MOA. Afterward the MOA will be on a future agenda of the Executive Board for a vote. It is anticipated to be presented to the Faculty Senate in October.

*Digital Badges Presentation – Cynthia Wagner, Julie Scott, and Alonzo Wilson*  
The PowerPoint presentation was emailed to the Executive Board. The business college badges are for items that are co-curricular and do not appear on transcripts. The definitions for receiving badges are to be driven by faculty. However, it was acknowledged that there is a need for governance at each college level. Discussion was held. The business college pilot is expected to be concluded over the summer, therefore this will be a Faculty Senate agenda item in spring.

*MOA-15/01: Revised Program Dismissal Appeals Policy – C. Dennis Simpson*  
At the last Executive Board meeting this MOA was referred to the Provost Council for input. That feedback has been provided and will be incorporated by the Professional Concerns Committee. It will proceed to the Undergraduate Studies Council and the Graduate Studies Council before returning to the Executive Board.

*MOA-15/05: Revised General Principles of Curriculum Change Policy –  
C. Dennis Simpson*

The revision of this policy was the result of a question raised at a Faculty Senate meeting from a college curriculum committee member. The changes were reviewed and some minor edits were made. This item will be on the next Executive Board agenda.

*Ad Hoc Centers and Institutes Committee Update – Suzan Ayers*  
Ayers reported on the work of the committee, however there was some concern that the committee charges were not completely met. President Simpson charged Ayers with forming a conference committee to resolve the charges.

*Proposed Policy Governing Award of Posthumous Degrees – Richard Gershon*  
Simpson provided information regarding the request to define details of the policy. Discussion centered on how far a student would need to be in his/her academic career in order to be granted a posthumous degree. It was urged that faculty from the degree awarding department be able to participate in the decision process. Gershon was asked to solicit a policy from the Provost that the Executive Board could then provide input.

*Campus Planning and Finance Council Ad Hoc Budget Committee Report –  
C. Dennis Simpson*

Jellies reiterated that the sub-committee was charged to summarize the diverse information of proposed budget models provided by administration. The report

recognizes two general budget models used in higher education and the incentives as well as the disincentives for each. However, the committee did not provide a recommendation for a specific model. The report does recommend that going forward, if the administration determines a new budget model, a faculty committee should be established to develop the model that will be implemented. The report needs to be accepted by the Executive Board, provided to the provost, and presented to the Faculty Senate in October.

Following the meeting, via email, a motion was made by Rantz, seconded by Ayers, to accept the report as provided. Motion carried.

*Ad Hoc Committee on Research and Creative Activities Day – C. Dennis Simpson*  
Mark Wheeler has volunteered to chair an ad hoc committee to revise and plan the event next year, due to difficulties experienced this year. It was questioned what department funds this event. Jellies asked to have the funding source confirmed. Simpson and Wheeler will meet with Vice President Dan Litinski to move forward on the committee's composition.

*Executive Board Open Seats – C. Dennis Simpson*

Simpson put forward two names for election to the Executive Board, William Rantz and Matthew Mingus.

A motion was made by Ayers, seconded by Gershon, to accept the nominations. Motion carried.

*Research Policies Council Seats – C. Dennis Simpson*

Simpson put forward three names for election to the Research Policies Council, Robin Criter, Sharon Carlson, and Chris Coryn. Discussion was held regarding the number of open seats on each of the councils. Brodasky will provide the complete list of council members.

A motion was made by Rantz, seconded by Ayers, to accept the nominations. Motion carried.

*President's Updates – C. Dennis Simpson*

Simpson's comments included the following:

- Items for the next Board meeting:
  - Partial Hardship Withdrawal
  - Instructor and Course Evaluation System committee report
- Academic Program Review and Planning Update: In July the Executive Board will be provided the list of recommendations for departments to be merged and/or eliminated. A reply will be due by August 1. There may be a need to call a special meeting of the Executive Board for that discussion.
- General Education and Foreign Language: Dave Reinhold had provided a change being proposed by World Languages and Literatures to references in the catalog to Foreign Language. It was noted that request should go to the Committee to Oversee General Education.

- Library Committee: There has been interest expressed in reactivating the committee. John Saillant is willing to chair. Brodasky was asked to work with Saillant to reactivate any members that are interested in participation.
- Emeriti Representative: Peter Krawutschke has been appointed to a three-year term as the Emeriti representative to the Faculty Senate.
- Visual Identity Standards: Greg Rosine provided an update reminding all departments of the University's branding standards. Discussion was held regarding inclusion of the newly approved Faculty Senate logo.
- Website Redesign: Greg Rosine and the Provost's office notified the Faculty Senate office that websites are to be converted to the content management system (CMS) this summer. Also, there will be an update to the CMS before fall. Brodasky noted that this change will require a lot of staff's time and effort. Discussion was held regarding the necessity for a work-around in order to maintain the searchable database already on the Faculty Senate website.

*Vice President's Updates – Richard Gershon*

Gershon's comments included the following:

- He has been asked to provide names for a new University Strategic Planning committee, to be chaired by Jody Brylinsky.

*Council Reports*

**Academic and Information Technology Council:** Rea asked for a substitute to attend Tuesday's meeting since he has a teaching conflict, to which Simpson volunteered.

**Campus Planning and Finance Council:** no report.

**Extended University Programs Council:** no report.

**Graduate Studies Council:** no report.

**International Education Council:** no report.

**Research Policies Council:** no report.

**Undergraduate Studies Council:** no report.

The Executive Board will meet next on 29 May 2015. The president adjourned the meeting at 1:38 p.m.

*Sue Brodasky, Faculty Senate Office*

The following correspondences were provided to the Executive Board:

*Agendas*

- 16 April 2015, International Education Council
- 21 April 2015, Campus Planning and Finance Council
- 5 May 2015, Undergraduate Studies Council
- 7 May 2015, Research Policies Council
- 28 May 2015, Graduate Studies Council

*Minutes*

- 5 March 2015, Research Policies Council
- 26 March 2015, Graduate Studies Council
- 2 April 2015, Graduate Studies Council

*Correspondence*

- 18 May 2015, Extended University Policies Council – Meeting Cancellation
- 19 May 2015, Campus Planning and Finance Council – Meeting Cancellation