

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE BOARD  
Minutes of 11 September 2015**

**Members Present:** Osama Abudayyeh, Suzan Ayers, Richard Gershon, John Jellies, Matthew Mingus, C. Dennis Simpson, William Rantz (via telephone),

**Members Absent:** Alan Rea, Bret Wagner, Delores Walcott

**Guest:** Jody Brylinsky, Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness

**Staff:** Sue Brodasky

Faculty Senate President C. Dennis Simpson called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m. Introductions were made.

**ACTION / INFORMATION ITEMS**

*Acceptance of the Agenda*

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

*Approval of the Faculty Senate Executive Board Minutes of 7 August*

A motion was made by Ayers, seconded by Jellies, to approve the minutes of 7 August. Motion carried.

*Strategic Planning Process – Jody Brylinsky*

Brylinsky distributed several handouts including an executive summary which demonstrated the overall success in approach of the university strategic plan. She noted that the Tactical Action Communities and Project Action Teams have now matured out of use. The next phase of the plan will be a long range five-year plan replacing the initial three-year plan. The final structure of the new plan will be developed over the next six months by a transition team. The transition team will be a working group that will analyze and synthesize data to provide to the senior leadership. Following the work of the transition team a steering committee will be formed to implement the new plan. The senior leadership will be taking a much more active role moving forward, including reoccurring agenda items for the Senior Leadership Team to focus on the plan. The revisions expected will be building on the existing three pillars and five goals. The mission, vision, and values will not be updated. Strategies will be reworked into measurable outcomes. Simpson questioned how the transition team and steering committee will interact with the Faculty Senate Committee on University Strategic Planning, to which Brylinsky stated that is up to the Faculty Senate. Simpson suggested that a member of CUSP have a seat on the transition team. It was suggested that the representative for the transition team be determined following the CUSP meeting in October.

*Academic Program Review and Planning – Jody Brylinsky*

Brylinsky provided handouts. The process has been a success; as intended it was done with peer review, discussion with the deans, and review by the provost. The process gathered valuable information that had never been compiled. The list for immediate review by the Executive Board will be the 11 programs that are recommended for elimination. Matthew supported the statement of success because his school found that it facilitated a decision about eliminating two

certificate programs which had been in discussion for five years, but never finalized. There is a list of 70 programs which did not submit for review. The Executive Board is not expected to review those at this time. They will be contacted to submit plans for improvement, restructuring, or elimination. There is an additional list of 40 programs that the provost has asked for further review by submission of plans to improve, restructure, or eliminate. Discussion was held regarding specifics that resulted in recommendation for restructuring. The programs that have been marked for elimination were jointly agreed upon by the provost, college dean, and department chair/director. Jellies asked for those programs that opt for elimination to be brought to the Executive Board as they are determined rather than waiting until all have been completed. The Executive Board has until November 1 to complete review of the current elimination list. Jellies suggested that those 11 programs be provided the indications-contraindications document and ask to provide any clarifying statements they would like the Executive Board to be aware of. Simpson noted there will be another set of programs that will have to be reviewed for elimination just as a measure of cleaning up programs that were eliminated but never processed for elimination. It is anticipated that list of programs will be provided by Dave Reinhold. Executive Board members were asked to read the self-study reports and provost recommendations for the 11 programs to be discussed at the next meeting.

*[CAS15-124] ENVS: Change name and organizational structure of Environmental and Sustainability Studies Program – C. Dennis Simpson*

Confirmation was provided that the deans have provided requested input. It was confirmed that it will be housed in the College of Arts and Sciences, faculty lines will be created within CAS, space will be in CAS, but the proposal does not identify any new resources. Jellies cautioned that with the ability to create faculty lines it now becomes a competitor with the departments that have supplied the faculty from different home departments. Discussion was held.

A motion was made by Ayers, seconded by Gershon, to approve as presented. With one abstention the motion failed.

*MOA-15/07: Plagiarism Definition and Resource Recommendations – C. Dennis Simpson*

Simpson asked Rantz to serve as the Executive Board representative on the Ad Hoc Plagiarism Committee for the fall semester, to which Rantz agreed.

A motion was made by Ayers, seconded by Jellies, to postpone this topic until the next meeting. Motion carried.

*Sexual and Gender-Based Harassment Syllabus Statement – C. Dennis Simpson*  
Simpson tabled this topic until such time that Carla Koretsky and Carrick Craig are able to attend.

*Department of Public Safety Oversight Committee Appointments – C. Dennis Simpson*

Simpson noted the current representatives are John Jellies and Judith Rypma who have both agreed to serve again if so elected.

A motion was made by Ayers, seconded by Abudayyeh, to reappoint the current representatives. Motion carried.

*Member Appointment to Professional Concerns Committee – C. Dennis Simpson*  
Simpson stated that Rob Eversole's term on PCC has expired but he is willing to serve again if so elected.

A motion was made by Abudayyeh, seconded by Ayers, to reappoint Eversole to a three-year term. Motion carried.

*Acceptance of the Undergraduate Studies Council Annual Report –  
C. Dennis Simpson*

A motion was made by Ayers, seconded by Gershon, to accept the USC annual report. Motion carried.

*Executive Board Representation on Councils and Committees –  
C. Dennis Simpson*

Simpson confirmed the following EB representatives for each council:  
Academic Information Technology Council – Alan Rea (Simpson will sub for spring semester)  
Campus Planning and Finance Council – Rick Gershon  
Extended University Programs Council – Matthew Mingus  
Graduate Studies Council – Suzan Ayers  
International Education Council – Bret Wagner  
Research Policies Council – Osama Abudayyeh  
Undergraduate Studies Council – Delores Walcott

Simpson confirmed the following Executive Board representatives for the committee named below:

Professional Concerns Committee – John Jellies  
Plagiarism – Bill Rantz  
Civility – Matthew Mingus

Simpson asked the Executive Board representatives to present the charges to their councils at their first meetings. Ayers was asked to attend and present charges to USC in Walcott's absence.

*Council 2015-16 Charges – C. Dennis Simpson*

Each council representative was asked to incorporate diversity and inclusion to their charges and provide those edits to the Faculty Senate staff. A charge was added for AITC to monitor the University website upgrades. Two of the EUPC charges were edited to be specific to EUP courses/curriculum, as well as one addition to review and monitor the EUP incentives for off-campus courses. Simpson confirmed that once the councils have received their charges they may respond to the Executive Board with modification as long as an explanation is included.

A motion was made by Mingus, seconded by Ayers, to approve as amended. Motion carried.

*Faculty Senate Meeting Topics – Sue Brodasky*

The proposed agendas for the Faculty Senate meetings were distributed. Discussion was held.

*President's Updates – C. Dennis Simpson*

Simpson's comments included the following:

- President John Dunn expressed concerns about enrollment dropping.

*Vice President's Updates – Richard Gershon*

Gershon's comments included the following:

- The provost talked about plagiarism and strategic planning.
- There was discussion about eliminating CUSP, however, with the announcement of the strategic planning transition team that may be premature at this time. CUSP will meet in October as planned. Discussion was held.

*Other*

A discussion item for the next meeting will be the IEC award MOA's.

The Executive Board will meet next on 25 September 2015. The president adjourned the meeting at 1:18 p.m.

Submitted by: Sue Brodasky, Faculty Senate Administrator