

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**  
**FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
**Minutes of 12 February 2016**

**Members Present:** Osama Abudayyeh, Suzan Ayers, Richard Gershon, John Jellies, William Rantz, Alan Rea, C. Dennis Simpson, Delores Walcott

**Members Absent:** Matthew Mingus, Bret Wagner

**Guests:** Daniel Jacobson, Molly Lynde-Recchia, Leigh Ford, Staci Perryman-Clark, Duane Hampton, Ad Hoc General Education Committee Members; Robert Wertkin, Nicole Allbee, Lori Gray, Jane Baas, Doreen Brinson, Ad Hoc Civility Committee Members; John Saillant, Chair, Library Committee

**Staff:** Sue Brodasky

Faculty Senate President C. Dennis Simpson called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

**ACTION ITEMS**

*Acceptance of the Agenda*

Item number four was tabled due to Wagner's absence.

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

*Approval of the Faculty Senate Executive Board Minutes of 29 January*

Walcott asked for a change to her Undergraduate Studies Council report.

A motion was made by Ayers, seconded by Rantz, to approve the minutes of 29 January as edited. Motion carried.

*MOA-16/05: Civility Statement – Wertkin*

Wertkin provided background and distributed the committee charge. The statement was developed in consultation with student groups per suggestion by President John Dunn. Statements of support were distributed. Wertkin noted that the statement does not include any form of sanction as those are existing policies in place (e.g. Professional Conduct, Title IX, and Sexual Harassment). Ayers asked about the next steps implementing the statement. Wertkin suggested that the statement be sent to all units for discussion. Jellies thanked the committee for its work and suggested changes to the format so that the recommendation is paragraphs two and five, moving the other paragraphs to be part of the rationale. He expressed that the mission statement cannot be part of the recommendation because the Faculty Senate cannot vote on language that has already been approved by the Board of Trustees. Discussion was held regarding what the actionable items are in the statement. Wertkin felt strongly that all paragraphs must be included in the recommendation, but agreed that the mission statement can be titled background. Gershon supported the entire context being included in order to explain it to the campus community. Ayers offered to meet with committee representatives in order to revise the text. Wertkin declined and asked for the statement to go before the Senate with only the change of the mission statement. Jellies confirmed that the Executive Board could call for a vote to send the Memorandum Of Action to the Senate either with its support or without comment. Ayers questioned if minor revisions were completely opposed by the committee, to which Wertkin stated that he does not see it as a role of the EB to make edits. Simpson noted that the EB, in acting on behalf of the Senate, makes suggestions in order to gain approval and facilitate adoption of an MOA. Walcott

confirmed that the EB wants to have the MOA approved so suggestions of edits are to help ensure that happens. A motion was made by Jellies, seconded by Rea, to place MOA-16/05 on the next Senate agenda without comment. With one abstention the motion carried.

*MOA-16/06: General Education Revision – Jacobson*

Simpson referenced the documents to be reviewed at this meeting are the MOA and the MOA supporting document. The self-study will be provided next week and will be reviewed at the next EB meeting. It was confirmed that the MOA does not involve a policy but is rather a recommended action to be taken by the Faculty Senate and WMU Administration. Jellies added that the MOA is to recommend next steps. Ayers had concerns that the three primary areas do not seem to be addressed, those being content, big ideas, and competencies. Discussion was held. Jacobson and the committee members believe it is the work of the proposed Design Team to define those items. Ford noted that the outcomes should be used to define what the students should know and be able to demonstrate by the end of their undergraduate education. Then the outcomes can be measured through assessment. Jellies provided some grammatical edits, to which the committee agreed.

A motion was made by Ayers, seconded by Rea, to receive the report. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rantz, seconded by Ayers, to approve the MOA as amended and forward to the Faculty Senate at its next meeting. Motion carried.

*MOA-16/04: Renaming of the Library Committee – Saillant*

Simpson introduced the MOA.

A motion was made by Rea, seconded by Rantz, to approve the MOA and forward to the Faculty Senate at its next meeting. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEMS**

*Library Committee Updates – Saillant*

Saillant provided details regarding the need to increase the committee membership to include various libraries associated with WMU. Jellies cautioned that as a standing committee of the Senate, the committee may not include members who are not part of WMU. Discussion was held. It was confirmed that the EB was in favor of the new library dean being added to the committee. The committee reviewed the existing charges and determined that they were out dated, so new charges will be drafted for approval by the EB. Saillant asked for time on the April Faculty Senate agenda to introduce the new Library dean.

A motion was made by Jellies, seconded by Gershon, to affirm the membership of the Libraries Committee with John Saillant as chair. Motion carried.

*President's Update – Simpson*

Simpson's comments included the following:

- There will be a Faculty Senate Budget update at the next meeting
- Wagner had submitted an update via email for the Subcommittee to Assess Incentive-Based Budget Models
- The Board of Trustees elected Kenneth Miller as the new chair, and Jeffery Rinvelt as vice chair at their meeting this week.

*Vice President's Updates – Gershon*

Gershon's comments included the following:

- MOA: 15/03: Creation of a University-Wide Award for Global Engagement is being reviewed by the president.
- The Posthumous Degree policy is being reviewed by the president.
- Freshman orientation yield is at 27%, which is of concern. Rea noted that the Haworth College of Business has implemented a supplemental orientation for those students who have declared business majors. The freshman retention rate is 72%. Rick would like to focus on improving these statistics.
- The Strategic Planning Transition Team is finishing the focus groups.
- Gershon suggested providing a resolution for Tim Holysz, WMU director of landscaping, who is retiring. Jellies noted that there must be a specific mechanism to relate it to service of the Faculty Senate. Simpson asked Gershon to write it and bring it to the next meeting.

*Council and Committee Reports*

**Academic and Information Technology Council:** Simpson reported on a newly formed security data research group which he will be attending as substitute for Rea.

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

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

**Graduate Studies Council:** Ayers noted that the expected expense of \$300 for a survey has been funded from a source outside of the Faculty Senate.

**International Education Council:** no report.

**Research Policies Council:** Abudayyeh stated that the MOA on research misconduct is expected to be coming to the EB soon.

**Undergraduate Studies Council:** no report.

**CPFC Budget Subcommittee:** This committee is working very well. Jerry Kreuze from Accounting has been able to attend the last few meetings, which is good. The committee would like to present a list of changes that should be made in the way we do business that are not necessarily a part of the incentive-based budget model, but should be a prerequisite to changing the budget model. This change would likely go a long way to addressing current problems. They were concerned that this might be outside the scope of the charges. I suggested that EB probably would support this change to the charges.

**Professional Concerns Committee:** no report.

**EUP University Studies Curriculum Committee:** no report.

**OTHER**

The Executive Board will meet next on 26 February 2016. The president adjourned the meeting at 1:17 p.m.

Submitted by: Sue Brodasky, Faculty Senate Administrator