

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**  
**FACULTY SENATE MEETING**  
**Minutes of 6 October 2016**

The Faculty Senate met in the Westside Room of the Valley Dining Center. There were 57 Senators and substitutes present.

**Members Present:** O. Abudayyeh, D. Anderson, R. Aravamuthan, S. Asefa, Xiaoyun Shao (for U. Attanayake), S. Ayers, K. Baldner, P. Bennett, L. Bierlein Palmer, S. Burns, S. Carlson, C. Chase, K. Corder, R. dePeaux, J. Dunn, N. Eckerson, K. Ehrhardt, J. Eng, B. Ferrin, Y. Ford, D. Foskey, R. Gershon, T. Gupta, J. Hahn, W. Huang, P. Ikonomov, A. Isea, J. Jellies, D. Johnson, C. R. Krishna-Swamy, M. Kritzman, J. Larson, D. Lepisto, W. Liou, W. Moncrief, I. Nash, D. Nofsinger, J. Petrovic, K. Prewitt, Jennifer Machiorlatti (for K. Propp), A. Rea, R. Siebert, C. D. Simpson, S. Slawinski, J. Smith, R. Spates, S. Summy, J. Thakurta, J. Van Der Kley, Phil Vandercook (department representative), G. Veeck, A. Venter, U. Wagle, B. Wagner, D. Walcott, R. White, B. Young

**Members Absent:** D. Areaux, T. Barkman, R. Beronja, A. Brogowicz, P. Ciccantell, R. Cooper, H. Dooley, G. Flamme, K. Fogarty, J. Gabel-Goes, B. Geier, J. Gilchrist, L. Gray, T. Greene, L. Heun, J. Kapenga, T. Koshmanova, P. Krawutschke, G. Langworthy, A. Miles, W. Rantz, D. Rudge, J. Ruhl, C. Running-Johnson (for P. Blickle), L. Schmidt, D. Schuster, R. Wall Emerson, G. Whitehurst

**Guests:** Mary Z. Anderson, Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology; Andrea Beach, Co-Director, Center for Research on Instructional Change in Postsecondary Education (CRICPE); Jody Brylinsky, Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness; Christine Byrd-Jacobs, Associate Dean, Graduate College; Elise DeCamp, Part-Time Instructors and Sociology; Mervyn Elliott, Chair, Ad Hoc General Education Design Committee; Taylor Hall, Vice President, Western Student Association; Kelly McDonnell, Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology; Matthew Mingus, Public Affairs and Administration; Joseph Morris, Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology; David Reinhold, Associate Provost for Assessment and Undergraduate Studies; Cheryl Roland, Executive Director of University Relations; Wolfgang Schloer, Associate Provost, Haenicke Institute for Global Education; Zeljka Vidic, Human Performance and Health Education; Tom Wolf, Chief Technology Officer, Office of Information Technology

**Staff:** S. Brodasky, S. Davenport

Faculty Senate President Suzan Ayers called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

**PROCEDURAL ITEMS**

*Acceptance of the Agenda*

A motion was made by Asefa, supported by Baldner, to accept the agenda. Motion carried.

*Approval of Minutes of 12 May 2016 Senate Meeting*

Without objection, the minutes of the 12 May meeting were approved as published.

*Faculty Senate Executive Board Report – Suzan Ayers,  
Faculty Senate President*

Senate President Ayers' report included the following:

- Welcome new senators:
  - Lori Gray, Interdisciplinary Health Programs
  - Yvonne Ford, Nursing
  - Todd Barkman, chair, Campus Planning and Finance Council
  - Jennifer Machiorlatti, substitute from Communication for the fall semester and one of the two University Distinguished Teachers this year
  - Cynthia Running-Johnson, substitute from World Languages and Literatures for this academic year
- Two Memoranda of Action have been approved by the administration
  - MOA-16/06: General Education Revision
  - MOA-16/08: Revise High School Dual Enrollees Policy
- The Executive Board, on behalf of the Faculty Senate, approved MOA-16/12: Acceptance of the Dual Use of Research Concern Policy. This MOA was also recently approved by the administration.
- The Committee for Research Day is planning another event for April 2017. Last year's event was a very successful event for our graduate students. Faculty attendance was up from the previous year.
- Graduate Studies Council met for the first time to review its charges and four new curriculum proposals.
- The International Education Council has convened working groups to enhance study abroad, improve international student services and further promote international research and curriculum innovation. They have communicated with the WMU Presidential Search Committee about including consideration of global engagement experience and commitment of potential candidates.
- The Libraries Committee is convening its first meeting of the semester on October 11, and among its agenda items is a discussion of celebrating the annual federally-mandated (September 17, since 2007) instructional event on the U.S. Constitution in the libraries, not solely in the Departments of History and Political Science.
- In light of the general education revision that will be a big part of the Faculty Senate agenda this year, the Faculty Senate Executive Board has placed a moratorium on developing new general education courses. Proposals for new general education courses will not be accepted out of colleges until the new General Education curriculum is approved by a vote of the Faculty Senate.
- The Committee to Oversee General Education is charged with reviewing previously approved General Education courses. During the 2016-17 academic year, COGE will review all proficiency 2 baccalaureate-level writing and writing-intensive courses. All courses, unless approved as a new proficiency 2 course during the 2015-16 academic year, must undergo re-approval. Additional information and the General Education policy can be found at the Faculty Senate website, menu item Policies, General Education link.

- Recognizing the importance of student voter registration, the Faculty Senate urges WMU faculty to remind students to register to vote and to support this year's student-led, non-partisan voter registration drive. The last day to register to vote in the November election is next Tuesday, October 11.
- Each fall the Faculty Senate's Professional Concerns Committee recommends to instructors statements to include as they prepare course syllabi. That information can now be found on the Faculty Senate website under the Statements menu item.
- Recently the Executive Board held a training for all council and committee chairs. The topics included chair responsibilities, working with Executive Board representatives, agenda setting, meeting procedures, addressing charges, recommendations, reports, and MOAs.
- Dr. Joseph Morris, professor in Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, provided a memorial for colleague Dr. James Croteau.
- Professor Emerita Mary Cain from Education and Professional Development also recently passed away. Dr. Cain was a Senator as well as Senate vice president from 1983 to 1991, served on the Undergraduate Studies Council and was president of the WMU chapter of the AAUP.
- Provost Tim Greene extended regard and regrets that he was unable to attend today.
- There will be an Academic Affairs Strategic Plan session immediately following our meeting tonight, so please stay and provide your input to Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness Jody Brylinsky.
- Administrative appointments include:
  - Associate Provost for Enrollment Management, Dr. Terrence Curran
  - Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations, Mr. Timothy Terrentine
  - Director of the Office of Pre-College Programs, Dr. Erika Carr, which provides leadership and direction for individuals, programs, and WMU units involved in outreach with pre-college students.
- Administrative searches in progress include:
  - Lee Honors College Dean
  - Associate Vice President for Research
  - WMU President
- Provost Greene sent a campus-wide e-mail reminder about the Preferred Name Policy. The Senate encourages faculty to be sensitive and supportive of students in ways that foster positive learning environments, particularly by actions as simple as using individuals' preferred name and pronouns (s/he, her/him, they/them/theirs).
- The e-mail migration from WebMail Plus to W-Exchange started this summer. The Office of Information Technology has scheduled for all accounts to be migrated by October 16. As with anything technical, there have been and likely will continue to be a few glitches, but Ed Kluk and the OIT Project Management team are working with individuals as needed to make this transition as smooth as possible.
- The electronic curriculum change proposal process is in the pilot phase and appears to be close to full-scale implementation. OIT has created the infrastructure for individual course changes (not program changes) and there are "getting started" documents on the Faculty Senate website to facilitate this process. Deans and college curriculum committee chairs are scheduling training sessions for this process as well. For specific questions about this reach out to the chair of your College Curriculum Committee and look at the forms on the Faculty Senate website, on the Policies page under the Curriculum Review Process link.
- The *ad hoc* General Education Design Committee has been seated and is busy laying the foundation for this year's work. They have been charged to recommend a curriculum model and new name to the Senate for approval. As promised last May, this group will be reporting progress monthly to the Senate, and that will begin tonight when the chair of that group, Mervyn Elliott from Aviation, will provide their first report.
- As promised, summary notes of this meeting will be provided to facilitate information sharing with your unit colleagues. These notes will be e-mailed to Senators following each Senate meeting. The intent is to facilitate timely information sharing as opposed to waiting one month for approved minutes to be available.
- Each October the Faculty Senate sends out a request for faculty fees to all of the 900+ academic rank employees at WMU. These fees support the Board of Trustees-appointed shared governance work the Senate facilitates through the seven councils, 10 committees and numerous ad hoc and subcommittees. While \$20 is not that much, the collection of that fee from 900 faculty members would bring the Senate closer to self-sustaining operation of our body. Sincerely request that each of you pay your faculty fees in support of the good work of the Senate.
- Broncos FIRST and the Center for Research on Instructional Change in Postsecondary Education are hosting a Student Success Summit, featuring Dr. Terrell Strayhorn, professor and director of the Center for Higher Education Enterprise at Ohio State University on Wednesday, October 19 at noon in the Bernhard Center. The event is free but registration is due tomorrow. Please pick up a flyer in the back of the room if you are interested.
- With this being the first formal meeting of the academic year, a reminder of basic procedural matters was provided.
  - Wait to speak until recognized, stand, and then for the benefit of all please state name and affiliation.
  - Please direct comments or questions to the presiding officer or the body as a whole.
  - Unless specifically invited to do so by the presiding officer, there should not be direct back and forth between individuals.
  - Please speak for yourself and avoid attempting to frame the comments of another in any way. For example, a statement like, "evidently senator X thinks that...." would be out of order. Senator X is entitled to speak for her/himself.
  - Efforts will be directed at facilitating respectful and vigorous debate.

*Remarks by John Dunn, WMU President*

President Dunn's remarks included the following:

- Welcome to the new Valley Dining Center
- Happy Homecoming, activities include:
  - Campus Classic
  - Guinness world record setting of Wedding vow renewals
  - Distinguished Alumni Awards dinner
  - International Flag raising with flags of the nations representing all of the student body
  - Football game
- Recently returned from a trip to Thailand visiting with alumni for recruitment.
- Board of College Presidents meeting in Washington, D.C. where the focus was on freedom of expression on university campuses. Young African American students do not see freedom of expression as positive because it empowers hate speech, but does not offer a reciprocate to their freedom of speech.
- Washington Monthly Rankings: out of the 303 public universities listed WMU was number three in Michigan and number one in the Mid-American Conference.
- U.S. World News and World Report: WMU held its standing.
- Enrollment Report: decline of 1.3% which outperformed earlier projections, so it is anticipated it will not negatively affect the budget. Yield rate did improve. There are more women entering than men in freshmen class. Looking forward to working with the new Associate Provost for Enrollment Management, Terry Curran.
- Welcome to the new WMU Board of Trustee member, William Pickard.
- Athletics and Funding: the Kalamazoo Gazette ran a report on expenditures regarding athletics. The basic premise of the story suggested that too much in general funds is being spent on athletics and that it might be best for WMU to cut costs, generate more revenue or move to a lower division. WMU offers 16 sports and affiliate with two conferences, the MAC and the NCHC. Comparisons are made with other universities without differentiating the number of sports or the type of sports offered, for example hockey. Our total expenditures for athletics in fiscal year 2015 is \$27.5 million with \$24 million as per NCAA required reporting mechanism, coming from general funds. The \$24 million is a combination of direct and indirect support. There is confusion about the total general fund support because the NCAA reporting requirement mandates that we report both direct and indirect costs. Of the direct general fund support \$19 million, \$9.9 million of that is scholarship related monies. We spend the money in athletics and they return the amount for the cost of scholarships in tuition and books. Indirect costs include items such as facilities maintenance, accounting, information technology services, security and utilities, and any debt services that we have on athletic facilities, which is very recent additions to the NCAA reporting requirements. Our indirect general fund costs total \$5.3 million. Thus, if you subtract the \$9.9 million, which is a wash i.e. money goes to athletics and returns to WMU, and accept that all of our programs have a cost

related to general university administration, facility maintenance and debt service, the real cost to our general fund to support athletics is less than \$9.3 million or 2.38% of the general fund budget. This percentage has been very constant over the past three years. He addressed the question of moving to a lower division and whether that would create a savings. WMU is now a part of what is called the Playoff Division, earlier named Football Bowl Series. If we moved down one level, we would be in the Football Championship Series. The advantages in the FCS, where there are fewer scholarships, particularly in football, include offering a savings of \$340 thousand. In future years less of a commitment to facilities, and therefore, possibly debt services, but this would be years out. Disadvantages include loss of revenue from the NCAA and the MAC, and guarantees which would total, depending upon the year, a total of approximately \$5 million. While some of our indirect costs related to administration and debt services on facilities might lessen, the impact would not be felt for several years. Can we cut expenses and generate additional revenue; sure we can and we are working on that daily.

- Administrative Searches:
  - Lee Honors College Dean: internal search only, with five candidates. Reference checking is on-going and presentations are estimated for the last week in October. The search team is chaired by Dave Powell.
  - Haworth College of Business Dean: applications were due September 21 and are now being reviewed. Round one interviews are scheduled for the last week in October. The search team is chaired by Ming Li with Parker Executive Search firm.
  - Associate Vice President for Research: the search team is chaired by Sue Stapleton. Their timeline is similar to the other on-going searches.
  - WMU President.
- Chris Sitkins, wife of Professor Emeritus Fred Sitkins, also passed away last week.
- Margaret Watson, recent retiree from the Office of Information Technology passed away.

Discussion covered the following:

- At the Board of University Presidents meeting the discussion included freedom of speech but no meaningful solutions were offered.
- WMU athletic ticket sales revenue averages between \$4 to \$6 million annually.
- In comparison to the University of Michigan and Michigan State University spending from general funds WMU athletics is not self-sustaining. While only 10 programs across the country are self-sustaining in athletics WMU will be looking at increasing income and reducing spending, but there will always be some part of general fund supporting athletics.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

*Memorandum of Action-16/09: Repeating a WMU Course for Credit in Study Abroad – Bret Wagner, Faculty Senate Director*

Wagner stated that the International Education Council recommends that students who are studying in a WMU-approved study abroad program be allowed to repeat a course taken at WMU with a course taken at the study-abroad location and have the grade earned at the study-abroad institution replace the grade for the course taken at WMU. Discussion was held.

A motion was made by Wagner, seconded by Veeck, to approve MOA-16/09 as presented. Motion carried.

*Memorandum of Action-16/10: Revise Graduate Catalog Admission Requirements to Specialist Programs – Louann Bierlein Palmer, Chair, Graduate Studies Council*

Bierlein Palmer stated the recommendation from GSC is to Revise the *Graduate Catalog/Admissions/Admissions Requirements/Specialist Program Applicant* to allow specialist programs, which require completion of a master's degree prior to admission, to decide whether to require a Graduate Record Exam score or not for admission into a specialist degree. Bierlein Palmer provided background regarding the GSC's decision to make this recommendation, in an effort to assist non-traditional students since the GRE was developed for students completing undergraduate courses and is not necessarily appropriate for adult students. It is up to the program to determine if they will require the GRE score for admission. Discussion was held.

A motion was made by Kritzman, supported by Wagner, to approve MOA-16/10 as presented. Motion carried.

*Memorandum of Action-16/13: Revise Undergraduate Catalog Non-Degree Certificate Programs – Marilyn Kritzman, Chair, Undergraduate Studies Council*  
Kritzman stated the recommendation as revisions to the Undergraduate Catalog Non-Degree Certificate Programs with regards to the number of allowable required credits and transfer credits. Discussion was held regarding Higher Learning Commission guideline compliance.

A motion was made by Baldner, seconded by Asefa, to approve MOA-16/13 as presented. With five opposed and 4 abstentions, the motion carried.

### **INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEM**

*Ad Hoc General Education Design Committee – Mervyn Elliott, Chair*  
Elliott provided the roster of the committee:

- Molly Lynde-Recchia, World Languages and Literatures
- William Rantz, Faculty Senate Executive Board
- Dan Jacobson, Music
- Staci Perryman-Clark, English
- Elke Schoffers, Chemistry
- Sarah Summy, Special Education and Literacy Studies
- Kristina Wirtz, Spanish
- Kevin Knutson, College of Arts and Sciences, Advising
- David Reinhold, Associate Provost for Assessment and Undergraduate Studies

The prior committee's self-study report is on the Faculty Senate website for reference. Seated on September 16 the new committee has had three meetings and a Saturday retreat. The committee is excited to engage faculty in the process to ensure WMU is improving the education it is providing undergraduate students.

### **PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC CONCERNS**

No concerns were expressed.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Ayers reminded the Senate of the Academic Affairs Strategic Planning session immediately following the meeting.

The Senate will meet next on 3 November 2016, in room 208 Bernhard Center. The meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Sue Brodasky and Suzanne Davenport, Faculty Senate Office