

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Minutes of 1 December 2016**

The Faculty Senate met in Rooms 208-209 of the Bernhard Center. There were 60 Senators and substitutes present.

Members Present: O. Abudayyeh, D. Anderson, D. Areaux, S. Asefa, S. Ayers, David Paul (for K. Baldner), T. Barkman, Cynthia Running-Johnson (for P. Blickle), S. Burns, S. Carlson, C. Chase, R. Cooper, Paul Clements (for K. Corder), R. dePeaux, J. Dunn, N. Eckerson, J. Eng, B. Ferrin, K. Fogarty, Y. Ford, D. Foskey, J. Gabel-Goes, B. Geier, R. Gershon, J. Gilchrist, L. Gray, T. Greene, J. Hahn, L. Heun, W. Huang, P. Ikonomov, A. Isea, J. Jellies, T. Koshmanova, P. Krawutschke, C. R. Krishna-Swamy, M. Kritzman, J. Larson, Chris Cho (for W. Liou), W. Moncrief, I. Nash, J. Petrovic, K. Prewitt, Jennifer Machiorlatti (for K. Propp), W. Rantz, A. Rea, R. Siebert, C. D. Simpson, S. Slawinski, J. Smith, S. Summy, J. Thakurta, G. Veeck, A. Venter, U. Wagle, B. Wagner, D. Walcott, R. White, G. Whitehurst, B. Young

Members Absent: R. Aravamathan, U. Attanayake, P. Bennett, R. Beronja, L. Bierlein Palmer, A. Brogowicz, P. Ciccantell, T. Curran, H. Dooley, K. Ehrhardt, G. Flamme, T. Gupta, D. Johnson, J. Kapenga, G. Langworthy, D. Lepisto, A. Miles, D. Nofsinger, D. Rudge, J. Ruhl, L. Schmidt, D. Schuster, R. Spates, J. Van Der Kley, P. Vandercook, R. Wall Emerson

Guests: Gary Bischof, Chair, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences; Jody Brylinsky, Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness; Damon Chambers, President, Graduate Student Association; Barbara Cockrell, Associate Dean, University Libraries; Mervyn Elliott, Chair, Molly Lynde-Recchia, Vice Chair, and Dan Jacobson, Ad Hoc General Education Design Committee; Geniene Gersh, Director, and Sarah Good, Counseling Services, Sindecuse Health Center; Taylor Hall, Vice President, and Chiante Lymon, Political Affairs Chair, Western Student Association; Keith Hearit, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Ming Li, Dean, College of Education and Human Development; Dan Litynski, Vice President for Research; Nancy Mansberger, Director, Academic Labor Relations; Lisa Marshall, Director, Sindecuse Health Center; Suzie Nagel-Bennett, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students; Sherine Obare, Associate Vice President for Research; David Reinhold, Associate Provost for Assessment and Undergraduate Studies; Gail Rouscher, Aviation; Shelby Satkowiak, Aviation Sciences; Susan Stapleton, Dean, Graduate College; Timothy Terrentine, Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations; Alicia Van Ee, guest of Rudolf Siebert, Comparative Religion; Bill Warren, Chair, Department of History; 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 4:59 p.m.

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Acceptance of the Agenda

A motion was made by Asefa, supported by Siebert, to accept the agenda as distributed. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of 3 November 2016 Senate Meeting
Without objection, the minutes of the 3 November meeting were approved as published.

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

Senate President Ayers' report included the following:

- November 29 was the celebration of the 25-year Club induction. Kudos to the group of new people who have dedicated 2 and ½ decades to service at WMU.
- Memorandum of Action-16/10: Revised Graduate Catalog Admission Requirements to Specialist Programs has been approved by the administration.
- The International Education Council has met with representatives of the Ad Hoc General Education Design Committee to discuss the importance of global engagement in the development of the new curriculum, and an IEC working group is collaborating with the Research Policies Council to facilitate international research.
- The Campus Finance and Planning Council has provided feedback to the new associate provost for enrollment management and are supportive of efforts to enhance existing institutional practices in order to improve the tuition structure and marketing of WMU to attract potential students. The CPFC also met with the director of Public Safety and believe that on-going initiatives to engage the WMU community should positively enhance campus safety.
- Notification for the 2017 general election, which begins in January for representatives-at-large and departmental senators, was sent out Monday.
- Departments will soon be contacted to provide their nominations for the annual Presidential Scholars Convocation, which will be due in mid-January.
- The Presidential Search Advisory Committee conducted 2 and ½ days of listening sessions with the WMU/Kalamazoo communities and small groups in mid-November. The committee will be finalizing the Presidential Profile next week to get the position posted. As always, the search website is and will continue to be the centralized location for input and information.
- Richard dePeaux, professor of art, provided a memorial for colleague Mary Eleanor (Mariel) Neu.
- Wilson Warren, chair of History, provided a memorial for colleague Ernst Breisach.

Remarks by John Dunn, WMU President

President Dunn's remarks included the following:

- Bronco Football: marketing of WMU has benefited from the winning football team. It is surprising where WMU's name has appeared. It all has led to inquiries in many topics other than athletics. There are speculations on a bowl game if there is another win tomorrow.
 - Over 46,000 tickets have been sold for Friday night's game.

- There are several fan buses chartered.
 - The WMU marching band will be attending.
- Trip to India: Heading to India on Saturday to visit sister universities and make a presentation at each to sustain relationships.
 - Christ University
 - Rajagiri University
- Post-Election: students have been seeking additional information to understand the possible ramifications.
 - Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Students are concerned about what the election will mean for them.
 - There is a need to maintain balance.
 - Encourage meeting with students informally by spending time at the Bernhard Center and eating with students. Speak to them in order to allay fears and be willing to listen.
 - Encourage meeting with students formally and engaging in conversation.
- Western Student Association Meeting: at last night's meeting student questions were fielded that included:
 - Funding
 - Grading System and the possible need to have the Faculty Senate revise it.
 - Seita Scholars Program director is leaving. These students have been through a lot of changes so this change adds stress.
- Board of Trustees Upcoming Meeting: December 13 in Bernhard Center
 - Holiday Reception to Follow at 1:30 p.m.
- Commencement: December 17, 2016, encouraged faculty to participate in one or more of the three ceremonies.
- Faculty Accolades:
 - Victor Cunri Xiong, History, has published a new book which traces the rise and fall of the six different capital cities in the Luoy region.
 - Christian Hirsch, emeritus in mathematics, is the editor of a new book titled "*Mathematical Modeling and Modeling Mathematics*."
 - William Fales, WMU Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine, was among 18 individuals named by Gov. Rick Snyder to Michigan's Public Health Advisory Commission.
- The Gold Standard 2020: special thanks to Associate Provost Jody Brylinsky for her work on the University Strategic Plan and the newly published a pocket-size guide.

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

- Searches Update:
 - Lee Honors College Dean: the new dean is Gary Bishof.
 - Research: Vice President Dan Litynski introduced the new Associate Vice President for Research, Sherine Obare.
 - Haworth College of Business Dean: one of the four candidates already visited campus and the others are scheduled next week.
- Spring Enrollment: please remind students to enroll during finals week.

- Book Orders: if you do not have your book orders into the bookstore it is past the due date so please notify the bookstore as soon as possible.
- Fall Enrollment: applications are up slightly due to the national press from the winning football and basketball programs. Now the applications need to be realized into enrolled students for fall semester.
- Medallion Competition: takes place this weekend with 780 students.
- 2016-21 Academic Affairs Strategic Plan Version 3: the Invest in Gold plan is finalized and on the provost website.
- Students with Concerns Panel: was held this morning. 180 faculty and staff attended. It was videotaped and is available on the provost website.
 - Active Shooter Training: can be scheduled by contacting Cam Vossen in public safety.

INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Faculty Involvement in Student Mental Health Issues – Lisa Marshall, Director, and Sarah Good, Counseling Specialist, Sindecuse Health Center

Marshall stated that Sindecuse is very active in counseling services. Good reported that they have very dedicated counselors, who adjust schedules regularly in order to accommodate students. They have seen a good responses to election concerns. There have been sessions to train faculty to support students who have election concerns. The beyond grief and trauma group has also been accommodating election concerns for students. A handout of resources was distributed. It was suggested that faculty create "safe spaces," by being an active listener, regardless of personal feelings. If the faculty is uncomfortable with a topic brought to them by a student, please refer the student to counseling services. Additional training is available by contacting Sindecuse counseling center.

Discussion covered the following:

- Sindecuse advertises 24-hour services, is that provided by Sindecuse staff or by an outside vendor? Would an outside vendor have access to student information? Geniene Gersh, director of Counseling Services, stated that an outside vendor has been contracted for the after hour services effective as of October 10. The protocol for the vendor is to staff the phones with Masters and Ph.D. level clinicians. For each call received after hours Sindecuse Counseling Services is notified and provided details. The vendor does not have access to WMU student data.
- An explanation of the numerical phone tree was given.
- Faculty are to contact campus police for a significant incident in a classroom. Refer students to Counseling Services if an incident does not require that severe of a response.

Western Student Association Update – Taylor Hall, Vice President, and Chiantie Lymon, Political Affairs Chair

Hall, along with Lymon, listed several accomplishments and awards, highlighted fall resolutions, and provided spring goals.

<https://cms.wmich.edu/sites/default/files/attachments/u370/2016/WSA-presentation.12.1-16.pdf>

Graduate Student Association Update – Damon Chambers, President
Chambers provided updates on awards, activities, and funding of GSA.

Development and Alumni Relations Update – Timothy Terrentine, Vice President
Terrentine stated that the environment the Development and Alumni Relations team is facing is different than ever before. Development is no longer an equitable market, they are in a battle against charitable organizations that can provide real time videos of how dollars are being spent. There is competition for donor's dollars in vicious market places including competing against other universities. He is motivated to meet those needs. Donors want three things:

- Appreciation – to know their degrees are worth more than what they paid.
- Affiliation – a desire to be part of something positive and bigger than themselves.
- Agency – to be part of something that changes the world.

The Development and Alumni Relations office will be asking how endeavors are affecting issues off campus. WMU has to be different – courageous, collaborative, and communicative.

Ad Hoc General Education Design Committee – Mervyn Elliott, Chair
Elliott reported that the committee recently met with faculty from communication and leadership from First-Year Experience. Members of the committee met with the International Education Council to gather feedback on how to integrate globalization. Also, members met with the WSA executive board to solicit student feedback, and heard that the current program is not sufficient. There is a need to make the new program intentional and provide a pathway for students through the program. Elliott explained that the draft model has three levels starting with foundations which will be taken first, ending with connections as the top level courses. The middle level of courses is still being defined. An eLearning course has been created and access has been granted to 24,000 part-time and full-time faculty, and advisors. The eLearning course contains frequently asked questions (FAQ's), the naming survey, and discussion boards. The January 12 Faculty Senate meeting will be focused specifically on general education design.

Discussion covered the following:

- It was noted that this ad hoc committee has focused its work on the work completed by the first ad hoc committee. Senate members were encouraged to read the report of that committee before asking questions or providing feedback.
- This is an opportunity to create cluster classes; has the committee considered doing so? The committee has reviewed examples, but does not feel such classes would be conducive at WMU; however, there will be options to choose course themes which will offer opportunities for faculty to connect.
- The WMU Signature Program was mentioned but since that is specific to non-credit experiences how will it tie into general education? It is anticipated that the courses which will incorporate themes will offer an opportunity to engage in non-credit opportunities that will apply to the Signature Program.

Bronco Showcase – Women's Air Race Classic, Shelby Satkowiak
Gershon introduced Shelby Satkowiak of the College of Aviation. Satkowiak provided an overview of her experience in the Women's Air Race Classic. <https://cms.wmich.edu/sites/default/files/attachments/u370/2016/Air-Race-Classic.Presentation.12-1-16.pdf>

Discussion covered the following:

- When asked, Satkowiak stated that working as a member of a team was the most important lesson she took away from the experience.
- Satkowiak explained the practice of creating handicaps for each type of aircraft in the race.
- Satkowiak stated that the race was established by Amelia Earhart.
- Satkowiak plans to become a bush pilot in Alaska.

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC CONCERNS

It was noted that the Michigan Academy of Arts and Letters which will be meeting in March 2017 is seeking faculty papers. It is an excellent recruiting tool that WMU is not taking advantage of, opportunity to encourage faculty participation. Deadline is December 9.

A faculty member received an email from a student because the student had missed an exam, which was accompanied by a Sindecuse doctor's excuse letter. When the faculty member attempted to verify the authenticity of the letter, they were not allowed to do so due to health information privacy. Vice President Anderson stated that the student has to provide written authorization to release the information from Sindecuse to the faculty member.

ADJOURNMENT

Ayers provided a reminder that the January 12 meeting will have one agenda item which will be general education design.

The Senate will meet next on 12 January 2017, in room 208 Bernhard Center. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Sue Brodasky and Suzanne Davenport, Faculty Senate Office