

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Minutes of 2 November 2017**

The Faculty Senate met in Rooms 208-209 of the Bernhard Center. There were 67 Senators and substitutes present.

Members Present: O. Abudayyeh, D. Areaux, J. Atkin, S. Asefa, S. Ayers, T. Barkman, L. Bierlein Palmer, P. Blickle, J. Brandão, S. Burns, S. Carlson, C. Chase, E. Copija, K. Corder, M. Cupka, T. Curran, A. DeFulio, R. dePeaux, K. Ehrhardt, B. Ferrin, D. Flanagan, Y. Ford, J. Gabel-Goes, B. Geier, J. Gilchrist, S. Glista, L. Gray, T. Gupta, J. Hahn, D. Hains, L. Heun, S. Hill, W. Huang, A. Isea, B. Jarl, J. Jellies, J. Kapenga, M. Keil, K. Kness, Jim Muchmore (for T. Koshmanova), P. Krawutschke, C. R. Krishna-Swamy, J. Larson, A. Miles, M. Mingus, E. Montgomery, Jeremy Blair (for N. Nelson), D. Nofsinger, D. Paul, J. Petrovic, K. Prewitt, K. Propp, D. Rudge, D. Schuster, R. Siebert, C. D. Simpson, S. Slawinski, J. Smith, S. Summy, J. Thakurta, P. Vander Weg, Lisa DeChano-Cook (for G. Veeck), Elke Schoffers (for A. Venter), Z. Vidic, D. Walcott, R. White, B. Young

Members Absent: D. Anderson, U. Attanayake, P. Bennett, T. Broadwater, R. Cooper, W. Homan, D. Johnson, D. Kim, D. Lepisto, W. Liou, I. Nash, W. Rantz, J. Saini, L. Schmidt, S. Stapleton, S. Steuer, A. Tazzia, J. Van Der Kley, B. Wagner

Guests: Gary Bischof, Dean, Lee Honors College; Jody Brylinsky, Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness; Christine Byrd-Jacos, Acting Dean, Graduate College; Marilyn Duke, Center for Academic Success Programs; Keith Hearit, Provost's Office; Megan Lee Maheshwari, Registrar's Office; David Reinhold, Associate Provost for Assessment and Undergraduate Studies; Jerrica Solomon, undergraduate student, Interdisciplinary Health Services; Colleen Stano, Haworth College of Business Advising; Tiffany White, Office of Diversity and Inclusion; Tom Wolf, Chief Information Office and Ad Hoc General Education Logistics Committee – Mervyn Elliott, Chair, and Staci Perryman-Clark

Staff: S. Brodasky

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 Heun, supported by Rudge, to accept the agenda as published. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of 5 October 2017 Senate Meeting

Without objection, the minutes of the 5 October meeting were approved as published.

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

Senate President Ayers' report included the following:

- A moment of silence was observed to acknowledge those who were impacted by the terrorist act in New York City.

- Two new Senators were welcomed:
 - Sandra Glista, Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences
 - Eva Copija, Center for English Language and Culture for International Students
- Senators were reminded that as a departmental/unit representative, it is their responsibility to report on Senate meetings to home departments/units. As always, notes will be circulated to support this effort no later than Monday following each meeting.
- Two former faculty and one community member who recently passed away were acknowledged:
 - Meshulam Groper, professor emeritus of mechanical and aeronautical engineering
 - Martin Gingerich, professor emeritus of English.
 - WMU Medical School Dean Hal Jensen's wife Polly
- On behalf of the Executive Board faculty were thanked for their robust participation in the WMU Essential Studies workshops.
- On October 20, a joint Office of Faculty Development, Faculty Senate, and WMU-AAUP workshop on Anti-Racist Pedagogies took place. With President Montgomery's late August statement about WMU's commitment to diversity and inclusion, followed by the impressively attended workshop, discussion has continued on campus about additional ways to facilitate conversation about race and how to address issues like those in Charlottesville. Suggestions about productive ways forward on this topic can be directed to the Faculty Senate office.
- Last week a campus-wide Student Success Summit, co-sponsored by the associate provost for assessment and undergraduate studies and the Center for Research on Instructional Change in Postsecondary Education (CRICPE), brought national expert Dr. Jillian Kenzie to campus. This event addressed WMU's National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) data and offered ways to frame WMU's success and challenges moving forward. Drs. Dave Reinhold, Andrea Beach, and Charles Henderson were thanked for a motivating day of data and collaboration, emphasizing student success and retention.
- WMU has been a tobacco-free campus for three years. While there was a strong start, there continues to be hot spots around campus where tobacco use remains a concern. The Western Student Association (WSA) has re-engaged the administration around this topic and will be sponsoring a video contest to engage students in the messaging that tobacco use is a violation of University policy.
- Midterm grades were submitted for 27% of sections offered this semester. The Haworth College of Business had the highest percentage of midterm grades reported, with grades submitted in 34% of their sections. While 3,238 undergraduate students did not have a midterm grade reported in any of their classes this semester, it is assumed that may be an artifact of the constant availability of the Elearning grade book. A collegial request was made that all midterm grades be entered on GoWMU, based on the value grade play in advisors' efforts to help our students be successful through midterm. While students and instructors can see Elearning grade

books, student support staff cannot, so timely intervention is not possible if faculty do not enter midterm grades on GoWMU. Easy to follow instructions for exporting Elearning grades to GoWMU are available at: http://www.wmich.edu/sites/default/files/attachments/u1453/2017/ExportingFinalGradesToBanner_2017_Branded.pdf

- The Campus Planning and Finance Council has begun reviewing aspects of WMU budget model to develop an information session for presentation to the Senate that focuses on demystifying the mechanics underlying our current model and exploring its strengths and weaknesses.
- The Extended University Programs Council is currently in the process of selecting one outstanding University studies degree student to recommend for the Presidential Scholar award as well as recommending faculty to be recognized for their outstanding off campus/online endeavors.
- The Graduate Studies Council has begun to review graduate level curriculum proposals and identifying potential policy revisions to better support graduate student success.
- The International Education Council, in close collaboration with the Haenicke Institute for Global Education, is working on promoting comprehensive internationalization.
- The Research Policies Council is reviewing policies which clarify who can serve as Primary Investigator and Co-PI on grants and updates to the Intellectual Property Policy to reflect current WMU office names. It is also beginning a survey of research equipment and instrumentation on campus to evaluate needs and best use.
- The Committee to Oversee General Education plans to work with the *Ad Hoc* General Education Logistics Committee by leveraging COGE's expertise to assist in the developing of the policies and processes to facilitate effective implementation of the new curriculum.
- The Transfer of Credit Committee is working on clear definitions for transfer credit in order to help faculty make informed decisions on how to award credits for transfer students.
- As a point of college pride, President Ayers shared that the College of Education and Human Development had the highest number of faculty and staff in attendance at the Fall Convocation Teaching and Learning Bash, thus earning the Interim Provost's Student Engagement Award. <http://wmich.edu/sites/default/files/attachments/u370/2017/horsehead.jpg>

- *Remarks by Edward Montgomery, WMU President*

President Montgomery's remarks included the following:

- A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of former Board of Trustees Secretary Betty Kocher, who died today at the age of 84. She had served the University for 42 years, retiring two years ago.
- Transformational Initiatives Fund: over 40 proposals were submitted. Those will be analyzed and evaluated in anticipation of the awardees announcement by the beginning of 2018.
- Grants: \$25 million has been awarded to WMU in federal grants already this year compared to a total of \$27 million for all of last academic year. They include:

- Andrea Beach, Educational Leadership, Research, and Technology, and Charles Henderson, Director, Mallinson Institute, were awarded a National Science Foundation grant for \$900 thousand as part of their work in the Center for Research on Instructional Change in Postsecondary Education.
- Mary Ann Stark, Nursing, received \$2 million to work with future nurses and increase the number of underrepresented populations in the field of nursing.
- Provost Search: the search committee has been formed and charged. A search firm will assist the committee. The campus community will be invited to provide input to the position criteria. Final candidates will provide public presentations on campus following airport interviews.
- Vice President for Research Search: the final candidates were on campus this week. The search committee will provide recommendations to Montgomery next week. The search is expected to be concluded by the end of November.
- Recruitment for Fall: incoming freshman applications are up 20.6% and out-of-state applications are up 70%, with transfer applications up 30%.
- Faculty Accolades:
 - Michael Braun, Spanish, has been named the *Michigan World Language Association Barbara Ort Smith* awardee. He is the first WMU faculty member to receive this award.
 - Linda Borish, History, was invited to speak at Chengdu Sport University at China's 75th annual sports history conference.
 - Jennifer Machiorlatti, Communication, is one of 25 educators selected nationally to participate in the Television Academy Foundation's 2017 Faculty Seminar Program.
- Student Accolade:
 - Elizabeth Palmer, Geosciences Ph.D. student, is working as part of a California-based NASA-funded project examining ground ice on asteroids between Mars and Jupiter. Also, in late October she won first place in the Geological Society of America's best student geologic map competition.
- Boards Meeting: yesterday was the first ever meeting of the three WMU boards; Board of Trustees, Foundation Board, and Alumni Board. They came together to discuss ways to collaborate in support of WMU especially in the areas of ambassador support, enrollment and a capital campaign.

Discussion covered the following question and statement:

- Are there plans to publicize faculty achievements? Montgomery noted that the Points of Pride website is being updated and there are efforts to coordinate collecting such items for web publication.
- How many proposals will be awarded through the Transformational Initiative? Montgomery stated that over 40 proposals had been received but it is too early to tell how many will be funded. He anticipates that some will be funded this year and others maybe next year. An additional question was raised if some of the proposals could be grouped into like

ideas thus making them more impactful as a single proposal to receive funding. Montgomery indicated that is being considered.

Remarks by James Gilchrist, Vice Provost for Budget and Personnel

Vice Provost Gilchrist's remarks included the following:

- Distributed Computing Plan: every student pays an enrollment fee that includes a technology fee. Historically those monies were distributed to college deans who typically purchased desktop computers. Currently deans are being encouraged to purchase software or hardware that will enhance student learning. One example is a new software in the College of Health and Human Services that provides a virtual cadaver system. It allows students to work with a 3D image of a cadaver to do virtual dissections. Faculty were encouraged to work with college deans to come up with imaginative ways to spend this money in support of student learning.
- Haworth College of Business Dean Search: the search committee has selected four candidates that are scheduled for campus visits. For information and schedules visit:
<https://www.wmich.edu/news/2017/11/43604>
 - Timothy Greenlee, Miami University
 - Cathy DuBois, Kent State
 - Wesley Randall, University of North Texas
 - Satish Deshpande, Interim Dean, HCoB
- Faculty Activity Reporting System: 91.3% of faculty submitted their Professional Activity Report using FARS as of November 1. The success of the transition is credited to Dr. Fen Yu, director of Institutional Research and director of Data Management, and the implementation committee.
- Sabbatical Leave Review Schedule: the new WMU-AAUP Agreement includes a new schedule for sabbatical leave review. Under the new schedule, recommendations are due to the provost office as of December 16 and recommendations will go to the Board of Trustees in January.

Discussion covered the following questions and statements:

- Is there is a central location that lists all licensed software on campus? Gilchrist referred to Chief Information Officer Tom Wolf who stated there is not a master list, but if an issue is presented to the Office of Information Technology, it will make accommodations to put software in the two student computer labs they manage.
- What is the status of the Academic Affairs budget? Gilchrist noted that budget implementation has been delayed due to the WMU-AAUP negotiations and subsequent BOT budget approval.

ACTION ITEM

*Faculty Senate Vice President Special Election – Suzan Ayers,
Faculty Senate President*

One nominating petition was received from Dr. Sharon Carlson, University Libraries. A call for nominations from the floor did not yield any other nominations. The ballots will be mailed on November 6 and voting will be closed as of 5 p.m. on November 20.

INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Real Talk Diversity Series – Tiffany White, Director of Operations for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and

Jerrica Solomon, Interdisciplinary Health Services Student

The series is open to the campus and greater Kalamazoo community. Topics and activities are generated because of conversations on campus and around the region. Faculty are encouraged to bring classes to the sessions, which can accommodate 130 people. Testimonials from previous attendees and a PowerPoint presentation were provided. Additionally there is a student-centered, all-inclusive, equal access resource and lounge room named "Our Space" within the Office of Diversity and Inclusion that is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information visit:

www.wmich.edu/diversity/center/our-space

<http://wmich.edu/sites/default/files/attachments/u370/2017/RealTalk.11-2-17.pdf>

Ad Hoc General Education Logistics Committee Update – Mervyn Elliott, Chair Elliott commented on the hugely successful outcomes workshops, with 55 faculty participating on October 20 and 40 faculty on October 27. The next step will be to have a small committee review the rubrics for structural consistency. The rubrics will then go in front of the Logistics committee, the Executive Board, and finally be shared with the Senate for faculty feedback. The Logistics committee is beginning work on the program and procedures document.

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC CONCERNS

Discussion covered the following questions and statements:

- At a Senate meeting last spring, a faculty member shared concerns regarding the disparities for faculty when making accommodations for students with hearing loss versus students with vision loss. Ayers will direct the concern to Vice President Diane Anderson.
- The Lee Honors College course Study in the States program was described. These courses have previously been approved for general education on a contingency basis; however, due to the moratorium on new general education course, the newer courses in the program have not been allowed in general education. Ayers noted that the EB will review it at its next meeting, although it has been discussed previously and a decision was reached.
- It was questioned if WMU has any authority or control over the pricing of textbooks in the bookstore. There are concerns about the hundreds of dollars difference between the vendors pricing and other on-line competitor pricing. Ayers will direct this issue to Vice President Jan Van Der Kley.

ADJOURNMENT

The Senate will meet next on 7 December 2017, in the Bernhard Center, room 208-209. The meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Sue Brodasky and Suzanne Davenport, Faculty Senate Office