Faculty Senate President Richard Gershon called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

**PROCEDURAL ITEMS**

Acceptance of the Agenda

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

Approval of the Faculty Senate Executive Board Minutes – 22 February 2019

A motion was made by Jellies, seconded by Simpson, to approve the 22 February minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Land Acknowledgement Statement Project – Huntley and Sanchez

Huntley provided a handout, which defined the Land Acknowledgement Statement as a process by which individuals are prompted to consider the history of the space they currently inhabit. The suggested statement to be read at formal events or published in print materials states, “We would like to recognize that Western Michigan University is located on lands historically occupied by Ojibwe, Odawa, and Bodewadmi nations. Please take a moment to acknowledge and honor this ancestral land of the Tree Fires Confederacy, the sacred lands of all indigenous peoples and their continued presence.” Huntley stated that Candy McCorkle, Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion, has agreed to champion this proposal to the Board of Trustees. Huntley’s team is focusing on getting support across campus for the statement. She provided background on the project. The statement has been vetted through several faculty and committees, including the Office of the General Counsel. Sanchez confirmed the support of the Western Student Association and Huntley noted that she is working on getting support from the Graduate Student Association. She provided similar statements from other Michigan colleges. There was a question regarding a definition of formal events at which the statement would be required to be read aloud, and more definition of print materials. Discussion was held. It was asked if support has been garnered from President Edward Montgomery and/or the Board of Trustees, to which Huntley stated that both are aware of the project and are in discussion. When asked what would be the next steps for the Senate, it was stated that the Executive Board would draft a resolution based on the acceptance by the University President and Board of Trustees.

Strategic Resource Management Updates – Barkman, Cheatham, and Scarff

Gershon thanked the participants of the Strategic Resource Management project for their work. Barkman acknowledged that he had some misconceptions going into the process. He is still a little unclear how the rules will be applied. Scarff explained that the goal is to link strategic decisions with financial decisions. The next step is set up rules to incentivize strategic decisions making. Cheatham stated that the challenge was to keep the committee from getting too granular, and staying on topic. The rules had to be established based on the resources that the University currently has without telling units how to manage their services or how to allocate their budgets. Service units will not be charging revenue units for services. There will be service evaluations tied to service units’ production. Discussion was held.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

President's Update – Gershon

Gershon’s comments included the following:

- **Honorary Degree Committee:** the committee made its recommendation to the president. Gershon will be meeting with Presidential Chief of Staff Kahler Schuemann to revise the policy and process. Discussion was held.
- **Cooley Law School:** issues continue to persist. EB members asked to review the Cooley financial records in order to be able to provide comment at the administration dinner on April 9. Gershon will request those documents at his next meeting with President Montgomery. Discussion was held.
- **Senior Administration Review:** In conversation with Board of Trustees Jeffrey Rinvelt and James Bolger, it was asked that the Faculty Senate conduct a three-year review cycle to include the University President in the first year, the Provost in the second year, and all senior administrators in the third year. It was questioned if all faculty should review the University vice presidents. While the faculty currently review the Provost, who also serves as a Vice President for Academic Affairs, it was noted that it would be unadvisable for the Faculty Senate to review all vice presidents, but rather offer input to the President during his review of those positions.

Vice President’s Update – Hahn

Hahn’s comments included the following:

- **Provost Jennifer Bott Meeting:** topics will include the College of Arts and Sciences’ Liberal Education Curriculum.
- **Committee on University Strategic Planning:** the committee is scheduled to meet 1 April. It was questioned if the committee should meet, considering there has not been any activity of the administration on strategic planning. Brodasky was asked to cancel the upcoming meeting.
- **University Policy on Policies Committee:** concerns were expressed regarding policies that have been submitted to the committee that have not been through the Faculty Senate processes. Discussion was held.
- **Faculty Senate Restructuring Committee:** will be holding its first meeting today at 1 p.m.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee Membership – Ayers**

Ayers provided an update of the terms of service for each committee member. It was noted that an Ex Officio member from the EB will need to be appointed for the
summer. It was suggested that Ayers be appointed as a faculty representative for a one-year term. Brodasky was asked to contact Extended University Programs to determine a representative on the committee. A motion was made by Ayers, seconded by Abudayyeh, to appoint and affirm committee positions as indicated, effective May 9. Motion carried.

Visiting Scholars and Artists Program Committee Member Recommendation – Gershon

Gershon noted the handout includes nominations that the EB would recommend to the Provost for seats on the committee. It was confirmed that membership on the committee is low at this time. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Simpson, seconded by Kritzman, to postpone this item until the next meeting. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS, Cont.

Council Call for Nominations: Getting the Right People – Gershon

The nominations were reviewed. EB members will solicit nominations for vacant seats.

A motion was made by Simpson, seconded by Ayers, to postpone the remaining agenda items. Motion carried.

University-wide Learning Outcomes – Chase

Postponed.

Research Enterprise at WMU – Abudayyeh

Postponed.

Faculty Senate Appraisal of Senior Administrators – Gershon

Postponed.

Agenda Topics – 9 April Administration Dinner

- Cooley Law School
- University Engagement Survey
- Honorary Degree Policy and Procedures
- Liberal Education Curriculum
- Enrollment strategies

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee: Ayers provided a report via email prior to the meeting.

Graduate Studies Council: Postponed.

Undergraduate Studies Council: Postponed.


ADJOURNMENT

The Executive Board will meet next on 29 March 2019 – Bernhard Center, Faculty Dining Room from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Faculty Senate President Richard Gershon adjourned the meeting at 12:29 p.m.

Submitted by: Sue Brodasky, Faculty Senate Administrator