

**EXECUTIVE BOARD  
Minutes of 9 September 2022**

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Executive Board was called to order at 10:05 a.m. on 9 September 2022 via Webex video conferencing by Sarah Summy, president.

**Roll Call**

**Members in Attendance:** Lisa DeChano-Cook, Anthony DeFulio; Kieran Fogarty, Decker Hains, John Jellies, Kyle Jehnzen, William Rantz, Sarah Summy, Zeljka Vidic, Bret Wagner

**Guests:** Jayne Fraley-Burgett

**Recording Secretary:** Sue Brodasky, Administrator

**Quorum**

A quorum was present.

**Agenda**

Topics were added to the agenda regarding council and committee quorum and voting; Research Policies Council report; and Provost Search Committee Update.

It was moved by Jellies, seconded by DeChano-Cook, to accept the agenda as amended. The motion carried.

**Minutes**

It was moved by DeChano-Cook, seconded by Vidic, to approve the 26 August 2022 meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried.

**Reports of Officers**

President Summy asked for any topics to be sent to her for her meeting with WMU President Edward Montgomery next week.

President Summy provided a reminder regarding the liaison role about finding substitutes and guiding councils on the work of the charges. She added that anyone who attends the council meetings as a guest needs to be identified as such, and if the council recommends adding someone to the council roster it must be approved by the Executive Board.

President Summy reported that the upcoming WeTalk speaker series, sponsored by the Legislative Affairs office, begins on October 6. Discussion was held.

Vice President Rantz did not provide a report.

**Unfinished Business**

President Summy led the Faculty Senate Action planning reports. She reiterated the final version of the vision. It was confirmed that the vision and mission are in place as guidance to the Executive Board and will not be presented to the Senate. Discussion was held. It was moved by DeFulio, seconded by DeChano-Cook, to accept the vision as presented. The motion carried.

President Summy reiterated the final version of the mission. It was moved by DeChano-Cook, seconded by Fogarty, to accept the mission as presented. The motion carried.

Jellies reported via email on Action Plan Objective 1-Task 1: Revise General Principles of Curriculum Change appeals process. He provided specific examples and discussion was held. It was questioned if, when finalized, the procedures will need to be added to the policy via a Memorandum of Action. As they are procedures and supplemental to the policy it was suggested that an MOA would not be required, but it

could be produced as a MOA if the Executive Board determined it to be. President Summy asked the EB members to consider what action should be taken once this task was finalized.

Wagner joined the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

### **New Business**

Fraley-Burgett presented the Disability Services for Students new GoWMU faculty app. There is a soft rollout going on this fall with the complete change over in the spring. Fraley-Burgett is presenting this information at as many departments and meetings as she can to reach all faculty. Fraley-Burgett demonstrated the app live. It was suggested that she create a PowerPoint with screen shots rather than a live demonstration when she presents to the full Senate. Discussion was held.

Hains joined the meeting at 10:52 a.m.

### **Unfinished Business, Cont.**

DeChano-Cook noted that she had previously presented on Action Plan Objective 3-Task 4: Develop and implement Faculty Senate participation incentives. She reiterated that no incentives will be based on monetary rewards including payroll, equipment, etc. It was suggested that President Summy bring this topic to WMU President Edward Montgomery to inquire about the significance of service to the University.

Wagner reported on Action Plan Objective 1-Task 2: Revise General Principles of Curriculum Change. Hains and Wagner are suggesting the creation of a workgroup for this task to include a representative from the Registrar office, Interim Curriculum Manager, college advising staff, faculty member, as well as Directors DeChano-Cook, Hains, and Wagner. Discussion was held. It was suggested that Interim Curriculum Manager Nicolas Witschi provide a Curriculog presentation to the Executive Board. When asked Wagner stated that the workgroup would not be active prior to October of this year but will be expected to have completed the revisions by next fall.

All others Action Plan task reports postponed.

As a follow up from a question of quorum, voting, and abstentions at the Council/Committee Chair Training, Hains reported that the Faculty Senate reference material *American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure* defines counting votes on a motion as “unless otherwise specified, is a majority of the legal votes cast”, which exclude abstentions. An abstention does not count as a negative vote, or vote against a motion, but actually cedes the decision to a smaller group of voting members, i.e., those who are casting their legal vote. It was also confirmed that the vote is not a majority of the quorum. Discussion was held.

### **New Business, Cont.**

It was moved by Rantz, seconded by Hains, to appoint Carly Hagins to the Undergraduate Studies Council to fill the vacant Fine Arts seat. The motion carried.

### **University Committees**

DeChano-Cook provided the Employee Engagement Survey Committee report. The President's Cabinet is meeting individually with members of the survey committee.

Summy provided the Provost Search Committee report. The portal is open, and the committee members are reviewing candidate materials. Those to be interviewed will be selected by 22 September. The committee is on target for this position to start 1 January 2023.

### **Faculty Senate Councils and Committees**

DeFulio provided the Research Policies Council report via email. Discussion was held.

- The council was charged by Faculty Senate President Summy.
- Vice President for Research Remzi Seker introduced himself and emphasized use of external funds to support students as a priority. He believes that WMU can distinguish its research activity by having exceptional support for students and exceptional relationships with industry partners.

He also noted that the F&A rate for WMU is going up from 51% to 52%. Later he discussed the possibility of renaming the office (i.e., Office of Research and Innovation). He did not object but noted it would entail costs that may not be feasible. Lastly, he mentioned interest in tracking WMU internal research awards that have supported faculty securing external grants.

- Mark Hurwitz discussed FRACCA and appears to have things in good order. He expressed interest in the Senate supporting disseminating the messaging regarding FRACCA opportunities.
- In order to comply with terms of the AAUP contract, RPC needed to set amounts for the PPP&E and FRTF awards. There is substantial carryover funding thus the council chose to raise the limits for individual faculty from \$1,000 to \$2,000 for PPP&E and from \$1,600 to \$2,500 for FRTF the motion for those increases passed.

**Announcements**

None.

**Adjournment**

President Summy adjourned the meeting at 11:32 a.m. The next Executive Board meeting will be held on 23 September 2022 at 10 a.m. in room 3201 of Ellsworth Hall and via Webex.

**Approval**

Submitted by Sue Brodasky, Faculty Senate Administrator

Minutes were approved 23 September 2022.