

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE**

**UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COUNCIL
Tuesday, 11 March 2014, 3 p.m.
Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center**

Members present: K. Ackerson, A. Anderson, R. Aravamuthan, J. Atkin, K. Baldner, M. Cahill, L. Coons, K. Hillenbrand, D. Reinhold, D. Sachs, C. Tremblay, D. Walcott, G. Whitehurst

Absent without substitution: C. Koretsky, M. Kritzman, K. Walker

Guest: Jayne Fraley-Burgett, Director, Disability Services for Students

Also present: Jeanine Bartholomew, academic advising liaison; Betty Dennis, Extended University Programs

Procedural Items

Council Chair Ariel Anderson called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

Acceptance of Agenda

Ackerson moved acceptance of the agenda as amended, seconded by Tremblay. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Whitehurst moved approval of the minutes of 11 February 2014, seconded by Ackerson. Motion carried.

Action/Discussion Items

Disability Services for Students – Jayne Fraley-Burgett, Director

Fraley-Burgett addressed the council about what the office of Disability Services for Students does. It is the office that helps students that have any kind of academic barriers (or “disabilities”). To register with this office, students need documentation from some kind of medical professional. The office also helps faculty in accommodating these students. Fraley-Burgett then answered questions from council members.

*Draft Resolution on the Liberal Education and America’s Promise (LEAP)
States Initiative – David Reinhold Associate Provost
for Assessment and Undergraduate Studies*

Reinhold reviewed the LEAP States Initiative that he discussed with the council last month. He brought a resolution supporting WMU joining this initiative. That resolution is appended to these minutes. Aravamuthan moved endorsement of this resolution, seconded by Whitehurst. Motion carried.

*Transfer of Credit Committee Recommendation for Undergraduate
Catalog Regarding Credit for Experiential Learning – David Reinhold,
Committee Chair*

Reinhold brought a recommendation from the Transfer of Credit Committee that would change the Undergraduate Catalog to allow transfer students to get credit for experiential learning. A copy of that recommendation is appended to the minutes. Aravamuthan moved acceptance of this proposal to amend the current Undergraduate Catalog, seconded by Hillenbrand. Motion carried.

Academic Program Review and Planning

Baldner noted that the full Senate has never voted its support of the current Academic Program Review and Planning Process, and suggested the council might consider a motion urging the Senate Executive Board to schedule such a vote. Baldner agreed to draft a resolution expressing the council’s views on this issue. He will disseminate it to council members through email for input prior to next month’s meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kent Baldner

A Resolution to Support Western Michigan University Joining Other Institutions in the State of Michigan to Seek Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) State Designation from the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U)

Whereas, associate provosts at all fifteen public universities in the State of Michigan have begun exploring the AAC&U Leap State Initiative;

Whereas, Western Michigan University supports the basic philosophy and merits of a liberal education as articulated by the AAC&U;

Whereas, the value of higher education has come under fire in recent years;

Whereas, higher education institutions in the state have not effectively communicated to the public the benefit of a bachelor's degree;

Whereas, higher education institutions across the state can benefit from discussions across institutional boundaries of common concerns;

Whereas, Michigan institutions of higher education could benefit from the facilitated interaction and opportunities for collaboration with other LEAP states through the AAC&U;

Therefore Be It Resolved, that Western Michigan University formally accepts inclusion into the Michigan LEAP State Initiative and pledges participation in the process to establish Michigan as an AAC&U LEAP State.

Recommendation by the Transfer of Credit Committee for Changes in the *Undergraduate Catalog*

Current Catalog Wording on page 43 of the Undergraduate Catalog:

9. Students transferring from a two-year community or junior college must complete a minimum of one-half of the academic work required at an accredited four-year, degree-granting institution.

Proposed Wording:

9. Students transferring from a two-year community or junior college must complete a minimum of one-half of the academic work required at an accredited four-year, degree-granting institution. With the review and approval of each applicable WMU department, up to twelve hours of credit required from an accredited four-year institution may be awarded for work/experiential learning.