

Unit Communication Notes
Special Faculty Senate Meeting
February 2, 2017

Thanks to Director Sharon Carlson for her contribution to these notes

These notes are informal communications provided as a convenience for Senators and others to aid in their own communications in a timely manner. They are not intended as a substitute for meeting minutes and hold no more value, or standing, than an individual's recollection of events. The notes should not be republished, attributed or posted, and are intended to be used only to help Senators and others communicate with their constituencies in a timely fashion, in addition to a Senator's own recollections and notes. Information contained in these notes should be considered as provisional and conditional and subservient to eventual approval of formal minutes by the Senate.

Senate Executive Board Report (Suzan Ayers, Faculty Senate President)

-The Presidential Search website continues to be updated (<http://wmich.edu/presidentialsearch/>). Parker Executive Search reported continued positive response to the posting. Depth in the representation of historically under-represented groups is sought. Senators were reminded to nominate and recommend viable candidates and encourage colleagues to do the same.

-Two Board of Trustees members were sworn in for 8-year terms recently; Shani Penn and Ron Kitchens. They assume the seats previously held by Mary Asmonga-Knapp and Jim Hettinger, both of whose terms ended in December, 2016.

-Dean's Circles have been formed to provide feedback to the Ad Hoc General Education Design Committee. Feedback has been requested by February 13, 2017.

-Ayers met with the WSA and shared information on the progress for developing a general education curriculum

-An ad hoc committee to coordinate the development of General Education implementation suggestions for the administration is being seated. Some of the key areas involved will be the Registrar's Office, the Office of Assessment and Undergraduate Studies, Extended University Programs, Admissions, Advising, the University Assessment Steering Committee, and the Committee to Oversee General Education.

-A reminder of the procedural deadline for online-only submission of all new course change proposals (not program proposals) effective date of April 1, 2017 was provided.

-In accordance with revised MOA-14/03, the standing committee on Centers and Institutes has been formed and is seeking faculty participants. This group will be charged to create a non-curriculum process for proposals of new Centers & Institutes, develop a process for managing annual and five-year reporting, participate in the review process, and advise the Administration based on those reviews. If you are interested in this work, please contact the Senate office.

-Memorial for Dr. Mary Cain, Professor Emerita, Education and Professional Development by Dr. James Bosco, Professor Emeritus, Special Education and Literacy Studies

President Dunn Remarks

-President Trump's executive order. Affirmation of the comments shared in the letter to the community (<http://www.wmich.edu/president/statement-immigration-executive-order>) were provided. In addition, the e-mail sent by Wolfgang Schlör, Associate Provost for the Haenicke Institute for Global Education was

mentioned. That message provided information for our international students, scholars, and staff affected by this: WMU International office at Faunce Student Services (269) 387-5865 and the WMU Immigration Services website at (<https://www.wmich.edu/immigration>). Concerns included future international enrollments as well as our current and future [Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals](#) (DACA) students (immigration policy for undocumented students who came to America at a young age).

-Non-resident tuition. The Board of Trustees lowered this from 2.4x the in-state rate to 1.25. This will become effective Summer I, 2017. Graduate tuition rates are currently under discussion.

-Trustee Dana Debel resigned from the Board of Trustees and has been replaced with Lynn Chen-Zhang, chief operating officer of Zhang Financial Services in Kalamazoo. Chen-Zhang is also vice president of WMU's foundation. Western's Zhang Legacy Collection Center, which includes the university archives, is named for the family.

-Dunn recognized Michelle Kominz from Geosciences as a recently-elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

-Gregory Veeck from Geography was recognized for his role in hosting the Michigan Academy of Science, Arts and Letters conference on campus.

Provost Dr. Timothy Greene Remarks

- Associate Provost for the Haenicke Institute for Global Education search committee has been formed. Jane Blyth has been tapped as the Interim Associate Provost.

-spring enrollment numbers are down 2.1% and graduate enrollment is down slightly 0.3%. First-year retention goals from fall to spring fell short by two students.

-The "You Are Welcome Here" poster from the Haenicke Institute will be on billboards by the research park. To date, 600 have been distributed. Anyone wanting a poster for display may download it ([http://wmich.edu/sites/default/files/attachments/u823/2017/You%20Are%20Welcome%20Here WMU%202017.pdf](http://wmich.edu/sites/default/files/attachments/u823/2017/You%20Are%20Welcome%20Here%20WMU%202017.pdf)) or connect with Dr. Jane Blyth.

-Senate Vice President Bill Rantz suggested that flags from the seven countries identified in the immigration ban be flown from our flagpoles. The Provost will follow up on that possibility.

ACTION ITEMS

Faculty Senate Endorsement of President Dunn's comments following Trump's Executive Order

Past President Peter Krawutschke proposed this action, which was unanimously supported by the Senate

MOA-17/01: Naming of the Revised General Education Curriculum (Sarah Summy, Ad Hoc Committee General Education Design) NOT APPROVED Motion to defer the naming back to the committee APPROVED

MOA-16/03: Revised Undergraduate Program Dismissal Appeals Policy (Suzan Ayers, Executive Board) APPROVED

MOA-16/03: Revised Graduate Program Dismissal Appeals Policy (Suzan Ayers, Executive Board) APPROVED

INFORMATION ITEMS

Cooley Law School Update (Kevin Corder, WMU Liaison)

-Handout highlighting news and benefits was provided

(<https://wmich.edu/sites/default/files/attachments/u370/2017/CooleyLawSchoolUpdate.pdf>)

Ad Hoc General Education Design Committee (Mervyn Elliott & Molly Lynde-Recchia)

-Ayers reminded all that the faculty own the curriculum, so waiting for our next President is irrelevant

-Updated design based on campus feedback was shared:

(<https://wmich.edu/facultysenate/committees/adhocgeneddesigncmt>)

-Reminder of the resources available on Elearning in the discussion board

(<https://elearning.wmich.edu/d2l/home/258147>).

Professional and Academic Concerns

-Disability services understaffed and slow to respond; blind/low-vision students get more/faster attention on campus than deaf

-Concerns were expressed about the transition and removal of faculty web pages hosted on homepages.wmich.edu. This will require many faculty and staff to have new business cards printed, require much time to re-create new sites on other servers and/or face options since Google Sites does not support the uploading of files associated with most faculty homepages.

-student comment about parking for any lot with a single sticker vs current system and that parking should be included in tuition