

Unit Communication Notes
Faculty Senate Meeting
April 5, 2018

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

-Since the Faculty Senate last met, we have learned of the passing of:

- Dennis R. Corbin, senior associate athletic director for medical services.
- Laura G. Manis, associate professor emerita, university counseling and testing center.
- Diann J. Miller, assistant professor emerita, university counseling and testing center.
- Charles M. Woodliff, professor emeritus of instructional communication and former director of the Division of Academic Services

-The university is revamping TIAA investment options, and meetings will be held April 10 and 18 for all benefits-eligible faculty and staff to learn more.

-Memorandum of Action-18/01: WMU Essential Studies Learning Outcome Amendments has been signed and returned by the Administration.

-Mid-term grade entry: The College of Arts and Sciences was acknowledged for having the highest proportion of graduate and undergraduate mid-term grades entered (43%) of all colleges.

-Virtual Reality: The new Virtual Reality Lab in Waldo Library has begun offering workshops to help orient faculty, staff, and students to available technology and resources. <https://wmich.edu/vr/learning>

-Office of Faculty Development: 21st Century Activism and Social Justice in the Classroom workshop is being offered in the Teaching Inclusivity series April 20, 2018. <https://wmich.edu/facultydevelopment>

-The Western Student Association sponsored a contest to advertise the tobacco-free policy Public Service Announcement. The winning PSA, created by Austin Lee, an undergraduate in Film, Video, and Media Studies was shown. <https://youtu.be/qcgencZkGoU>

-A second request was made this week for faculty to participate in the survey to develop strategies for global engagement jointly sponsored by the Faculty Senate's International Education and Research Policies Councils: https://wmichcas.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dpB6bpELAYLmqVf

-A new Program Improvement form has been developed for processing all program changes. This process is the pre-cursor to move to an electronic program change process similar to the electronic course curriculum process currently in use. Please direct any questions regarding the form to the Faculty Senate office and questions about the processes to Associate Provost Dave Reinhold.

-President Ayers recognized the work of the Ad Hoc General Education Logistics Committee for the last year and thanked the committee members for their dedication and commitment to the process of planning the implementation of the newly revised WMU Essential Studies core curriculum:

Faculty Members:

- Mervyn Elliott, Aviation (Chair)
- Staci Perryman-Clark, English
- Elke Schoffers, Chemistry
- Sarah Summy, Special Education and Literacy Studies

Faculty Senate Executive Board:

- Jan Hahn
- Dennis Simpson

Appointed Administration:

- Carrie Cumming, Registrar
- Leigh Ford, Director of Communication (Vice Chair)
- Dave Reinhold, Associate Provost for Assessment and Undergraduate Studies
- Bill Warren, Chair of History

Advisory Members:

- Terrell Hodge, Mathematics
- Ed Martini, Associate Dean for Extended University Programs
- Sharon Van Dyken, Director of Advising for Aviation

Ayers also acknowledged the recommendations generated by the committee as including:

- MOA-18/01 (amendments to MOA-17/05)
- recommended WMU Essential Studies implementation timeline
- recommended course approval guidelines (MOA-18/02)
- recommended student requirements (MOA-18/03)
- recommended charges and membership categories for the requested WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee
- recommended WMU Essential Studies guidelines for required student learning outcomes by course category

Receipt of these recommendations automatically ended the work of this group, which will be forwarded verbatim to the newly created WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee, which will oversee, administer, assess, and revise the WMU Essential Studies curriculum in perpetuity.

-Faculty Senate President Elect Richard Gershon introduced himself and made brief comments.

President Edward Montgomery Remarks

Welcome to Senate President Elect Gershon, and thanked to Ayers for our strong shared governance relationship

Commencement: Montgomery thanked faculty for attending and participating in this important day

Student admit days: Applications are up but waiting for yield numbers

WMed Match Day

All 48 WMed students secured residencies at hospitals around the nation. WMed students will continue training at residency programs in 23 different states, including some of the top such programs in their fields. In addition, the WMU Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine announced acceptance of 60 residents from medical schools nationwide on Match Day. Those new residents include two new WMed graduates who will train here in the specialty areas of orthopedics and internal medicine. Based on

history, some of these 60 young residents, will stay here in Kalamazoo, open practices, and become part of our medical community.

South Neighborhood work to begin

April 12, 2018 students and other members of the campus community are invited to two brainstorming sessions with consulting firms and architects WMU has engaged to draw up a sub-campus master plan and design new campus housing and a student center. The first tangible signs of this project will begin in May with the demolition of the Elmwood Apartments to make way for new housing and to start what we want to see become a visually appealing main entry point to our campus and a connection to the downtown area along Stadium Drive. Ideas and input are welcome, so plan to be there at 4 or 6 p.m. in the Bernhard Center.

WMU footprint in Florida continues to grow

Recently the Florida Department of Education Commission for Independent Education approved a WMU request to make seven degree and certificate programs available to Florida students in addition to the existing aviation flight science program. Starting fall 2018, high-demand programs including engineering management, supply chain management, music therapy and aviation management will begin offerings in Punta Gorda.

Phi Beta Kappa 20th anniversary

The WMU year-end awards season includes a 20th anniversary celebration for the WMU chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the oldest and most prestigious academic honor society in the U.S. On April 10 some 80 top juniors and seniors will be inducted into the WMU chapter that is one of just four authorized at Michigan public universities.

Search news

Provost: will begin airport interviews the week of April 9.

Vice President for Marketing and Strategic Communication: airport interviews were held the week of April 1

Student Accolades

Gold Company vocal jazz ensemble won a competition in Monterey, which earned an invitation to perform in September at the 61st Annual Monterey Jazz Festival, what College of Fine Arts Dean Dan Guyette calls the Rose Bowl of the jazz world.

Competing against top students from 35 universities, two Western Michigan University sales and business marketing students placed at the University of Toledo Invitational Sales Competition. First year student **Ryan Demas** of Naperville, Illinois, and junior **Stacy Zoeller**, of Portage, represented WMU. Demas earned a first-place finish in the first-year and sophomore division. Zoeller took second in the junior division and was a mere one-one hundredth of a point from first place.

Faculty Accolades

Dr. Andrea Beach, professor of educational leadership, research and technology, has been named a fellow of the American Council on Education for the 2018-19 academic year. This year, ACE selected just 45 fellows nationally to lend their talents to universities beyond their home institutions, as well as build their own knowledge and skills.

Dr. Daniel Kujawski, professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering, was recently recognized as the force behind one of three technologies funded in the latest round of awards for a Michigan ADVANCE grant. Administered by Michigan State University and funded by the Michigan Strategic Fund and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, the ADVANCE Grant Proof of Concept Fund provides

an incentive for faculty with early stage technologies at Michigan public universities to engage with their university's technology transfer office to advance their technologies toward commercialization. Dr. Kujawski is an expert on stress and fatigue in industrial materials and is developing an interactive web-based fatigue analysis tool that will be useful to industry and university researchers.

Newly elected Western Student Association President Joe Sanchez was introduced.

Jody Brylinsky, Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness Remarks

Interim Provost Susan Stapleton was in Grand Rapids for a Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools meeting.

-Thanks to Logistics Committee for all its work this year

-Town Hall Meeting for staff updates:

- A new signature program is being developed for staff
- New policy implementation news shared from Human Resources
- Success@WMU is gearing up

-Directors of advising have been asked to encourage students to enroll in a minimum of 15 credit hours per semester. Research shows a positive impact on retention and student success with this level of coursework.

-Congratulations to the College of Arts and Sciences for winning the Engagement Award by submitting 43% of all possible (graduate and undergraduate) mid-term grades this semester.

-Congratulations to all Presidential Scholars and their mentors

-Lee Honors College Associate Dean Search: The short list will be announced soon and those final candidates will be making campus presentations the last two weeks of the semester

-Health and Human Services Dean Search: four candidates have been invited to campus over the next two weeks. A schedule of public presentations is available on the Provost website.

ACTION ITEMS

Bylaws Amendments (Suzan Ayers, Faculty Senate President)

The Executive Board proposed two amendments to Article VII: Committees, Sec. 1, of the Faculty Senate Bylaws. The first amendment is to add a standing committee to conduct the Centers and Institutes approval and review process on behalf of the Faculty Senate, as mandated in MOA-14/03: Revised Policy on Centers and Institutes. The second amendment is to add a standing committee to oversee the implementation, assessment, and revision of the WMU Essential Studies curriculum.

With the addition of both amendments, the article would then read:

Article VII: Committees, Sec. 1. *In addition to those committees named in Article VII, Part 2, Sec. 2, of the constitution, the following shall be standing committees of the Senate: Committee on University Strategic Planning, Faculty Retirement Recognition, Professional Concerns, ~~and~~ Libraries, ~~and~~ Centers and Institutes, and WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory.*

APPROVED

Memorandum of Action-18/02: WMU Essential Studies Course Approval Guidelines (Dennis Simpson, Faculty Senate Executive Board Director)

APPROVED

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INFORMATION ITEMS

Bookstore Organization of Textbooks (Rob Pennock, Director, Auxiliary Enterprises, Dennis Brooks, director of WMU bookstore, Mark Keefer from Follett)

The goal of bookstore operations is to find ways to improve and streamline their service. In that vein, fall 2017 saw a switch from course shelving to author shelving. Students can print out list of book alphabetically or on the phone. This approach to shelving eliminates confusion about out of stock books and those required for separate sections of the same course. Students have responded positively to this change. Fewer returns have occurred due to wrong book selected by students or staff. The bookstore will make placards indicating the professor and course for which the book is required.

Discussion covered the following questions and statements:

Q: Have faculty been considered in this effort. Faculty cannot review what other faculty are offering.

A: Students were provided the information and they have reacted well to it. If faculty want to see what other faculty are offering, the bookstore staff can print that type of list at the store or provided virtually.

Q: Suggested providing paperless options such as text or email instead of having students print the lists.

Q: Is there a price match policy, and how does it work?

A: Yes, the bookstore will match Amazon, Barnes and Noble, all major competitors. Students can provide the details of the lesser price and receive a gift card for the difference.

Q: Could there be a cross listing of the books?

A: Yes, the bookstore can provide the list that way.

Q: Is this change for convenience of the bookstore, or driven by student demand?

A: It is for student ease and to ensure the books are on the shelf.

Ad Hoc General Education Logistics Committee Final Update (Mervyn Elliott, Chair)

The committee has completed its charges and this work has laid the foundation for the work moving forward.

WMU's Department of Public Safety has been recognized as the number three university police force in the nation for its campus safety initiatives. Kudos and thank you to Chief Scott Merlo and his team.

Professional and Academic Concerns

Discussion covered the following questions and statements:

Q: The policy allowing only final exams to be scheduled in classrooms during final exam week has a negative side effect for certain student-centered activities. The example of final student presentations to which friends and family are invited (to create an audience of 60 to 80 people) on the Friday before graduation was highlighted.

A: Vice President Terry Curran will ask the registrar to offer flexible options.

Q: The Office of Information Technology policy related to network restrictions for security does not offer procedures for requesting exceptions.

A: Chief Information Officer Tom Wolf acknowledged there is not a procedure to grant this type of exception and he will look into that.

Q: OIT does not support more than 20 connected devices in classrooms.

A: Chief Information Officer Tom Wolf responded that is not a policy, but an informational practice. On average, it is possible to get only 20 devices working in a room with one access point. Additional access points can be requested and impacted departments can work with OIT for accommodations.

Q: The electronic curriculum process is not intuitive; is it possible to make tutorials?

A: Ayers indicated Director Bret Wagner is creating such tutorials.

Q: On February 8 other schools closed due to weather but WMU did not. If KVCC and public high schools are closed one particular faculty member has told students not to attend class.

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m. The Senate will next meet on May 10 in the College of Health and Human Services, room 4010.