

MINUTES

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

April 12, 1984

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order on Thursday, April 12, 1984 at 3:24 p.m. with Chair Richard Weigel presiding. A quorum was present.

Roll Call

Absent were:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Nancy Baird* | 12. Carl Kreisler |
| 2. Ray Biggerstaff* | 13. Steve Lile* |
| 3. Carolyn Boles* | 14. Richard Mason |
| 4. Randy Capps | 15. Mike Morgan |
| 5. William Cavin | 16. Rudy Prins* |
| 6. Thomas Cheatham* | 17. Mike Ramsey |
| 7. Dwight Cline | 18. Jerry Rust |
| 8. Charles Crume | 19. Ron Seeger* |
| 9. Dorsey Grice | 20. Keith Taylor* |
| 10. Margaret Howe | 21. Joe Uveges |
| 11. Tom Isherwood | |

*sent observer

Minutes

The minutes of March 15, 1984 were approved as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on University
Committees

On March 19 the Committee on University Committees sent to each dean and department head a list of all faculty in their respective colleges and the university committees on which each serves. It was suggested that the list might be helpful in considering future committee appointments. It was further suggested that since involvement on university committees increases commitment to the university, it would be desirable to spread the duties among as many different faculty members as possible. Copies of the lists have been sent to President Zacharias and the Vice-Presidents.

Faculty Status & Welfare

Senator Allan presented the Faculty Salary Survey for 1983-1984, which includes a survey by H.E.G.I.S. category disciplines at 21 institutions. Senator Allan noted that the explanations for some unusually high or low percentage raises at Western last year did not clearly reproduce on the copies distributed. She further called attention to the fact that the survey of salaries by rank and sex at 36 institutions is based upon 1982-83 salaries and hence cannot be compared to the other surveys which are based upon 1983-84 salaries.

Professional
Responsibilities and
Concerns

Senate Chair Weigel reported for Committee Chair Howe that a faculty concerns survey had been distributed to the faculty. Data from this survey will be processed and used by the committee in the next Senate.

The committee is also studying the responses of administrators to a survey of their attitudes toward the instrument being used to evaluate administrators.

Political Action

Senator Robe reported that the work of the committee has dropped dramatically as the legislature nears the end of its session.

On March 30, prior to the meeting of COSFL on March 31 at Kentucky State University, Senator Robe spent the evening at the State House talking about the proposed budget. He especially expressed concern about the five million dollar appropriation for capital construction in the community college system, an appropriation which Governor Collins has since vetoed. Senator Robe pointed out that newspaper accounts saying that all employees in higher education would receive raises of 2% were inaccurate. The total appropriation to the universities is increasing by only 1.5%.

COSFL, convinced of the need to become involved in the earlier stages of the political process, is preparing a series of position papers to be made available to all candidates for state office. On April 28, COSFL will meet to edit the papers, which will be distributed on the campus.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The constitutional amendment (to III C2) given first reading at the March meeting and relating to the schedule of Senate elections was read by Senator Jones who explained that the change from the requirement for election of departmental senators from the third week in February to during the month of February was designed to allow elections to be conducted at regular departmental meetings.

The second reading of the Jones/Uveges motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A Robe/Otto motion relating to the distribution of faculty salary increases was introduced:

It is moved that the Faculty Senate recommends that the new funds available for faculty salaries be distributed as an across the board percentage increase.

After considerable discussion, the motion carried 25-10.

FACULTY REGENT

Regent Miller praised the decision of COSFL to start its political activity earlier. Representative Richards is to appear at the College of Education auditorium on Monday, April 16. At the end of his appearance, there will be an

opportunity to ask questions. Regent Miller urged faculty to attend and "verbally attack" him for his lack of leadership on educational matters. She also indicated the following open letter to Representative Richards was being circulated on campus:

We wish to express our general disappointment in the actions of the 1984 General Assembly and our specific disappointment in Representative Richards, who chairs the House Education Committee. His failure to provide an alternative plan for financing education will create problems for our schools and our community. We have no quarrel with Representative Richards' words, only with his actions.

She encouraged everyone to sign it. Regent Miller expressed indignation at legislative priorities evidenced in the \$630,000 additional appropriation to Western during the first year of the coming biennium contrasted with an initial allotment of \$900,000 for the renovation of Freedom Hall.

Announcements

President Zacharias announced the visit of the Southern Association Accrediting Team, beginning Sunday evening, April 15, and urged every faculty member to cooperate with its members as requested. He noted that there were copies of the university self-study available in the library and urged faculty to take the time to read it.

The President further stated that guidelines for determining 1984-85 salaries for faculty and staff were being distributed to vice-presidents and deans.

The finished version of the new revision of promotion guidelines will be available soon. The Senate will have an opportunity to make comments before the guidelines are presented to the Board of Regents.

The President challenged the statement by Richard Wilson of the Courier-Journal that university presidents had spent more time dealing with the issue of the unnecessary duplication of programs than with getting higher salaries for faculty. The report, President Zacharias declared, was "totally inaccurate."

A major problem that we have to confront is the deep-rooted sentiment, inflamed by a variety of circumstances, that higher education does not need more money. This is a perception that cannot be changed overnight, but with effort and creativity it can ultimately be altered. Such activities as strategic planning can be a means of getting attention and developing awareness of what Western is doing and its students are achieving.

Chair Weigel announced:

1. That in accordance with the motion of March 15, the administrative evaluations of Spring 1978 and Spring 1980 have been placed under seal in the university archives.

2. That he sent a copy of the senate motion in support of the governor's education program to Governor Collins and received a reply.

3. That there will be an election of new officers at the meeting on April 24. Those who are interested should get in touch with him by April 16. All nominations will be made from the floor at the meeting, however.

4. That all committee chairs are requested to submit a report of their committee's activities during the past year, indicating what has been completed and what is still in progress.

Senator Jones urged all Senate members to make a careful check of the membership list and the committee list for possible errors. It is particularly important to see that the information regarding term of office is correct, she asserted.

Senator Otto noted that even though no university faculty salaries were to be raised in Wisconsin, that state has accumulated a surplus which is to be returned to the taxpayers.

Adjournment

An Updike/Trutty-Coohill motion to adjourn carried at 4:28 p.m.