

SENATE ANNOUNCES GOALS FOR COMING YEAR--Sue Bryant

The first meeting of Faculty Senate IV was held on September 11. It was highlighted by reports from the standing committees, as each committee chair reported on the goals of his or her committee for the coming year.

Senator Bill Leonard announced that the By-Laws, Amendments, and Elections Committee will be circulating a letter to all faculty members regarding the Faculty Regent election. The election will be delayed until mid-October in order to allow for the proper timing of announcements and nominations.

Senator Charles Henrickson reported that the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee will continue to oversee the Promotion and Tenure Policy (passed by the Senate last spring and currently being reviewed by the administration), salary surveys, and insurance benefits. Senator Henrickson has resigned as chair of this committee, and he called on the new chair, Senator Dale Wicklander, to report that the study of data obtained from the questionnaire project on equity in policies and procedures on prior experience credit for employment, promotion and tenure is continuing.

The Institutional Goals and Planning Committee chair, Senator Robert Blann, defined their goals for the coming year as monitoring long range plans of the Council on Higher Education, preparing guidelines for the Senate Chair's use in his work with the committee on honorary degrees, and identifying the need for endowed chairs at Western: a report on the latter will be submitted to the Director of Development.

The Committee on University Committees will continue to make recommendations of persons to serve on committees when requested by the President to do so. In addition, Senator Craig Taylor reported, they want to study the relation of committee service to salary, promotion, and tenure, and the equitable distribution of all faculty on committees, particularly if committee service is a criterion for advancement. They also plan to encourage the appointment of new faculty members to committees to bring an "outside" perspective.

Four other committee chairs reported to the Senate: Joe Glaser of the Academic Affairs Committee, Joanne Powell of the Professional Responsibilities and Concerns Committee, Richard Cantrell of the Fiscal Affairs Committee, and Pauline Jones of the Communications Committee. Their reports were essentially the same as appear elsewhere in this "Newsletter" and will not be summarized here.

Following the committee reports, Vice-chair Pat Bowen presented two recommendations from the Executive Committee. The first recommendation was that the 1978 administrator evaluation, which the Faculty Senate still has in its possession, be destroyed. A motion to that effect was made, but after much discussion ensued regarding the historical value of the document versus the promise of confidentiality, the matter was postponed until the next Senate meeting.

The second recommendation was to nominate Senator Ron Veenker as a voting representative to the Congress of Senate Faculty Leaders, Senator Bill

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Davis as first alternate, and to receive nominations from the floor for the second alternate. Mary Crisp was nominated for second alternate and all three candidates were elected by acclamation.

Senator Ron Seeger presented two resolutions -- both printed in full below -- both passed unanimously.

Regent Bill Buckman and COSFL Chair Tom Jones reported to the Senate on recent activities of the Faculty Advisory Committee to the Council on Higher Education and of COSFL.

RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SEPTEMBER 11 MEETING

Senator Ron Seeger presented the following resolutions which were passed unanimously:

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of Western Kentucky University commends the President and other involved administration officials for accomplishing the reduction in projected expenditures necessitated by the loss of state funds without reductions of faculty salaries.

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of Western Kentucky University expresses great concern to the Governor and others involved with the state government over the great loss of funds to higher education recently suffered. We further ask for restoration of these funds if in any way possible.

A motion, based upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, that the 1978 administrative evaluation, which remains in the Senate's possession, be destroyed, was tabled definitely until the October Senate meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR--Don W. Bailey

I would like to see Senate IV be an organization which serves the true needs of the faculty and university. From the practical standpoint this suggests a lot of work for individual senators and for committees. Generally, faculty members are quite willing to work on projects which they consider to be needful and therefore of value. One of the pitfalls inherent in organization work is the drive to be doing something all the time, even if it means conducting studies in an attempt to answer questions nobody is asking. I hope Senate IV will be remembered as the Senate which answered significant questions and thereby elevated the status of the academic professions and the university as a whole.

A NOTE FROM COSFL

The Congress of Senate Faculty Leaders met at Western on July 12, shortly after the Governor had made changes, including removal of the university presidents, in the Council of Higher Education. In reaction to those changes, the group passed several resolutions which were subsequently forwarded to the Governor and the Council on Higher Education.

A NOTE FROM COSFL

The first resolutions read as follows:

The COSFL expresses dismay that no faculty member was appointed to the CHE at a time when a student was appointed. A faculty member on the CHE would substantially improve the information to the CHE and the people of Kentucky would be better served by a point of view from a uniquely faculty perspective.

It should be recognized, further, that University presidents may provide significant information to the CHE.

Therefore, the COSFL recommends that a faculty member be placed on the CHE and the University presidents have a continued and formal means for advising the CHE directly.

A second resolution also addressed faculty representation:

Until such time as a faculty appointment is made to the CHE, the COSFL recommends that the Council regularly place on its agenda a report from the Faculty Advisory Committee to the Executive Director of the CHE.

A third resolution addressed apparent moves toward a superboard:

The COSFL recognizes the value of the division of authority between the CHE and the boards of regents and trustees at the public Universities of the Commonwealth and recommends that this shared authority be maintained. Each University should have primary authority for determining its academic policies. Due to the unique character of the individual institutions, excessive centralization may lead to inefficiencies which would be detrimental to higher education in Kentucky.

COSFL held its first meeting of the fall at Kentucky State University on September 13. At that meeting, which will be reported in the October "Newsletter," the group was scheduled to discuss recent apparent attacks on Kentucky higher education and to respond to them.

RECOMMENDED READING

An article by COSFL Chair Tom Jones appeared in the Sunday, September 14, edition of the Courier-Journal, in the editorial ("Outlook") section. It is a strong defense of higher education, entitled "Higher Education in Kentucky: An Explanation and Optimistic Assessment of It." The Communications Committee commends Mr. Jones and recommends the article as refreshing reading.

A NOTE FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE--Pauline Jones

The Faculty Senate "Newsletter" has received a positive response from the faculty in the past; we hope that it will this year as well. We will continue to report each Senate meeting and the activities of the Congress of Senate Faculty Leaders, and to have occasional articles on various subjects of interest to the university community. In addition, we plan this year to give fuller coverage to the resolutions

A NOTE FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

and reports which come before the Senate, printing summaries - at least - of each one. Two new features which will run regularly start with this issue: the column called "Committee Reports" will consist of brief reports by standing committee chairs of on-going Senate committee work; "If I ran the Hill. . ." replaces last year's "Questions I've Always Wanted to Ask." We think it will provide a more positive approach to some of the problems we encounter in the daily life of the university, and we solicit your contributions to it.

We also solicit your suggestions for making this year's "Newsletter" as informative as possible, and your criticisms when we fail. Tell any member of the committee what you think; we are Don Bailey (Biology), Pat Bowen (Library), Sue Bryant (Nursing), Bob Martin (Foreign Languages), Mahmoud Salem (Marketing and Management), Norm Tomazic (Industrial Arts Education), Pauline Jones (English). If you want to put it in writing, send it to Pauline Jones.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs -- The Academic Affairs Committee will be meeting monthly throughout the year to pursue two continuing projects--a report on grade distribution and trends, and a study of program accreditation. Among the new topics the committee plans to discuss are policies and procedures for granting credit by examination, by extension study, or by correspondence; the ways in which printing deadlines are set for official university publications and the effect these deadlines have on program changes; and the impact a revised set of requirements for teacher certification may have on academic life at Western. We would be happy to receive any information anyone has to offer on these matters, and we solicit any other academic concerns that we should be aware of. Anyone with information or suggestions to offer should contact one of the committee members: Jim Bingham, Pat Bowen, Marvin Albin, Joe Glaser, Jeff Crisp, or Norma Schira.

--Joe Glaser, Chair

Fiscal Affairs -- A substantial responsibility of the Fiscal Affairs Committee is to examine the University's response to a financial exigency. Since such an exigency now exists, the primary focus of the FAC will be the monitoring of the responses made by budgetary units within the University to the revenue reduction.

--Richard Cantrell, Chair

Professional Responsibilities and Concerns -- The PRC Committee has undertaken the study of the forms and procedures used by department heads in the evaluation of faculty. There is some interest in having, and/or desire to have, written criteria used in evaluation for promotion or tenure. There is no plan to seek one set of criteria to be used across the University, but rather to identify what is used departmentally (currently written criteria exist for only one department).

--Joanne Powell, Chair

All Senate meetings are open, and faculty members are urged to attend as guests. The usual meeting date is the second Thursday of each month, though there will be variations from that schedule in the spring. Below is a list of Senate meeting dates and places; all meetings begin at 3:10.

FALL SEMESTER MEETINGS (1980)

1) Sept. 11	Garrett Ballroom
2) Oct. 9	Garrett Ballroom
3) Nov. 13	Garrett Ballroom
4) Dec. 11	Garrett Ballroom

SPRING SEMESTER MEETINGS (1981)

1) Jan. 15	Garrett Ballroom
2) Feb. 12	Garrett Ballroom
3) Mar. 5 (1st Thursday)	Garrett--rooms 202,203,204
4) Apr. 2 (1st Thursday)	Garrett--rooms 202,203,204
5) Apr. 30 (5th Thursday)	(uncertain at this time)

Garrett Conference Center Ballroom is also reserved for May 7, 1981 in the event year-end business is not concluded on April 30.

The Council of Committee Chairs, made up of the chairs of the Senate standing committees, and the Executive Committee will meet bi-weekly on Wednesdays -- both groups at 3:00, the Executive Committee alone at approximately 4:00. The schedule for these meetings follows.

Sept. 3, 1980	Jan. 21, 1981
Sept. 17, 1980	Feb. 4, 1981
Oct. 1, 1980	Feb. 25, 1981
Oct. 15, 1980	Mar. 18, 1981
Nov. 5, 1980	Mar. 25, 1981
Nov. 19, 1980	Apr. 8, 1981
Dec. 3, 1980	Apr. 22, 1981
Jan. 12, 1981	May 6, 1981

Individual committees meet at the mutual convenience of their members; their schedules may be obtained from committee chairs.

INTRODUCING A NEW FEATURE

The "Newsletter" offers a column this year called "If I Ran the Hill." It is intended to encourage the expression and to provide for the circulation of your ideas for the improvement of our university. We are of course indeed in charge, each of a part of WKU, and often too work in committees for the good of the whole of these parts. Still there might be ideas that deserve wider exposure and consideration than in only one area or committee. Consider the following as examples.

IF I RAN THE HILL -- I would try to find additional parking spots like the two behind the Science and Technology Hall which were made by painting over an obsolete yellow zone. (And to whoever achieved that -- thanks!)

IF I RAN THE HILL -- I would eliminate use of computer labels, letterhead stationery, and postage on communications to the faculty that could go through departments.

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NEWSLETTER

communications committee

FACULTY SENATE



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