

CAMPAIGN STATEMENTS OF CANDIDATES FOR
THE OFFICE OF FACULTY REGENT

Randall Capps

The faculty deserve a strong and clear voice on the Board of Regents. The faculty Regent is the one person who provides the faculty perspective and understands fully the faculty concerns.

The formal channel of communication through the layers of bureaucracy is not always sufficient to provide adequate information to board members about faculty concerns. As Faculty Regent I would like to provide an alternate channel to the formal structure.

Pressing concerns at Western include the need for higher salaries, declining enrollment, a fair system of evaluation of everyone, careful assessment of the allocation of university resources, and a fair system of promotion and tenure. Certainly these are not the only significant issues and others will surface. As Faculty Regent, I would rely heavily on other members of the faculty to help me identify and solve our common problems.

Friends who have known me well through the years are aware of my commitment to classroom teaching. Once I encouraged a friend to consider accepting an appointment as department head by saying that this position, perhaps more than any other administrative appointment, allows one to support the teaching function in many ways. That was my philosophy while I served as department head and because I understand problems facing teachers I could represent their viewpoint with board members.

In recent months I have had the opportunity to work with the American Council on Education on a major research project. That experience has given me first-hand exposure to issues currently facing higher education. This insight will be valuable to me in working with the Western Kentucky University Regents.

I sincerely enjoy listening to colleagues' concerns and would be pleased to represent those concerns to the board. The Faculty Regent cannot speak for the faculty without listening to them.

Joan L. Krenzin

As an officer in the Faculty Senate for five of its six years of existence and as a member of the Academic Council for a number of years, I believe I have gained a reasonable understanding of faculty concerns and views. I believe it is the duty of the Faculty Regent to see that those views are understood by other members of the Board of Regents.

During the last seven years I have probably missed no more than three meetings of the Board of Regents, and for the last three years I have attended all committee meetings of the Board. During the breaks between meetings I have had a number of opportunities to discuss faculty views with Board members. I believe I already have established working relations with a number of Board members, and I feel this could help me to work more effectively on the Board. Most of the real activity of the Board is carried on behind the scenes, and I would not have to spend the normal amount of time establishing my credibility with Board members.

If elected, I would plan to attend meetings of both the Faculty Senate and the Academic Council, work with an advisory committee, and attempt to converse regularly with members of the faculty in all five colleges.

Mary Ellen Miller

The major concern of Western (and of all universities) should be to provide its students with a quality education. It takes money, lots of money, to do that. None of us went into education to get rich; nevertheless, equitable faculty salaries should be one of the major concerns of the faculty regent.

Additionally, your faculty regent should concern herself with issues such as the following:

- Inequities in our current promotion policy
- Projected declining enrollment
- Education in Kentucky at all levels.

I know there are many other areas of concern, but in this short space I can touch on only a few.

If elected regent, I will:

- Establish a channel through which faculty can communicate individual concerns directly to me (a rotating advisory committee that would represent all colleges).
- Establish a procedure that will enable me to call on the specific expertise of faculty for relevant issues facing the Board.

For twenty years (my time at Western), I have carefully followed Board proceedings and have attended meetings regularly for most of that time. I feel that my service on the Faculty Regent's Advisory Committee, Academic Council, Faculty Senate, and many other university, college, and departmental task forces and committees qualifies me for this important leadership role.

The faculty regent should represent ALL faculty--not one department, not one college. This, I would like very much to do.

Earl Pearson

I know of no better opportunity for shaping University policies than service on the Board of Regents. That is why I am seeking your support in this election, I am aware that many of you do not know me personally and I will make no effort here to list accomplishments. Instead, I will tell you what I feel are more important considerations.

I will organize a new advisory committee consisting of: 1. two members elected from Dr. Buckman's committee, 2. the members of the Council of Committee Chairs of the Faculty Senate, 3. members from Continuing Education and Extended

Campus Programs. I hope Dr. Buckman will also be willing to consult. This committee will allow for continuity, contain members who were elected by the faculty and represent the growing number of part-time and off-campus students. I will also meet informally (Faculty House) with those who wish to express concerns and will maintain a published telephone office hour to hear opinions and schedule appointments.

The change to formula funding and the components of future formulas (especially student credit hours) will determine the level of support available for salaries. I certainly support any effort to increase salaries and resist efforts to remove money from salaries including elimination of faculty positions. The Board of Regents at Western and the other universities may exert an influence on the state legislature to support a continuation budget. Without increasing the cost to the state, a continuation budget base will increase the per pupil state support during the years that the student-age population is decreasing.

Concerning the subsidy of the football program, I would also have opposed the recent action of the Board, not because I am opposed to some limited subsidy of the athletic program, but because these changes will not improve attendance or increase revenue. I am sure many alumni are reminded of the good experience they had at Western through exposure gained by the appearance of Western's various teams on TV. We should not have turned down the NCAA bid for the women's basketball team without looking for support from alumni and local business sponsors, asking ASG to assist in fund raising and taking another look at the budget.

In dealing with constantly shrinking budgets, with poor statewide and community support for higher education, and with changing program needs, let us not lose sight of the good classroom teacher who expends himself/herself transforming the students we are able to attract to Western into educated professionals. Under the guise of program reorganization, improving productivity, encouraging research and publication, attracting outside funding for research (all worthy goals), let us remember the good teachers we had and see that University policies recognize and reward the qualities we respected in them as we pass through these trying years. When we look back on these years from better times, and I am convinced better times are ahead, I hope we can point to our "weathering the storm" with pride that pain was minimized for all and extra burdens were shared by all.

I am willing to discuss these or other issues with you if you call me at 3457. I hope you will give me the honor and privilege of serving as your representative on the Board of Regents.

Harry Robe

During the years ahead we are going to need strong and representative faculty leadership if we are going to achieve our potential as a mature University. We are going to continue to face budget restrictions and unless we can be creative and flexible we are going to face dramatic declines in enrollment.

The very heart of a university is its faculty. In the years ahead we must find ways of involving and utilizing faculty in the search for creative solutions to our problems. We have made significant gains in faculty involvement, but one response to organizational stress is to "tighten up" and reconsolidate central control. As

a Regent, I would do all within the scope of the office to continue the trend toward more faculty access and participation in the governance process.

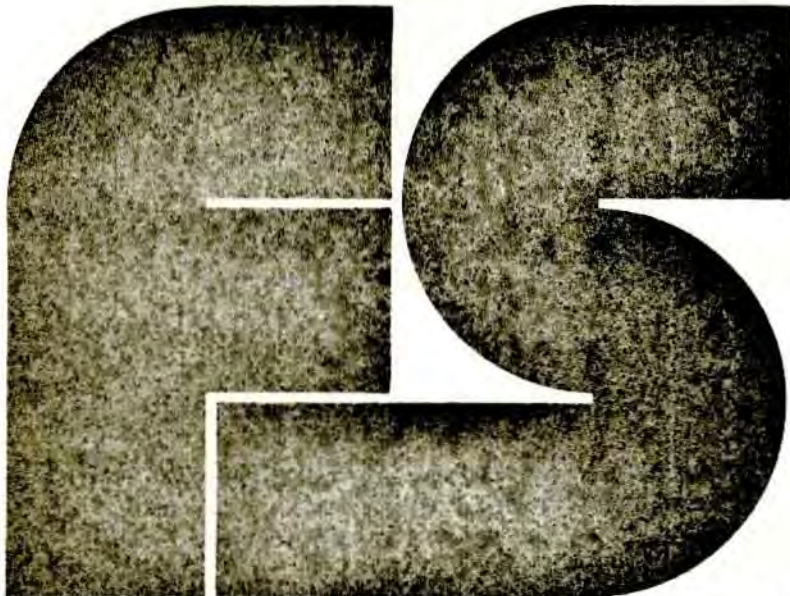
We also need to further develop evaluation, recognition, reward and faculty support systems that reflect the diversity of our faculty. We are a community of scholars who express our scholarship through our teaching, advisement, craftsmanship, artistic production, professional practice, service to students, service to the community, experimentation, invention, research, writing and publication. All of these roles must be valued and rewarded.

In all of our responses to the stresses of the moment we must always remind ourselves that our mission is to serve our students. We do need to explore better ways of recruiting both the traditional and nontraditional students who would choose to attend Western, but we also need to maintain high standards for our programs. Input from the teaching faculty is needed if we are to develop the advisement, counseling and the other support systems which will reduce our appallingly high attrition rate. We have adopted a realistic set of admission standards. We must now develop systems which support all of our admitted students at all levels of ability across a full range of academic interests.

I believe that I have the skills, abilities and experiences which will allow me to serve you as a Regent. I would serve you as both an advocate and a representative. To carry out my responsibilities I would form a representative advisory group and contact the specific groups of faculty who would be affected by actions which come before the Board.

Faculty Regent Election Issue

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FACULTY SENATE
communications committee
NEWSLETTER