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MINUTES

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE X

February 12, 1987

Call to Order

Chair Murphy called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m.

Roll Call

The following senators were absent without observers:

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| Robert Baum | Carl Kell |
| Barry Brunson | Edward Martin |
| Larry Caillouet | Faye Robinson |
| | Alan Smothers |

Announcements

ASG Chairman of Faculty Relations, Kent Groemling, announced to the Senate that faculty will be guests of honor at a breakfast on Tuesday in the Faculty House, and on Wednesday in the Downing University Center from 7:30-10 a.m. each day. Letters of invitation have been sent to department heads who are to spread the word to faculty.

Groemling also announced that ASG is conducting a survey on faculty opinions of a five-day Thanksgiving break, or some kind of mid-term break in the fall, to give a general opinion to the Academic Council on the issue. No names need to be given on the survey.

Chair Murphy read a letter of resignation from past-president Eugene Evans, who is now the faculty regent. Replacing Evans as a representative from the Department of Management and Marketing is Robert Reber.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee

The first Tom Jones Symposium on Faculty Governance will be Wednesday, Feb. 25, in DUC 305. A noon luncheon also is being planned. The program, which starts at 1:30 p.m., will feature Stephanie Maloney, Dept. of Art at the University of Louisville; Lew Wallace, Dept. of History and Geography at Northern Kentucky University, and Lowell Harrison, WKU professor of history. Chair Fred Murphy will be moderator.

By-Laws, Amendments, and Election Committee

Nancy Baird announced that about half of the departments on campus will be electing senators this month. At-large ballots will be distributed to departments the first week in March.

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
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Committee on Committees

Rich Weigel announced that surveys will be sent to department senators in the next few weeks. The surveys, to go to all faculty, will be used to obtain the following information:

1. What committees are faculty now members of?
2. What are the areas of interest or expertise relating to committee work faculty might do?

New business

Rich Weigel moved, and Chuck Crume seconded, the following motion:

The Faculty Senate expresses its appreciation for the time, effort, and dedicated service provided by Mary Ellen Miller as Faculty Regent and by Gene Evans as Senate Chair and extends its best wishes to them in their future endeavors.

The Senate approved the motion with a standing ovation, and Regent Evans and former Regent Miller were presented with certificates of appreciation.

Regent election changes

Nancy Baird of the By Laws Committee said the committee has proposed guidelines to streamline the regent election procedures. The main points of change are:

Elections shall be held on one day instead of two.

The first balloting and the run-off election will be held in the same location.

Absentee ballots will be easier to obtain.

A motion to approve these changes was made by Senator Baird and seconded by Senator Rose Davis. With no discussion, the changes were approved unanimously.

Department heads to chairs

Linda Allen, chair of the Institutional Goals and Planning Committee, presented the results of the committee's study of the report from the Ad Hoc Committee to Study Departmental Governance to change from a department head to a department chair system at WKU.

Sen. Allen said there needs to be some clarification in the Ad Hoc Committee's report, e.g. who will decide on an external appointment, and what will faculty input in such an appointment be?

She called attention to the committee's concerns with Section 8 of the report:

- How will college discussions be initiated?
- How will the pay scale be determined?
- What legal action might result from this change?
- Will the faculty vote on the concept of the change, or on this report?

With these concerns in mind, Sen. Allen moved that the Senate endorse the Ad Hoc Committee report. Sen. Paul Campbell seconded.

The Senate then heard from Lowell Harrison, Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee. Prof. Harrison explained that the committee was appointed in May of 1986. All undergraduate colleges were represented on the committee, which included three department heads. John Peterson, Associated Vice President for Academic Affairs, participated fully in the deliberations. Prof. Harrison said the report was given to Vice President Robert Haynes in November.

Prof. Harrison noted four points:

- A number of departments already operate under a system similar to having a chair
- There still will be some problems with a new chair system
- The chair approach will call for more faculty involvement
- Further discussion of the report and its possible adoption does not lie within the committee's purview.

He said the committee made the assumption that a department would always begin by looking at internal candidates. If no one was available, for various reasons, the search then would go off campus. The committee thought the faculty needed to be involved in the review and final selection. The final candidate would need approval within the department.

Discussion centered around if the Senate's vote would be to endorse the concept of having a chair system, or endorse the Ad Hoc Committee's report. Chair Murphy said that specific changes to the report could be made at the second reading at the March Senate meeting.

In other business, Sen. Crume moved, and Sen. Little seconded, that the minutes incorporate the response of Sen. Bob Otto to an item which appeared in the Senate Newsletter of Jan. 4. The response reads as follows:

The following response is presented to clarify a misconception presented at the bottom of page one in the newsletter of Jan. 11, regarding subject matter course content for education majors:

- a. Secondary education majors must complete departmental major and minor requirements equal to or greater than liberal arts majors in those academic departments.

- b. A GPA of 2.5 in the major/minor/education and overall is required, not a 2.0 as per university graduation requirement.
- c. Of the total credits toward graduation, 20% are required in education consisting of:

- 15 hrs. secondary education courses
- 3 hrs. psychology
- 10 hrs. student teaching

28 hrs. total education

- d. Therefore, education majors take a small percentage of course work in education and the equivalent course work in subject matter as any liberal arts major.

The motion passed.

Sen. Rose Davis moved for adjournment.

The next Senate meeting will be on Thursday, March 19.