

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
September 8, 1988
Regents Board Room
3:20 p.m.

Senator Murphy called the meeting to order. Absent without observers were: Reza Ashan, Karlene Ball, Robert Baum, Georg Bluhm, Chuck Crume, John Faine, Terry Leeper, Alton Little, Edward T. Martin, James Martin, David Shull, Doris Thayer, and Bob Tinsley.
Minutes were approved as presented.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- Senator Murphy reported on the Summer work of the Executive Committee, which,
 1. Worked out with President Alexander the wording of the Head vs. the Chair: but still is hanging fire. We'll have to work on that this year.
 2. Sifted through and collated the recommendations submitted by the faculty as those qualifications most desired in the new President. These were submitted to the Faculty Senate, the Board of Regents and the Advisory Committee. All went well.
 3. Had Senator Murphy meeting with each Senate Committee to elect a chair of each committee, and to hear their reports.
 4. Sees a good year ahead. The new President offers optimism for the new year.
 5. Encourages that areas of faculty concern be met. That is the only reason for the Senate. Encourage those you represent to voice their concerns, and let the Executive Committee know of those, so that the proper committee may address them.
 6. Three Senate vacancies need to be filled.

BY- LAWS, AMENDMENTS:

Chair Rose Davis reported that three at large vacancies need to be filled: 1 in Education, 2 in Ogden. The goal is to have a complete roster by the next Senate.

FACULTY STATUS AND WELFARE:

- Senator Bart White reported that a resolution will be presented concerning health insurance. He further stated these issues were before the FSW:
 1. The sick leave policy.
 2. The Salary Surveys: a 1984 - 85 survey was distributed (see handouts) which compared WKU with 9 Benchmark institutions.
 3. The Health Insurance problem.

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND CONCERNS:

Senator Jim Wesolowski is the new Chair.
No report was given, but the Senator assured the Senate

that they are open for business.

INSTITUTIONAL GOALS AND PLANNING:

Senator K. Ball is the Chair. Senator Krenzin remarked on the Support Services Survey for Research. The committee plans to meet with those in charge of the services addressed by the survey. Let Senator Ball know if you are interested in attending any of these smaller groups as they meet with persons responsible for specific services. The committee will continue to glean positive results from the survey.

FISCAL AFFAIRS:

Only one person attended the last meeting, therefore, the committee is temporarily in abeyance.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS:

Senator Ed Dorman, Chair. The newsletter will report on Senate meetings. The committee encourages Senators to stand and speak up as they address the Senate. The committee is actively seeking suggestions/articles. However, any anonymous communications will not be read or published. If an article is submitted, you may mark it "print in full or not at all,"

AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON SENATE CONSTITUTION:

Paul Campbell, Chair. The committee has not met yet, but is gathering constitutions from the State, sister institutions and from Mississippi State.

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES:

Senator Murphy asked this committee to remain after the Senate meeting to caucus for the chair.

FACULTY REGENT'S REPORT:

Senator Evans commended the faculty advisory committee for their labors; their counsels were invaluable.

The Board of Regents will consider WKU's direction. Faculty comments were invited to be sent to the Board to develop a real working partnership. Ideas will be appreciated and considered by the Board.

Senator Murphy read a letter of thanks for Senator Evans' work in the selection of our new President. An enthusiastic applause followed.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion to accept the insurance resolution on 1st reading

was presented. The motion was seconded and adopted.

A motion to suspend the rules to accept this motion on first reading was seconded. After discussion, the motion passed.

After much discussion and amending, the following motion was presented and seconded. (See handout of original motion.)

The 1988 - 89 academic year health care/medical costs for Western faculty/staff have increased approximately 70% over the previous year, resulting in considerable out-of-pocket expense for many university employees. Although Western pays \$95 per month per employee to Blue Cross/Blue Shield, family plans are an extra expense. Such an increase was a decision made by the carrier Blue Cross/Blue Shield, without Faculty Senate representation on the University Insurance Committee.

The Faculty Senate recommends that:

- 1) A member of the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee serve as a regular voting member of the University Insurance Committee.
- 2) Before any changes are made by the university health insurance carrier, an open meeting for the purpose of insurance review be scheduled prior to the time the health/medical contract is finalized.

WELCOME TO THE PRESIDENT

Senator Murphy welcomed the new President. President Meredith spoke for a few minutes and said that he was delighted to be here. He plans to visit the faculty in their departments. He anticipates a fine working relationship with the Faculty Senate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Both senator Murphy and the President reminded the Senators of the formula fund meeting on September 20, Regent's Room at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.