

Apr. 12, 1990

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES  
April 12, 1990

The meeting was called to order by the chair at 3:30 p.m. Senators absent without representation were: Saundra Ardry, Robert Baum, Jeffrey Jensen, Gordon Jones, Patricia Pearson, John Stallard, Beverly Veenker. The minutes of the March 15 meeting were approved with one correction. The April 12 meeting will be the last meeting for Senate XXIII.

Informational Presentation on Faculty Organization

Dr. Steve Finner, Associate Director for Collective Bargaining for the American Association of University Professor(AAUP), was the presenter. AAUP was founded in 1915 with the purpose of establishing guidelines for academic freedom and tenure on campuses. Founding members included John Dewey and Albert Einstein. The Association of American Colleges, an administrative arm for colleges, along with AAUP jointly sponsored the guidelines for academic freedom and tenure in 1940. The guidelines are today accepted by 150 educational organizations. AAUP has 50,000 members today, and one-half of these members are at collective bargaining institutions. Thirteen (13)% of blue collar workers are represented in collective bargaining while 25% of university faculties are represented. Regardless of the status of collective bargaining in this state, AAUP provides assistance to chapters on faculty governance, administrative evaluation, budget analysis, and due process. AAUP publishes an annual faculty salary analysis. This year WKU ranks in the bottom third of comparable institutions.

Executive Committee Report: Chair White summarized the accomplishments of this past year. Many people worked hard to represent faculty concerns with a faculty senate opinion survey, the salary survey, the legislative forum, the insurance issue, the university budget, the athletic budget, probation, elections, and newsletters.

Faculty Status and Welfare: Senator Rasdall reported that her committee is working on making faculty registration for courses simple.

Fiscal Affairs: Senator Redman distributed the committee's report on The Budget and Expenditures of WKU. The 1988-89 athletic budget ran a 1.3 million dollar deficit, which was an 11% drop from the previous year. Basketball and football attendance was lower; and hence, revenues were lower than the previous year. Women's basketball attendance increased. College instructional budgets were overspent by 2%, administration overspent by 6%, and athletics overspent by 12%. Recommendations are that academic spending should be more important than administrative and athletic overspending. The report will be distributed to the Board of Regents, President, Western 21 Committee, and to faculty through their senators. Student enrollment and administrative staff have increased at a much greater rate than faculty.

Academic Affairs: Senator Moore reported the committee's study of the University Scholars Program which has had problems with adequate support. A resolution will be forthcoming under new business.

By-Laws, Amendments, and Elections: Senator Yungbluth reported that departmental and at-large elections have been completed in most colleges. College caucuses to elect senators to committees are to be held before the next senate meeting.

Faculty Regents Report: The chair acknowledged Regent Evans for all the support that he has given to senate positions this past year. Gene had attended a meeting with the Council on Higher Education on strategic planning. No mission changes for universities is planned. The new budget for Western will be "good soup, but not great soup." There is not really much new money in the budget.

Budget Committee Report: Senator Hansen, our representative on the university budget committee, reported that the committee has met two times. Funding for the first year is 86% of the formula and 88.7% the second year. Priorities are salaries and health insurance as supported by the academic representatives on the committee, including Senator Hansen. There is need for internal reallocation for academic support, not administrative support.

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. Faculty Senate Resolution Concerning Support for WKU's University Scholars Honors Program. Senator Moore introduced the resolution, and it was seconded. The motion will have one reading. The following motion passed:

While the budgetary constraints under which Western must operate are fully recognized, every effort should be made to advance the University Scholars Honors Program to a position of equality among the Commonwealth universities.

2. A motion for first reading of adoption of the recommendations of the Fiscal Affairs Budget Report was made and seconded.

#### Announcements:

The Western 21 Committee will be holding an information meeting for faculty on April 25. Senator Flynn reported that faculty will be receiving more information through the mail.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 24 for Senate XIV. The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.