



FACULTY SENATE
communications committee
NEWSLETTER

October 1987

At the Oct. 8 meeting of Faculty Senate XI, Chair Fred Murphy said President Kern Alexander was not able to speak at the meeting as scheduled, but would be speaking to the Senate at its Nov. 12 meeting. The Chair noted that Dr. Alexander has met with the Executive Committee, and appears receptive to new ideas.

Committee Reports

By-Laws, Amendments and Elections

Brian Sullivan said his committee has spent most of its time conducting elections to replace senators who have resigned or left Western. He suggested that the committee may consider proposing longer terms for senators, so that replacements will serve more than eight or 10 months.

Committee on Committees

Rich Weigel asked all faculty to return the questionnaires to him soon regarding committee assignments and preferences. The committee has recently made the following appointments:

Asian Studies: Don Tuck, Kathy Kalab, Jianling Wang, Joe Winstead, Riff Kummer

Vice President's Advisory Committee: Nancy Baird, Joe Fulmer, Charles Hays, Bob Pulsinelli, Harry Robe, Dwight Cline, Conrad Moore, Rita Hessley, Laurin Notheisen, John Hagaman

Unrestricted Development Funds Committee: Nancy Minix, Larry Gleason, Pat Hodges, Steve Lile, Charles Bussey

Ad Hoc Committee on University Publications: Carolyn Stringer, Gary Dillard

Programs for Outstanding Students: Rick Aldridge, Sam McFarland, Alan Yungbluth, George Bluhm, John Cudd

Tom Jones Symposium

Paul Campbell reported that the ad hoc committee on the second annual Tom Jones Symposium has decided on the theme, "The Role of the Senate in Faculty Governance." Representatives from the faculty senates at the University of Kentucky, Eastern Kentucky University, and Murray State University will be asked to speak on the history of their senates, and issues their senates are addressing. The symposium will be held during the Feb. 11 Faculty Senate meeting time. All faculty will be invited, as well as faculty senate members from other universities.

Faculty Regent Report

Faculty Regent Eugene Evans gave the Senate a forecast of money

appropriations which may occur this year. Regent Evans said one of his major concerns is how the university will use the money it is appropriated. He emphasized that he wants to be a "voice of quality," and to be that he must have feedback from the faculty. Evans expressed the feeling, in regards to Western's enrollment increase and the predicted continuing increase, that he is not sure "being bigger is being better."

Brian Sullivan expressed concern as to how the faculty, Faculty Senate, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs can work together to accomplish the academic mission. Vice President Robert Haynes said he hopes to continue working with the Senate. He noted that he has established more advisory committees that provide faculty input. Dr. Haynes suggested that this could be discussed at the Tom Jones Symposium.

COSFL Report

COSFL representative Harry Robe, who is the state's vice president of COSFL, said COSFL will be meeting in Bardstown on Oct. 16-17 and will meet with Bob Bell, chairman of Kentucky Advocates for Higher Education. Dr. Robe discussed the role COSFL can have in dealing with the next legislative session. Major issues Dr. Robe mentioned included the education budget and how it is distributed, and a movement to reduce faculty participation on regents' and trustees' boards. Another issue being considered by COSFL is getting a faculty position on the Council of Higher Education.

Dr. Robe said that faculty who join COSFL now will be considered members of the group.

The Senate elected Brian Sullivan as its representative to COSFL.

Workshop on Minority Recruitment, Retention and Mobility

Paul Campbell reported on his minority workshop experience. He shared the following information:

- In Kentucky state universities, there is an eight-to-one ratio of black females to black males.
- Eighty-five percent of blacks graduating from Kentucky's state universities are female.
- Fifty percent of black freshmen do not return for their sophomore year in Kentucky's state universities.
- Ninety-three percent of black freshmen athletes do return for their sophomore year.

Faculty Recognition Resolution

Michael Trapasso presented for the second reading the proposal from the Task Force on Faculty Recognition. He noted that currently seven awards are presented to the faculty, which therefore rewards one percent of the faculty.

Alton Little said he was concerned with the fact that faculty who

are nominated must solicit letters of support for their nominations. Peggy Wright encouraged the acceptance of considering Media and Library Services a "college" for the purpose of the awards.

Krenzin Substitute Motion Passed

Joan Krenzin moved, and Rich Weigel seconded, a substitute motion:

Outstanding faculty members will be selected in each college in areas of service and research, and in each of the four academic colleges (not Media and Library Service) for excellence in teaching. The winners of each college will be a pool from which the university awards will be made in the three categories (teaching, public service, and research/creativity activity.)

Amendment Defeated

An amendment proposed by Michael Trapasso and seconded by Rich Weigel stated that those who do win the university award would forego the college award, and the runner-up in the college would therefore be the college's recipient. Discussion centered on how college selection committees would do this, and concern over the total number awards made each year. The amendment was defeated.

Selection Committees to Meet

Joan Krenzin proposed, and Connie Mills seconded, that the college selection committees should meet together to determine how nominations will be made and how documentation will be provided. The motion was passed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m. The next Senate meeting will be Nov. 12.