



**FACULTY SENATE**  
communications committee  
**NEWSLETTER**

**Faculty Senate XI Newsletter**  
**Nov. 12, 1987**

**President Alexander's remarks**

President Kern Alexander began his address to the senate by noting that Western is a much-different university now than it was two years ago. He noted that area economists are now referring to the "corridor" from Louisville to Nashville, in which Bowling Green is in the middle. Dr. Alexander expressed a desire for Western to continue to go off campus to meet the needs of the area. Owensboro, Glasgow and Elizabethtown were three areas mentioned. He noted the importance of Nashville and said Western will continue to develop its identity there. He also discussed the recommendations of the Council on Higher Education.

Rich Weigel asked what figure for enrollment increase Western had used when dealing with the Council on Higher Education. Dr. Alexander said we had projected over 13,000, when in fact the fall 1987 enrollment turned out to be over 14,000. Sen. Weigel asked what would happen if Western wouldn't meet the projected enrollment that the state legislature would agree to fund. Dr. Alexander said once we are given money, it is ours, but the legislature probably would look for ways to eventually get it back through other channels.

The president was asked if the proposed 195 faculty positions would be full-time, tenure positions. President Alexander said yes.

Connie Mills asked what effect Owensboro Community College would have on Western's enrollment. President Alexander said that Owensboro is projecting a big increase, as are all community colleges. He noted that Western is planning on working with the Owensboro community school system to obtain a building which would be Western's headquarters in Owensboro. He also said the same effort is being made in Glasgow.

Chair Fred Murphy asked the president to explain his ideas on merit pay. Dr. Alexander said Western needs to keep its base salary as high as possible, and build merit on to that. He added that inequities must be corrected, such as making female faculty salaries equal to those of male faculty.

**Committee News**

**By-Laws, Amendments & Elections**

Chair Murphy reported that all senate elections have been completed for the year. James Brown has been elected from the Department of Theater and Dance, and Eugene Gallegos from the Department of Educational Leadership, with Michael Richardson as designated alternate.



### **Committee on Committees**

Rich Weigel said President Alexander has asked the senate to nominate people to serve on a committee to study the scheduling of classes.

### **Faculty Status and Welfare**

Barry Brunson presented the faculty survey of 1987-88 salaries. Each senator has a copy.

Brunson also said he has been in touch with representatives from the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association. (See new business.)

### **COSFL**

Paul Campbell reported that he, Harry Robe and Fred Murphy attended at COSFL meeting in Bardstown, at which Dr. Robe was elected vice president.

The annual COSFL meeting will be March 18-19 in Frankfort. A legislative reception is planned.

A meeting of all Kentucky faculty was held at the Days Inn in Frankfort on Nov. 21. The purpose of the meeting was to formulate a COSFL platform of items for which it hopes to obtain legislative approval.

Sen. Campbell handed out COSFL membership forms to all senators to give to every Western teacher. Membership is a minimum of \$10. Forms and checks should be returned to Prof. Robe.

### **New business**

Karlene Ball moved, and Rich Weigel seconded, the proposal from the Institutional Goals and Planning Committee which reads in part:

We recommend that the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs prepare a manual for department heads which incorporates the findings and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee to study Departmental Governance. This manual should delineate the roles and responsibilities of a department head, as well as the roles and responsibilities of faculty and administration in the selection and evaluation of department heads and in departmental governance. We further recommend that the manual be sent to the Senate for review and discussion prior to its submission to the Board of Regents.

Ed Dorman said he did not feel that this was an adequate response, and proposed the following amendment, seconded by Barry Brunson:

That the above paragraph be replaced with:

After due consideration of the issues raised by the Ad Hoc Committee, the Faculty Senate endorses the report of that committee.

Jim Flynn noted that senators need to look at the task force document carefully before the motion is voted on at the December meeting.

Rose Davis moved the following four motions derived from the Report on Faculty Recognition:

- Monetary awards remain a one-time award rather than become a part of the recipient's salary
  - Awards be publicized before graduation at a reception, with the winners' names printed in the graduation programs and announced at commencement
  - Names of award winners at the college and university level be inscribed on plaques to be displayed in appropriate places.
- Joan Krenzin amended that the plaques include the names of past winners.
- That the university investigate establishing distinguished professorships and/or endowed chairs.

The proposals will be voted on at the December meeting.

#### **Brunson motion adopted**

Barry Brunson moved: That the WKU Faculty Senate strongly encourages favorable consideration of the possibility of adopting an optional retirement plan with TIAA.

The senate approved.

#### **Mark your calendars**

Chair Murphy noted that the Faculty Senate office, due to Faculty House renovations, is now in Cherry Hall 224D. The phone number will remain 5325.

The January meeting date has been moved to Jan. 21.



### **Legislative open forum**

An open forum on the legislative outlook for higher education, featuring area legislators, will be Wednesday, Dec. 9, at 3:30 p.m. in DUC 305. Sen. Kafogolis and Rep. Richards have already confirmed their attendance. We hope that all of you will plan on attending this important meeting.

### **Tom Jones Symposium**

Plans are continuing for the Tom Jones Symposium on Faculty Governance on Feb. 11. The symposium will focus on the role of faculty senates in university governance and will include presentations by members of other faculty senates at Kentucky universities.

### **Bookstore Ad Hoc Committee**

The chair announced that he is looking for volunteers to serve on an ad hoc committee to help review the selection of journals which are sold in the College Heights Bookstore, and to recommend changes or additions to provide a range of titles more suitable to a college bookstore.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45. The next meeting is Dec. 10.

### **Please note:**

Accompanying this newsletter is a draft of positions on higher education issues which COSFL will be considering. Please read this material carefully. If these are the kinds of efforts you want to support, COSFL very much needs your membership. The money derived from dues will help to finance the lobbying efforts of COSFL during the 1988 session of the legislature.

By now you should have received an application for COSFL membership from your departmental senator. Since Western has received the largest percentage increase that the Council on Higher Education has recommended for universities in 1988-1990, we have a great deal at stake. Your \$10 membership helps both Western and COSFL achieve their goals.