

Unapproved  
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES  
December 12, 1991

The meeting was called to order by the Vice Chair Robert Otto at 3:30 p.m. Senators absent without representation were: Linda Brown, Gabe Buntzman, Ann Cline, John Crenshaw, John Faine, Norman Hunter, Jeffrey Jensen, Fred Murphy, Gary McKercher, Norma Schira, Arvin Vos. Minutes of the November 14 meeting were approved as submitted.

Executive Committee Report: The chair asked Senator Robert Hansen who serves on the university budget committee to comment on recent reductions of the 1991-92 operating budget. Reflecting on the letter sent to faculty by the president dated December 4, Senator Hansen commented that the following reductions were reflected:

	% of budget	% of cut
Academic Affairs	42	29 (\$37,113)
Administration & Technology	29	39 (\$50,377)
Student Affairs	8	8 (\$10,331)
President's Area	22	23 (\$29,716)

Athletics which is under the President's area took a \$21,000 cut which would be 75% of the cut in that area. Vice President Haynes reported that no positions were cut but limitations would be put on the university lecture series and the Asian Center.

By-laws, Amendments, Elections Committee: The chair reported that Senator Rick Shanon will represent the College of Business Administration as an at large member.

Faculty Status & Welfare Committee: Senator Ken Kuehn reported that the faculty salary report will come next semester. The chair expressed appreciation to Senator Kuehn for his years of service and chair of this committee since he will be on leave this coming semester. The campus building smoking survey is completed with the results to be compiled by Institutional Research. Last year the Senate passed a resolution favoring a smoking ban in academic buildings. Off-campus travel liability is still under review.

Fiscal Affairs Committee: Senator Glaser reflected on the recent committee report in the last newsletter regarding Grants in Aid. Athletic scholarships are worth four (4x) times the support we offer our good academic students. The committee will be working on the athletic budget analysis.

Communications Committee: The chair recognized this committee's fine newsletters under the direction of Senator Jan Garrett and the contributing authors. Many positive comments have been expressed by faculty.

Political Action Committee: Senator Charles Bussey reported that he is sending the Senate Newsletter to our area legislators. He also passed out to senators a list of our representatives with tips on writing to them.

COSFL Report: Sylvia Pulliam reported that in their last state meeting that Western fared better in recent budget reductions, less painful to academics, than most other state universities. The open records law is being supported for revision this coming legislative session. Vice President Haynes commented that personal faculty files are open for review by individual faculty anytime at his office and that the only official record file is the one in his office.

Faculty Regent's Report: Regent Evans read a statement from the Kentucky Revised Statute qualifying the role of the Board of Regents in the operation of the university and its finances. The Senate Chair expressed the support of this body to Regent Evans for his support of the audit. Historically, the Senate body and numerous committee reports have encouraged the Board's perusal of university spending. The WKU Credit Union issue has been forwarded to the state with the bidding process completed. The state will award the bid for operation.

Announcements: The President reflected that he is encouraged with the new governor as being receptive to higher education. President Meredith acts as chair of state university presidents and has worked closely with the governor's office during the recent budget reduction and will continue to express higher education's needs. He feels strongly that should there be another budget reduction that higher education should be spared since we had to absorb a major portion of this past reduction.

Senator Krenzin reminded us that in January the Garrett Ballroom would not be available for the Senate meeting, so you can expect to meet in an alternative place- possibly the Regents Room.

Adjournment was at 4:30 p.m.