

Minutes
Western Kentucky University Faculty Senate XX
Tuesday, April 23, 1996

CALL TO ORDER

The Faculty Senate was called to order by Chair Arvin Vos at 3:40 p.m. Faculty Regent Ray Mendel was present. Shula Ramsay substituted for Tony Norman, Patty Silfies for Richard Patterson, Carolyn R. McRoy for Jianliang Wang. President Thomas Meredith, Vice President Robert Haynes, Jeanette Askins, Nancy Baird, Jim Brown, Fred Corl, Tabitha Daniel, Patricia Daniel, Charles Daniel, Ed Dorman, Joe Glaser, Delbert Hayden, Glenn Lohr, Herman Manakyan, Ronald Milliman, J.A.K. Njoku, Brent Oglesbee, Earl Pearson, Joel Phillhours, Joyce Rasdall, Jack Rudolph, and Bart White were absent without substitution.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the April 11 meeting were approved with the following correction: Old Business: change "advisor" to "advisors."

REPORT OF FACULTY REGENT - Ray Mendel

Faculty and COSFL leaders met with Governor Patton and Roy Petterson, Education Secretary, to share their concerns and willingness to work with them to pursue improving higher education in Kentucky. They discussed the task force the Governor will be forming to study higher education.

Faculty attendance at the May 1 Board meeting is important. Some key agenda items: increased funding for intercollegiate athletics and salary adjusting in the non-faculty side of the budget.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

By-Laws, Amendments, and Elections - Rose Davis

At-large senator for Ogden, James Worthington, Agriculture, is retiring. He is replaced by Matthew Kubasik, Chemistry.

Fiscal Affairs - David Keeling

Senator Keeling discussed the analysis discrepancies of faculty salaries in relation to benchmarks. Different analyses show that the President's report of 99% of benchmark is technically correct, but it does not tell all the story.

Annual Faculty Evaluation of the University President and Senate Survey of Faculty Opinions - Randy Swift

Senator Swift discussed the results of the Evaluation of the University President. Chair Vos has the comments from the Senate Survey of Faculty Opinions. Copies may be obtained from him. The comments from the President's survey will be forwarded to President Meredith and the Board of Regents. Chair Vos thanked Senators Uta Ziegler and Randy Swift for their work on the tabulations.

Executive Committee - Arvin Vos

Chair Vos thanked Faculty Senate XIX Members, Officers and Committee Chairs for their work this past year. He also welcomed new members to Senator XX.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Senator John Petersen placed the names of the current officers for nomination to a second year: Chair - Arvin Vos, Vice Chair - Carl Kell, Secretary - Rose Davis, Parliamentarian - Fred Murphy. Motion was seconded. No other nominations were received and the slate was accepted as presented.

Senator Grice presented the following resolution:

The Faculty Senate, on behalf of the faculty of Western Kentucky University, respectfully urges the Board of Regents to defer action on the portion of the budget calling for further expansion of the institutional subsidy of inter-collegiate athletics. Before the Board acts, we believe it is extremely important that there be a genuine opportunity for campus discussion of the available options and the costs and benefits associated with each.

Rationale:

1. Before implementing the proposed plan it is vital to consider the total costs, not just the first-year expenses, associated with funding the proposed additions of three intercollegiate sports programs. So far no information of this sort has been distributed and/or discussed.
2. Alternative ways of satisfying Title IX should be seriously considered and the implications of each examined. To date, faculty have not been involved in any meaningful discussions of these alternatives.
3. The impact of the proposed athletics expansion on our major Institutional priorities needs to be carefully and openly examined and discussed. The proposed expansion plan has enormous long-term funding implications for many essential components of the budget. These implications should be explicitly addressed before making the kind of major, long-term commitment that the Board is now being asked to make.

The resolution was seconded and discussed. Senators Ziegler and Kell offered the following friendly amendments (in bold):

The Faculty Senate, on behalf of the faculty of Western Kentucky University, respectfully **requests** the Board of Regents to defer action on the portion of the budget calling for further expansion of the institutional subsidy of inter-collegiate athletics. Before the Board acts, we believe it **is important** that there be **an opportunity** for campus discussion of the available options and the costs and benefits associated with each.

Rationale: **The Faculty Senate believes that :**

1. Before implementing the proposed plan it is vital to consider the *total* costs, not just the first-year expenses, associated with funding the proposed additions of three intercollegiate sports programs. So far no information of this sort has been distributed **to** and/or discussed **by Faculty or students at-large**.
2. Alternative ways of satisfying Title IX should be seriously considered and the implications of each examined. To date, faculty have not been involved in any meaningful discussions of these alternatives.
3. The impact of the proposed athletics expansion on our major Institutional priorities needs to be carefully and openly examined and discussed. The proposed expansion plan has enormous long-term funding implications for many essential components of the budget. These implications should be explicitly addressed before making the kind of major, long-term commitment that the Board is now being asked to make.

The resolution was approved as amended. Chair Vos will forward this to the President.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

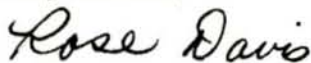
Senator Murphy encouraged faculty to attend commencement exercises May 5.

Chair Vos encouraged attendance at the President's budget briefing, April 25 and the May 1 Board of Regents meeting.

Committees to caucus, elect a chair, and report election results to Secretary Davis.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Rose Davis, Secretary