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Minutes
Western Kentucky University Faculty Senate XXI
Thursday, September 4, 1997

CALL TO ORDER

The faculty senate was called to order by Chair Arvin Vos 3:35. Interim President Barbara Burch and Faculty Regent Ray Mendel were present. Gabe Buntzman substituted for Wade Ferguson. John Faine, Dorsey Grice, Matt Kubasik, John Long, Suzanne Norwood, Jack Rudolph, Walter Stomps, and Clarence Wolff were absent without substitution.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the April 22, 1997 meeting were accepted as distributed.

REPORT OF THE FACULTY REGENT

Regent Mendel discussed the two upcoming institutional reviews by outside consultants. One report will focus on the University as whole while the other will examine the role of athletic programs at Western. Regent Mendel also discussed the current status of the search for a new President and thanked the members of the focus group for their input into the search process (Members included Senators Arvin Vos, Don Nims and Debbie Lively).

VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT

Carl Kell reported on the resolutions proposed by Senate XX, their final status, and actions taken by the University in response to Senate resolutions. In particular, the Faculty Regent is now an ex-officio member of the executive committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs - Lyn Miller

Welcomed new members of committee.

By-laws, Amendments, and Elections - Matthew Dettman

Welcomed new members of committee.

Faculty Status and Welfare - Steve Boilard

Welcomed new members of committee and also reported that FSW would continue to examine the issue of summer salaries

Fiscal Affairs - David Keeling

Reported that this committee will focus on the issue of part-time faculty salaries and resources for the upcoming year. Western's

pay lags approximately 40% below other Kentucky Institutions and 60% below benchmark institutions.

Professional Responsibilities and Concerns - Zack Murrell

Reported that the focus will continue to be on student evaluations of faculty and how that information is to be used in the future. Senator Murrell also noted that the midpoint of the Likert scale had been changed from 'Undecided' to 'Neutral'. Currently, student comments are forwarded to faculty and Dept. Heads. Dr. Burch was present and also reported that the developmental items are not reported and the SITE committee will continue as an advisory body. Following questions from the floor, Dr. Burch clarified that evaluations will be conducted FALL and SPRING.

Senate Communications - Rose Davis

Asked that someone from the Business College volunteer to serve on her committee. Senator Davis also reiterated the ongoing need for articles to be published in the Faculty Senate Newsletter (abstracts, short articles) with larger content maintained on the Faculty Senate web page.

Executive Committee - Arvin Vos

Welcomed all Senators and noted that the executive committee had met and were prepared to work.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following some discussion of the meeting dates and times of the Faculty Senate, Chair Vos announced that meetings will continue as scheduled. Chair Vos also reminded senators of their obligations for attendance (three consecutive absences without a substitute and senators are removed from office) and communication with their respective departmental faculty.

Motion to adjourn was made by Senator Keeling and seconded by Senator Davis. Chair Vos adjourned the senate at 4:27.

Respectfully submitted,

John White
Secretary/Treasurer

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1. Direct link: Recommended!!!!!!

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