

Minutes
Western Kentucky University Faculty Senate XXII
February 18, 1999

CALL TO ORDER

The faculty senate was called to order by Chair Arvin Vos at 3:36 p.m. Absent without representation were: President Gary Ransdell, John Barnum, Erika Brady, John Bruni, Stan Cooke, Robert Haynes, Charles Henrickson, Martha Jenkins, Scott Kiefer, Lester Pesterfield, Jack Rudolph, Rick Shannon, Walter Stomps, Murat Tiryakiouglu, Moosa Valinezhad, Sharon Whitlock. Carrie Morgan substituted for Donna Bussey, Reza Ahsan for Michael May, and David Young for Loren Ruff. University Provost Barbara Burch and Regent Mary Ellen Miller were in attendance.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 21 meeting were accepted as distributed.

FACULTY REGENT

Regent Mary Ann Miller was pleased to be Faculty Regent again. Her first Board meeting was January 29. Agenda included raising student fees, annual financial report, and passing the Post Tenure Review (this was a mandate from the Legislature, not the Fisher report). The Regent's advisory body has 18 members representing all the colleges. Let her know if you would like to serve on this body. The first advisory meeting discussed the University Senate a Fisher report recommendation. The Fisher report is not a mandate, it is recommendations. Miller discussed other concerns she will be investigating.

Question about release of the Post-Tenure Review policy.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Academic Affairs - Lyn Miller

No report.

By-laws, Amendments, and Elections - Donna Parker

Statistics for Regent election: University Libraries, 81%; Business, 82%; Education, 49%; Ogden, 51%, Potter, 64%, Community College, 86%, other Administrative positions, 59%. Two Departments with 100% participation: Library Automation and Technical Services and Accounting and Finance. Senator Parker will make available Department numbers upon request. Senator White will post the percentages on the homepage. Chair Vos discussed the wide range of voter turnout by Departments.

Faculty Status and Welfare - Carl Kell

The committee is still reviewing the use of lapsed salary moneys. Summer school stipends final report from the Summer School workgroup, submitted December 15, 1998, will not get us to benchmark. How the resources are spent needs to be a concern.

Concern for sabbatical request granting was discussed. More information is needed when requests are not granted.

Fiscal Affairs - Claus Ernst

No report.

Professional Responsibilities and Concerns - Don Nims

No report.

Senate Communications - John White

No report.

Executive Committee - Arvin Vos

Chair Vos reported an accounting error which charged our account for an auto lease has been corrected. Our account is solvent. Chair Vos has forwarded five faculty names for the Consulting Policy Committee. Parliamentarian Barnum has resigned due to other commitments.

Chair Vos reported that the Faculty Governance Committee has been meeting with some small discussion groups. Feedback from these groups has been very helpful. The report should be ready for release soon and posted on the website. Discussion: a special meeting of the Faculty Senate with all faculty invited to discuss the report, importance for all faculty to review the report, who vote on governance change, election of Senators for next year, how new body elections conducted.

Senator White moved, Senator Parry seconded, that Faculty Senate would like a full faculty vote to approve the report from the University Governance Committee on the University Senate. Motion carried.

Chair Vos has arranged for Gordon Davies, President of the Council on Post-Secondary Education, to visit campus, Friday, March 26, 1999. We will hold a special meeting of the Faculty Senate, 2:30-3:30 pm and invite all the faculty to attend.

Annual Faculty Senate surveys are being prepared.

Tuition policy change requested by Senate last semester update will come from Dr. Burch.

REPORT FROM THE PROVOST - DR. BARBARA BURCH

Dr. Burch discussed the progress toward reaching benchmark salaries. This year 50% of the distribution will be used to for salary adjustments, 25% for longevity, 25% for Deans & Dept. Heads to use for efforts above the 75%. Deans are looking at inequities among colleges. Qualitative waiver for meeting 8 goals of African-American faculty and students requires we must go to the State's EEO committee to review plans and intentions to improve our efforts. Consulting Policy Committee will review the current policy and make suggestions for improvement. Encouraged Senators to study up on the CVU before Dr. Davies' visit. Budget Council faculty presence/contribution was very, very strong and did influence the process. The President's commitment is a strong one. The University Governance group was structured to meet the Fisher report recommendation and the suggestion to make faculty voice a more meaning one on campus.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senate elections will be conducted. The Executive Committee will meet following this meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Davis
Secretary/Treasurer