

The Report of the Faculty Senate Committee
on University Parking

The Faculty Senate Committee on University Parking has been in the process of studying the parking problem at Western. This committee has held meetings and solicited complaints and suggestions relative to parking. All of the parking lots on campus were investigated by the committee chairman both in the early morning (9:15-10:00) and early afternoon (2:00-2:45). Mr. Paul Bunch, the Assistant Director of Public Safety and the person in charge of University parking, met with this committee and provided a variety of information he had obtained during his experience with University parking.

As a result of the committee's investigation and after due deliberation three main generalizations emerged.

1. Parking is a definite problem at WKU--especially convenient parking--as it is at most colleges and universities.
2. The solution to this problem is complex. It involves providing an answer to a very basic question: "What needs should receive the highest priorities?" Solving the parking problem will cost money. Should more of the budget be spent on parking facilities and less on some other things such as salaries or some special program(s)? Should more trees be cut and turf dug up to provide more parking lots?
3. The University Parking Committee (not the Faculty Senate's) has worked hard and long on the provision of parking. Various studies have been made and measures have been taken to provide some relief of the problem. Western's parking problem is tough. If it had an easy solution, it would have been solved long ago.

The Faculty Senate Committee on University Parking has solicited proposals for the remediation of the parking problem. In addition,

various committee members have offered their own proposals. These were discussed by the committee as to their practicality and their complications. After much reasoning, one "fact of life" emerged: reducing the parking problem for some people will probably result in inconveniences for some other people. To obtain a degree of remediation of this problem might precipitate others. This may become apparent when one considers the four recommendations this committee offers for a partial solution to the parking problem at WKU.

Recommendation One: Allow one parking decal free for each faculty/staff member who has a vehicle registered in his/her name. Allow a faculty/staff member to purchase one additional parking decal for a minimum of \$50.00 provided he has a second vehicle registered in his/her name.

Recommendation Two: Establish a shuttle bus service at the University.

Recommendation Three: Increase parking zone violation fines to five dollars.

Recommendation Four: Petition the administration to consider the feasibility of reducing the number of classes offered in the morning and increasing the number of classes offered in the afternoon.

Respectfully submitted,

COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PARKING

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