Chair Robert Dietle called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. The following members were present: Kathryn Abbott, Lawrence Alice, Darlene Applegate, Erika Brady, John Bruni, Barbara Burch, David Coffey, Frank Conley, Bill Greenwalt, Richard Hackney, Jennifer Hall, Robert Howsen, Michelle Jackson, Jonathan Jeffrey, Sean Kinder, Wilma King-Jones, Alton Little, Kathleen Matthew, Michael May, Mary Ellen Miller, Patti Minter, John Moore, Carrie Morgan, Fred Murphy, Antony Norman, Ronald Oliver, Rich Patterson, Kay Payne, Yvonne Petkus, Katrina Phelps, Lauren Ruff, Sherrie Serros, Kathleen Sheldon, Nelda Sims, Bryon Sleugh, Larry Snyder, Uta Ziegler. The following members were absent without alternate representation: Karen Adams, Michael Binder, Ray Blankenship, Catherine Carey, Kenneth Crawford, William Davis, Elmer Gray, Jeffrey Hackett, Robert Holman, Martin Houston, Daniel Jackson, Robert Jefferson, Frank Kersting, Patricia Minors, Russell Moore, Jane Olmsted, Cassandra Pinnick, Matthew Pruitt, Gary Ransdell, Dale Smith, John White, Carol Wilson, Stacy Wilson, Ed Wolfe, Edward Yager, Susan Yorde. Alternates in attendance were: Art Shindhelm for John Crenshaw, Becky Foster for Kacy Harris, John Hardin for David Lee, Sam McFarland for Sharon Mutter, Chris Brown for Steven White.

The minutes of October 18, 2001 were approved as editorially corrected.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair asked Dr. Patricia Minter and Dr. Claus Ernst to give the Senate an update on the Health Care Insurance Committee actions.

Dr. Minter said the Committee was at a crossroads. They have voted to make recommendations to the President that the University's contribution be increased in the next plan year. The recommendation has raised concerns from some committee members including the controller and University auditor who question whether the committee is going beyond its purview and original mission. There is some fear that the President will disband the current committee and form a shell committee if the group oversteps its bounds. Dr Minter urged that if the committee's recommendation was not supported by the President, the Senate prepare a resolution to the President asking him to leave the current recommendations in place. The floor was opened for discussion. It was the consensus of the Senate that these recommendations should stay in place and that any increase in university contributions should NOT come at the expense of faculty and staff salaries. If necessary, a resolution will go forward from this body.

NEW BUSINESS

Reports from the Standing Committees:

University Curriculum Committee

The University Curriculum Committee presents the following motions from the October 25, 2001 meeting for approval by the University Senate. All proposals (except one-time-only course offerings)
were action items by the UCC. The consent agenda is presented in a new format (with items arranged by college) to facilitate linking to on-line proposals.

UCC Chair Darlene Applegate moved approval of the following Consent Agenda.

POTTER COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

I. Creation of New Courses

- FREN 306 Experiencing French Abroad
- GERM 306 Experiencing German Abroad
- SPAN 306 Experiencing Spanish Abroad

II. Revision of Courses

- SPAN 372 Spanish American Civilization and Culture
- SPAN 376 Literature & Culture of Spanish America
- SPAN 377 Literature & Culture of the Spanish Caribbean
- SPAN 477 Spanish America: Colonial Period to Modernism
- SPAN 478 Twentieth Century Spanish America
- THEA 319 Basic Design for the Theatre

III. One-time-only Course Offerings

- COMM 509 Classical Rhetorical History
- COMM 587 Mediate/Negotiate - Intercultural Communication
- BCOM 321 News Discovery/Selection
- BCOM 264 Digital Video Production
- BCOM 350 Scriptwriting
- RELS 326 Second Temple Judaism
- SOCL 370 Diversity in Modern Society

SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

I. Creation of New Course

- SWRK 451 Child Maltreatment Interventions

OGDEN COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

I. Revision of Programs

- Reference #525 Major in Biology
- Reference #617 Major in Biology
BOWLING GREEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

I. Creation of New Course

HED 132C Introduction to Health Careers

II. Creation of Community College Equivalent Course

SPAN 102C Elementary Spanish II

GRADUATE COUNCIL

I. Revision of Program

Reference #069 Master of Arts in Folk Studies

The Chair asked if any member of the Senate wished to remove an item from the Consent Agenda and move it onto an Action Agenda. There were no items removed. The Chair then called for a vote.

The motion to approve the University Curriculum Committee Consent Agenda was seconded. The motion carried.

Next, Chair Dietle read the following memo from the Provost, Dr. Barbara Burch, regarding her endorsement of the October 18, 2001 Consent Agenda from the University Curriculum Committee:

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Robert Dietle
    Chair University Senate

FROM: Barbara Burch
    Provost and Vice President
    For Academic Affairs

SUBJECT: October 18, 2001 University Senate Minutes

I endorse, with one exception, the actions taken by the University Senate at its October 18, 2001 meeting; I do not endorse the proposal for the Certificate in Political Communications as presented.

The completion of a double major as a minimum requirement for awarding a certificate does not appear to be consistent with the usual purpose and definition of a certificate program. I agree that a certificate in Political Communications could be a program of added value to our students. However, as it is presented, I have reservations about designating this as a “certificate” program. I will be pleased to discuss my concerns with the appropriate departments/individuals, if they wish to do so.
General Education Committee

Dr. John Bruni moved approval of the following actions of the General Education Committee:

1. Change the course title of PSY 250 from Personal Adjustment and Mental Hygiene to Adjustment and Personal Growth.

2. Change PSY 250 Adjustment and Personal Growth from General Education Category C (Social and Behavioral Sciences) to General Education Category F (Health and Wellness).

3. Include RELS 302 Buddhist Religious Traditions in General Education Category E (World Cultures and American Cultural Diversity).

The Chair opened the floor for discussion. Dr. Kathleen Sheldon and Dr. Alton Little expressed concern over moving PSY 250 Adjustment and Personal Growth from Category C to Category F. They suggested that it would give students one more way to satisfy the Health and Wellness component without getting any physical exercise, which is desperately needed by this population. They questioned why it would need to move to a new Gen. Ed category if it was already approved for a different one.

The Chair called for a vote on the General Education Motion.
The motion was seconded. The motion carried.

Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities Committee

Dr. Claus Ernst said the Committee is working on two surveys, and plans to have the surveys ready to present to the Senate at the December meeting. He said the surveys will be distributed at the beginning of the 2002 Spring semester. One survey is for faculty and to explore issues of job satisfaction, promotion, workloads, and benefits. The other survey is for Department Heads and addresses recruitment of new faculty and potential reasons for faculty leaving the University.

Next Dr. Ernst moved approval of the following motion:

The University Senate recommends that at least 75% of the new dollars generated through increased commitments be allocated to academics, in order to restore resources that are essential to maintaining the high quality educational experience that characterizes Western’s commitment to students and excellence.

Explanation
In the past several years, the tremendous increase in student enrollments has been absorbed by the academic departments without the benefit of additional resources to provide the necessary services. The enrollments have increased in head count by 14% (from 14,543 to 16,579) in the past four years. The full time equivalent student count has increased by 15.3% (from 11,028 to 12,713). The ratio of students to faculty has increased by 25%, from 16:1 to 20:1 in the current semester. This increase has been felt in many ways, including heavy faculty loads, reduced resources to support instruction and program operating costs, inability to address faculty salary issues at all levels, and in many other ways that have
the potential for eroding the excellence to which we are all committed. The increase in class size and faculty load reflects the reality that faculty time for research and service also has been seriously impacted.

The academic community has borne the burden of finding creative and expanded ways of accommodating the added loads, but at a cost that cannot be sustained indefinitely without serious erosion of quality and loss of faculty. It seems only fair and reasonable that a major portion of any new funds, either from tuition generated or additional state funding, be allocated to support the primary mission of this university - its academic programs.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion. After discussions and comments from Provost Barbara Burch, the Chair called for a vote on the Motion.

The motion was seconded. The motion carried.

OTHER
No other business came before the Senate at this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katrina Phelps, Secretary

Lou Stahl, Recorder
December 4, 2001

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Robert Dietle
   Chair University Senate

FROM: Barbara Burch
       Provost and Vice President
       For Academic Affairs

SUBJECT: November 15, 2001 University Senate Minutes

I endorse, without exception, the actions taken by the University Senate at its November 15, 2001 meeting.

/ls