October 27, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Douglas Smith
Chair University Senate

FROM: Barbara Burch
Provost and Vice President
For Academic Affairs

SUBJECT: October 16, 2003 University Senate Minutes

I endorse, without exception the actions of the University Senate at its meeting October 16, 2003

/ls
Chair Doug Smith called the meeting to order at 3:30 P.M. The following members were present. John All, Darlene Applegate, Jim Berger, Ray Blankenship, Charles Borders, Barbara Burch, Robert Choate, Linda Coakley, Joshua Collins, Thad Crews II, Debra Crisp, Robert Dietle, Claus Ernst, Sam Evans, Richard Hackney, John Hardin, Kacy Harris, Michelle Hollis, Hollan Holm, William Howard, Lois Jircitano, Pam Jukes, Danita Kelley, Minwoo Lee, Cynthia Mason, Pat Minors, Patricia Minter, John Moore, Lora Moore, Sharon Mutter, Anne Onyekwuluje, Richard Parker, Yvonne Petkus, Keith Philips, Matt Pruitt, Troy Ransdell, Eric Reed, Loren Ruff, Jo-Anne Ryan, Jeffrey Samuels, Roger Scott, Sherrie Serros, Vernon Lee Sheeley, Fred Siewers, Byron Sleugh, Douglas Smith, Brian Strow, Jue Wang, Richard Weigel, Mary Wolinski, Uta Ziegler Alternate members present were. Robert Smith for Jim Becker, Steven White for Christopher Brown, Susan Wesley for Suzie Cashwell, Linda Brown for Blaine Ferrell, Donald Mims for Bill Greenwalt, Bob Reber for Robert Jefferson, Larry Snyder for David Lee, James LeTourneau for Wilma King Jones, Walker Rutledge for Russell Moore, Andrew McMichael for Jane Olmsted, Martha Houchin for Sherry Reid, Rose Davis for Nelda Sims, Roger Murphy for Edward Yager. Members absent were: Katie Algeo, Michael Binder, John Bonaguro, John Bruni, Richard Dressler, Elmer Gray, Jeffrey Hackett, Robert Holman, Augustine Ihator, Dan Jackson, Bruce Kessler, Connie Mills, George Musambira, Raymond Poff, Sherry Powers, Gary Ransdell, Bill Tseng.

Approval of the Minutes
The minutes of September 18, 2003 were approved as presented.

University Senate Action Approval
Dr. Barbara Burch, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs approved, without exception, the actions taken by the University Senate at its meeting September 18, 2003.

Report from the Chair
1. The Chair asked that Standing Committee Chairs check the list on the Senate website to make sure they know all the members serving on the various committees.

2. At the last (October) University Executive Committee, the appeal process for tenure was brought forward by Provost Burch, as needing revisions. The Committee referred to the Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities Committee to make needed revisions in the appeal’s process.

3. For information on the AAUP meeting, the Chair referred to the University Senate website for full details.

4. The President is in discussion with the Board of Regents concerning a new initiative around academics. The President would like to meet with the Senate Thursday, October
23, 2003 at 3:30 in Mass Media and Technology Hall. Chair Smith said it would be decided if this will be considered an official meeting. He will notify Senators this week regarding the type meeting this will be.

5. Chair Smith said Item IV of the agenda (Special Report from the Office of Academic Affairs regarding 2004-2005 Academic Calendar has been postponed by Provost Burch until the next meeting.

Standing Committee Reports

A. Report from the University Curriculum Committee

Senator Applegate said when the Consent Agenda was considered by the Executive Committee, they voted to send the full agenda forward with a contingency: This contingency related to a program revision, in the Department of Architectural and Manufacturing Sciences, (Industrial Science Program, Reference 571.) They asked that the Department communicate with the other Departments in which courses were offered in their major as requirements. This having been done, the proposal is included in this agenda.

Next Senator Applegate announced that the University Curriculum Committee’s website, which can be accessed through the Senate web page, contains templates for proposing Departmental Sections of UC 175 as approved in the Spring. Senator Applegate urged that those responsible for preparing these documents use this template when proposing their sections of UC 175.

Senator Applegate moved approval of the University Curriculum Committee’s Consent Agenda from the, September 25, 2003 meeting.

Chair Smith asked if any Senator would like to remove any item from the University Curriculum Committee consent agenda to the action agenda. No such requests were made.

Proposals marked with asterisks were action items by the UCC

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

I. Revision of Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXED 331</td>
<td>Early Childhood Education for Children with Disabilities [prereqs]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXED 333</td>
<td>Transition: School to Adult Life [prereqs]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXED 334</td>
<td>Field-Based Practicum with Individuals with Disabilities [prereqs]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXED 421</td>
<td>Special Education and the Law: Interpretation and Application [prereqs]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXED 430</td>
<td>Diagnosis for Instructional Planning: Students with Mild Disabilities [prereqs]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXED 431</td>
<td>Language Intervention: Strategies and Materials [prereqs]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXED 432</td>
<td>Applied Behavior Analysis [prereqs]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXED 433</td>
<td>Models of Positive Behavior Support [prereqs]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

II. Creation of New Course *
PH 402 Worksite Health Promotion

GORDON FORD COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

I. Revision of Course
ACCT 460 CPA Problems [course grading system]

II. Creation of New Course *
MGT 333 Management of Nonprofit Organizations

POTTER COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

I. One-Time-Only Course Offering [for information only]
MUS 090 Fundamentals of Music (Fall 2003)

II. Revision of Courses
PS 260 Introduction to Comparative Politics [prereqs]
THEA 101 Acting I [catalog course listing] *
THEA 141 Stage Makeup [catalog course listing] *
THEA 300 Acting II [catalog course listing]
THEA 301 Acting III [catalog course listing]
THEA 371 Directing I [catalog course listing]
THEA 461 Theatre Practicum [title, catalog course listing]

III. Deletion of Courses
PHIL 203 Religion and Modern Science
RELS 203 Religion and Modern Science

IV. IV. Creation of New Courses *
ART 343 Digital Media, Time-Based
HIST 175 University Experience - History/Social Studies
CHIN 102 Elementary Chinese II
PHIL 310 Science, Religion and Contemporary Life
PHIL 426 Philosophy and Old Age
THEA 261 Theatre Practicum I
THEA 361 Theatre Practicum II

V. Revision of Program *

VI. Creation of New Minor Program *
Performing Arts Administration

OGDEN COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

I. One-Time-Only Course Offering [for information only]
   AMS 302  Computer Modeling & Animation (Fall 2003)
   PHYS 175  University Experience - Physics (Fall 2003)
   AMS 394  Lean Manufacturing (Spring 2004)
   GEOL 497  Earth Systems for Teachers (Spring 2004)
   GEOL 476  Geology of the Bahamas (Spring 2004)

II. Reactivation of Course
   AGRO 311  Agronomy

III. Revision of Courses
   AMS 317  Introduction to Manufacturing Materials [title]
   AMS 361  Construction: Methods and Materials [number]
   CM 337  Applied Strength of Materials [prereqs/coreqs]
   GEOG 416  Remote Sensing: Principles and Applications to Environment and Planning [prereqs, course catalog listing] *
   GEOG 430  Cultural Geography [prereqs, course catalog listing] *

IV. Creation of New Courses *
   AMS 102  Technical Graphics
   AMS 222  Principles of Architectural Theory
   AMS 302  Computer Modeling and Animation
   AMS 340  Manufacturing Operations
   AMS 385  Furniture Design and Construction
   AMS 392  Quality Management
   AMS 394  Lean Manufacturing
   AMS 398  Internship I
   AMS 399  Internship II
   CM 227  Applied Statistics
   GEOG 444  Environmental Ethics in Geography
   GEOG 455  Global Environmental Change

V. Revision of Programs *
   Ref. No. 533  Construction Management
   Ref. No. 571  Industrial Science

THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

I. One-Time-Only Course Offerings [for information only]
II. Revision of Course

NURS 508 Advanced Issues in Professional Nursing [prereqs]

III. Creation of New Course *

PH 402G Worksite Health Promotion

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

I. One-Time-Only Course Offerings [for information only]

UC 175 University Experience - Student Support Services (Fall 2003)
UC 375 Internship in Peer Mentoring (Fall 2003)
ESL 049 Orientation to WKU for ESLI Students (Fall 2003)

The motion carried.

B. Report from the General Education Committee

Senator Patricia Minter said the General Education Committee met on September 11, 2003 and moved approval for the following consent agenda item:

I. Creation of New Courses *

CHHS 175 Freshman Experience: College of Health and Human Services

Chair Smith asked if any Senator would like to move the General Education item from the consent agenda to the action agenda. No such requests were made.

The motion carried.

C. Report from the Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities Committee

Senator Mary Wolinski, Chair of the Committee, moved approval of the following Resolution:

The University Senate asks the Office of Information Technology to change the default for the directory from listing the faculty and staff home addresses and telephone numbers to not listing them. This affects both the hard copy and the web-based versions of the directory.

Rationale:

This is desirable both to better protect faculty and staff privacy and to reduce the amount of personal information made available. It is hoped that this will help to prevent identity theft.
Chair Smith opened the floor for discussion.

Senator Troy Ransdell moved to amend the motion to include students to the motion. The motion now reads:

*The University Senate asks the Office of Information Technology to change the default for the directory from listing the faculty, staff, and students home addresses and telephone numbers to not listing them. This affects both the hard copy and the web-based versions of the directory.*

Chair Smith opened the floor for discussion of the amended motion.

After much discussion, the Chair called for a vote on the amendment.

**The motion failed on a vote of 11 Yes to 33 No.**

The Chair then called for a vote on the main motion of the Resolution as presented.

The motion carried.

**(NOTE) Discussions on the above Resolution are recorded and on file in the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.**

**New Business**

Senator Brian Strow moved approval of the First Reading of the following motion:

*Whereas a plus/minus grading system has been shown to increase student effort;*  
*Whereas a plus/minus grading system will increase grading accuracy;*  
*Whereas a plus/minus grading system will increase grading fairness;*  
*Whereas 18 of the top 20 schools (as defined by US News and World Report) have a plus/minus grading system and many other schools are moving toward this system;*  
*Whereas many new faculty to WKU have had experience with the plus/minus grading system and have preferred it to Western’s current grading system;*  
*Whereas the below grading system is the most often used among schools, which have a plus/minus grading system;*

I hereby propose that the University Senate recommend that Western Kentucky University adopt the following grading system to be implemented in the fall of 2004:
A = 4.0
A- = 3.7
B+ = 3.3
B = 3.0
B- = 2.7
C+ = 2.3
C = 2.0
C- = 1.7
D = 1.0
F = 0.0

The motion was seconded.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion on the **First Reading of this motion.**

Senator Sharon Mutter moved to **amend the motion by adding: (D+ and D-)**

The motion was seconded.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion on the amended motion.

After discussion, the Chair called for a vote on the motion as amended.

The motion carried on a vote of **30 Yes to 13 No**

Chair Smith again opened the floor for discussion of the main motion as amended.

After considerable discussion, Senator John All moved to **amend the main motion as amended to include A+ and have that equal 4.3 GPAs on the student’s transcript.**

The motion was seconded.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion of the amendment to the main motion as amended.

Considerable discussions and statements ensued.

Senator Patricia Minter moved to close discussion. The motion was seconded. The motion carried.

The Chair called for a vote on the amendment to the main motion as amended.

**The motion failed with a vote of 6 yes to 35 No.**

The Chair again opened the floor for discussion on the main motion as amended.

Senator Jeffrey Samuels moved to amend the amended motion to **include A+ in the grading, however this would show as a 4.0 on the transcript.**
The motion was seconded.

Chair Smith opened the floor for discussion of the amended motion.

Again, considerable discussion ensued.

Chair Smith called for a vote on the amendment to the amended motion.

Paper ballots were distributed. The votes were tabulated by Vice Chair Jim Berger. The motion to include A+ that would be recorded on the student’s transcript as a 4.0 GPA carried with a vote of Yes 28. No 26. 3 abstained.

The motion, as amended, now reads:

Whereas a plus/minus grading system has been shown to increase student effort;

Whereas a plus/minus grading system will increase grading accuracy;

Whereas a plus/minus grading system will increase grading fairness;

Whereas 18 of the top 20 schools (as defined by US News and World Report) have a plus/minus grading system and many other schools are moving toward this system;

Whereas many new faculty to WKU have had experience with the plus/minus grading system and have preferred it to Western’s current grading system;

Whereas the below grading system is the most often used among schools that have a plus/minus grading system;

I hereby propose that the University Senate recommend that Western Kentucky University adopt the following grading system to be implemented in the fall of 2004:

\[
\begin{align*}
A+ &= 4.0 \\
A &= 4.0 \\
A- &= 3.7 \\
B+ &= 3.3 \\
B &= 3.0 \\
B- &= 2.7 \\
C+ &= 2.3 \\
C &= 2.0 \\
C- &= 1.7 \\
D+ &= 1.3 \\
D &= 1.0 \\
D- &= 0.7 \\
F &= 0.0
\end{align*}
\]
Chair Smith again opened the floor for discussion on the First Reading of the motion as amended.

After considerable discussion, Chair Smith declared that the motion with approved amendments has had its first reading.

NOTE: All discussions of the above motion are recorded and on file in the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

OTHER
Dr. Barbara Burch, Provost reported on the actions of the Board of Directors Committees which was held today. Dr. Burch reported on the President’s report to the BOR Committees on “It is Academics’ Turn” and a way to make an impact on the unfunded growth, which is substantial.

Provost Burch said it is the President’s belief that the only thing we have immediate control of is tuition. She said the President discussed what we do in the meanwhile if there are no new monies coming to WKU. What the Board decided today, was to give immediate attention to supporting unfunded growth needed to sustain academic quality. The resolution was to raise the tuition $200.00 a semester, effective January 2004. This will produce more than $5.8 million per year. She said the Board’s decision was totally supported, although the proposal does not resolve the matter of faculty salaries being so far from benchmarks. She said the President is committed to use some of the tuition increase in the Spring to address compensation. She said the Board expressed that they wanted to begin work on a long-range plan that will address more comprehensively the academic needs. Dr. Burch discussed the proposal to the Board of Regents and said a full proposal will be made public by the President tomorrow. Provost Burch said that the future commitment, that the Board signed off on today, is recognizing the importance of increasing faculty salaries and acknowledging their commitment to turn their attention to this. Another part of the plan included support for Student Success, with added resources housed in Downing University Center. It could include Career Services, counseling, peer mentor support, student work areas, media center, and a place for non-traditional student support systems, along with many other ways to improve student success. Dr. Burch also spoke on increasing support for Graduate programs, recruiting, and retention with increasing graduate assistantships. She said there are also funds for targeted scholarships including programs such as Music and some of the performing arts, student work support, leadership scholarships, etc. Academic Learning Environments were also discussed by the Provost. She said there was money allocated for renovations of classrooms, labs, clinical areas, student - faculty work stations, extended campus areas, and smart classrooms. She said this could begin as early as in the Spring, and provides for $500,000 annually. She said there was another $500,000 included for instructional technology, as well as dollars allocated for increasing classrooms on South Campus.

Provost Burch and Regent Dietle expressed their excitement about today’s BOR Committee meetings and urged the Senate to attend the meeting with the President on October 23, 2003.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 P.M.
Respectfully submitted,

 Patricia Minors, Secretary

 Lou Stahl, Recorder