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January 04, 2005

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Dr. Sherrie Serros  
Chair University Senate

**FROM:** Barbara Burch  
Provost and Vice President  
For Academic Affairs

**SUBJECT: December 16, 2004 University Senate Minutes**

I endorse without exception the actions of the University Senate at its December 16, 2004 meeting

/ls

**MINUTES  
UNIVERSITY SENATE  
DECEMBER 16, 2004  
GARRETT BALLROOM**

Chair Sherrie Serros called the meeting to order at 3:30 P.M. **The following members were present:** Darlene Applegate, Ferhan Atici, Mustafa Atici, James Berger, Ray Blankenship, Charles Borders, Tim Brotherton, Barbara Burch, Suzie Cashwell, Robert Choate, Josh Collins, Thad Crews II, Robert Dietle, Richard Dressler, Karin Egloff, Brittany Fausey, Jane Fife, Malia Formes, Elmer Gray, Anthony Harkins, William Howard, Nezam Iraniparast, Terry Jepson, Pamela Jukes, Danita Kelley, Kaveh Khatir, Soleiman Kiasatpour, Wilma King-Jones, Joan Krenzin, Amy Krull, Andrew McMichael, Russell Moore, George Musambira, Sharon Mutter, David Neal, les Pesterfield, Yvonne Petkus, Matt Pruitt, Sylvia Pulliam, Eric Reed, Jeffrey Samuels, Roger Scott, Sherrie Serros, Vernon Lee Sheeley, Nelda Sims, Douglas Smith, Mason Stevenson, Brian Strow, Stacey Wade, Nedra Wheeler, Mary Wolinski, Uta Ziegler. **Alternates present were:** Nancy Rice for Lawrence Alice, Sylvia Gaiko for John Bonaguro, Stuart Burris for Eric Conte, Andrew Ernest for Blaine Ferrell, Judy Walker for Kacy Harris, Scott Droege for Robert Sims. **Members absent were:** John All, Mike Binder, Ellen Bonaguro, Barbara Brindle, Christopher Brown, John Bruni, Dana Emberton-Tinius, Sam Evans, Jerry Gotlieb, Bill Greenwalt, Richard Hackney, Kirk Heriot, Michelle Hollis, Tim Howard, Dan Jackson, Robert Jefferson, David Lee, Minwoo Lee, Deborah Lively, Kathleen Matthew, Margaret Maxwell, Connie Mills, Patricia Minors, John Moore, Anne Onyekwuluje, Elizabeth Paris, Morgan Phelps, Keith Philips, Heather Pulliam, Gary Ransdell, Sherry Reid, Loren Ruff, Byron Sleugh, Peter St. Pierre, Jim Stone, Jue Wang, Richard Wilson, Edward Yager.

**Approval of the Minutes**

The Minutes of November 18, 2004 were approved as presented.

**University Senate Action Endorsement**

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Barbara Burch, endorsed without exception the actions of the University Senate at its November 18, 2004 meeting.

**Report from the Chair**

Chair Serros reported that the first meeting of COSFL for this semester was held December 4, 2004. At that meeting there were a number of issues that seemed to be of much concern to representatives from across the state. One concern involved the way the CPE is looking at program review. The wording coming from CPE seems to imply it has the authority to simply terminate programs if they do not agree with recommendations from the program department and the college. Chair Serros said at this meeting other campuses are also concerned about the release of student data that was discussed at our November meeting.

**Report from the Vice Chair**

Vice Chair Jim Berger, reported that he has not received nominations from all departments for the University Faculty Continuance and Grievance Committees and urged them to do so as soon as

possible. Next, Senator Berger said the ballot for the 2005 University Academic Complaint Committee would be passed out at this meeting.

### **Report from the Faculty Regent**

Regent Robert Dietle also reported on the COSFL December meeting. He said we should investigate further into the CPE's authority rather than the administration's authority to dictate program procedures.

### **Report from the Provost**

(No Report)

### **Standing Committee Reports**

#### **University Curriculum Committee** (Report attached to Agenda)

Senator Andrew McMichael moved approval of the consent agenda.

Chair Serros asked if any Senator wanted to move any item from the consent agenda to action. No such requests were made. She then called for a vote. The motion carried.

#### **General Education Committee** (Report attached to Agenda)

Senator Brian Strow moved approval of the consent agenda.

Chair Serros asked if any Senator wanted to move any item from the consent agenda to the action agenda.

Chair Serros then called for a vote on the agenda. The motion carried.

Next the General Education Committee drafted a resolution regarding SAC's preliminary report which found that WKU is not in compliance with SACS standards with regard to the assessment of our General Education program. (attached to the agenda)

Senator Brian Strow moved approval of the following:

### **RESOLUTION**

The syllabus for the General Education Course must contain:

1. an explicit statement of the General Education goals and objectives that the course helps fulfill
  - a. in courses with multiple sections, there must be a shared identical statement of goals and objectives
2. an explicit statement of specific course goals and objectives that are linked to the General Education goals.

In addition, the General Education Committee asks that departments prepare a brief statement of how they assess these goals and objectives within each course. This report should be sent to the General Education Coordinator (Robert Dietle) no later than March 1,

2005.

Chair Serros opened the floor for discussion. She then called for a vote. The motion carried.

**Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities Committee**

(No report)

**Academic Quality Committee**

Senator Douglas Smith said the Committee met two weeks ago and they are in the process of preparing questionnaires to evaluate the pilot of plus/minus grading which will start in the Spring 05 semester. Senator Smith said they also discussed a proposal that has been brought to the Executive Committee about moving "rush" to the sophomore year. The recommendation by the Committee is to ask for feedback from Student Life groups across campus.

**Graduate Council Report** (Report attached to the agenda)

Dean Elmer Gray presented the report and moved approval.

Chair Serros asked if any graduate faculty would like to move any item from the consent agenda to action. No such requests were made.

The Chair then called for a vote from the graduate faculty. The motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Chair Serros opened the floor for discussion of the second reading of the changes in the functions of the Graduate Council as delineated in the Charter.

**The functions of the Graduate Council shall be:**

**1. To make proposals to the University Senate concerning university-wide graduate academic polices.**

- a. To receive, review, and act upon academic course and program proposals being submitted through the approval process;
- b. To review existing graduate programs and new program proposals in light of the university's mission statement;
- c. To review any graduate academic matters such as degree and graduation requirements, standards of scholastic achievement, rules and regulations governing faculty-student relations;
- d. To review existing graduate courses and new courses having significant consequences that cross college lines;
- e. To study any graduate curricular matter it chooses;
- f. To study graduate matters assigned to it by the Executive Committee.

**2. To make proposals directly to the Vice President for Academic Affairs concerning university-wide administrative and personnel policies.**

- a. Recommendations on stipends and benefits for graduate assistantships;
- b. Recommendations on graduate student research grants;
- c. ~~Requirements for appointment and continuation on the Graduate Faculty;~~
- d. ~~Hearing and acting upon student appeals of graduate requirements;~~
- e. Establishment of standing and ad hoc committees;
- f. Responding to requests about graduate matters from the Academic Vice President and for Council of Academic Deans.

Chair Serros opened the floor for discussion.

After considerable discussion, Senator Douglas moved to amend Item 2.c and 2.d to read:

2.c. Requirements and recommendations for appointment and continuation of Graduate Faculty status.

2.d. Hearing and acting upon student appeals of Graduate Studies and Research requirements

The motion to amend carried.

The motion as amended carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Ballot for the election of the University Academic Complaint Committee was distributed.**

Vice Chair Jim Berger called for nominations of faculty from the floor. There were no nominations

Next Senator Berger called for nominations of students from the floor. There were no nominations.

**Workers' Compensation Strategic Changes for the Future Program**

Tony Glisson , Human Resources presented the 2005 plan, as attached to the December Agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Suzie Cashwell Secretary

  
Lou Stahl, Recorder

**NOTE:** The agenda with its attachments for this meeting can be found on the University Senate website: <http://www.wku.edu/Dept/Org/FS/meetings.htm>

**RESULTS OF THE UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC COMPLAINT COMMITTEE**

**Faculty**

Danita Kelley  
Matt Pruitt

**Faculty Alternates**

Robert Scott  
Barb Kacer

**Student**

Zachary Callahan

**Student Alternate**

Regan Brown