



A LEADING AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WITH INTERNATIONAL REACH

October 31, 2008

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Dr. Julie Shadoan  
Chair University Senate

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

**SUBJECT: October 16, 2008 University Senate Minutes**

I endorse without exception the actions of the University Senate at its **October 16, 2008** meeting.

/lsw

*The Spirit Makes the Master*

Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs | Western Kentucky University | 1906 College Heights Blvd. #11008 | Bowling Green, KY 42101-1008  
phone: 270.745.2296 | fax: 270.745.5442 | web: [www.wku.edu](http://www.wku.edu)

Equal Education and Employment Opportunities • Printing paid from state funds, KRS 57.375, 2006 • Hearing Impaired Only: 270.745.5389

To: Freida Eggleton, Registrar


From: Barbara Burch, Provost

Cc: Dennis George, Lou Stahl-White, Sherry Powers, Beth Plummer, Julie Shadoan

Date: October 20, 2008

Re: Approval of Senate Actions

By my signature below, I hereby endorse the actions of the Senate, at its October 16, 2008 meeting, on all curriculum. All other actions are subject to my final review.



---

Barbara G. Burch, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

## **WKU UNIVERSITY SENATE MINUTES**

October 16, 2008

### **I. Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the WKU University Senate was called to order Thursday, October 16, 2008, at 3:45 P.M. in the Garrett Ballroom by Chair Julie Shadoan. A quorum was present.

#### **The following members were present:**

Cathy Abell, Janet Applin, Kristina Arnold, Mark Berry, Scott Bonham, Kim Botner, Barbara Brindle, Dorothea Browder, Stuart Burgis, Terry Dean, Mark Doggett, Molly Dunkum, Andrew Eclov, CiCi Edwards, Tim Evans, Michele Fiala, Douglas Fugate, Reagan Gilley, Andrea Grapko, Denise Gravitt, Kim Green, Anthony Harkins, Michelle Hollis, Kate Hudepohl, Tom Hunley, Skylar Jordan, Molly Kerby, Debbie Kreitzer, David Lee, Nathan Love, Paul Markham, Kathleen Matthew, Michael McIntyre, Patricia Minter, Roger Murphy, Sharon Mutter, Johnston Njoku, Holly Payne, Yvonne Petkus, Keith Philips, Heidi Pintner, Beth Plummer, Lisa Proctor, Matt Pruitt, Kelly Reames, Roger Scott, Julie Shadoan, Nevil Speer, Shane Spiller, Sandra Starks, Francesca Sunkin, Samanta Thapa, Rico Tyler, Christopher Wagner, Richard Weigel, Kenneth Whitley, and David Zimmer.

#### **Alternates present were:**

Doug McElroy for Barbara Burch, Liz Sturgeon for Dawn Garrett, Adrian Switzer for Jeffrey Samuels, and Jacob Miers for Kayla Shelton.

#### **The following members were absent:**

Melanie Autin, Mike Binder, John Bonaguro, Richard Bowker, Kelly Burch-Regan, Audrey Cornell, Pitt Derryberry, Uma Doraiswamy, Ahmed Emam, Sam Evans, Blaine Ferrell, Aaron Kindsvatter, Qu Li, Jim Lindsey, Karen Mason, Timothy Mullin, Dan Myers, Steve Nagy, Jane Olmsted, Ken Payne, Les Pesterfield, Mark Pickard, Gary Ransdell, Sherry Reid, Angela Robertson, Mark Shafer, Vanessa Scott, Heather Strode, Louis Strolger, Donald Swoboda, William Tallon, Luella Teuton, Stacy Wade, Carol Watwood, Paul Woosley, and Zhonghang Xia.

### **II. Minutes**

The Minutes of the September 18, 2008 meeting were approved as read with no additions or corrections.

### **III. Reports**

#### **a. Chair**

Julie Shadoan, Chair of the Senate, had no report.

#### **b. Vice Chair**

The Vice-Chair, Denise Gravitt, reported that Patricia Minter was elected for a three-year term as Faculty Regent.

**c. Faculty Regent**

The Faculty Regent, Patricia Minter, thanked the members of the Senate and the Executive Committee for their support in the election and commended Denise Gravitt on her diligence in running the Regent elections smoothly in the past two years.

Minter reiterated that if there is anything you have to say, don't hesitate to contact her.

The next Board of Regents meeting is Oct. 31.

A committee meeting took place on October 10<sup>th</sup>. Minter stated that Forrest Roberts is a good friend of the faculty because she thinks the faculty's views are important.

Minter is concerned about the rental of 100 parking spaces from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM in a downtown parking garage that is expected to be built. The university would pay \$250,000 a year for 30 years for 1/3 of the garage spaces. Ransdell did not feel that it was a good idea but the concern was that if we don't go through with it, the garage won't happen. Minter discussed the pros and cons of this and stated that she plans to vote no on the issue, although input is welcome.

The US News and World Report ran an article on our IA football in which President Ransdell was quoted as saying it was easier to achieve notoriety in football than academics because we don't have big endowments. Minter feels that the President should be guiding private donors toward our top priorities, which would hopefully be academics. Again, she likes to hear our feedback.

The Bowling Green Medical Clinic is pulling out of the provider list; Minter encouraged people to attend the meeting Monday at 4:45. She also suggested directing questions to the group, not to HR.

**d. Provost**

The Provost, Barbara Burch, was not present. Dr. McElroy presented a report on her behalf. He stated that the 120-hour minimum degree review committee will have revisions in 2-3 weeks. There will be a forum for faculty and student input.

Dr. Selig feels there will be no delay in the implementation of standards; the report will change the standards in General Education courses.

University College has a new home.

There is nothing definitive in the budget; state revenue is down and Dr. Burch hopes we will escape without a cut. Enrollment is at 19,731 and is still rising. The faculty

and staff across the campus are to be commended for their recruiting efforts, and Burch hopes there will be implications on tuition dollars.

Dr. Harry Boyte, Senior Fellow at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs and founder/co-founder of the Center for Democracy and Citizenship at the University of Minnesota, will visit Western Kentucky University Oct. 20-21. Boyte will be giving a public address titled "The Struggle for the Soul of America – Regional universities and the future of democracy" at 7 p.m. Monday (Oct. 20) at Mass Media & Technology Hall Auditorium. His talk draws from his most recent book "The Citizen Solution: How you can make a difference." Along with his public lecture, Boyte will be co-conducting a workshop on "Organizing as Strategy for Culture Change" from 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday (Oct. 21) at the Carroll Knicely Conference Center. If you would like to participate in the workshop, contact Alecea Davis at (270) 745-6237 or alecea.davis@wku.edu. Dr. Boyte's lecture is sponsored by the American Democracy Project and the workshop is sponsored by the WKU ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships.

#### **Standing Committee Reports**

##### **a. Graduate Council**

Nedra Atwell, the Vice-Chair of the Graduate Council, made a motion for support and approval of the Graduate Council agenda items for University Senate consideration, except for GRST-597 and the Administrative Dynamics Program, which were removed. The consent agenda with amendment passed unanimously with no discussion on the items.

##### **b. University Curriculum Committee**

Beth Plummer, Chair of the University Curriculum Committee, made a motion to approve the consent agenda with exception to Math 103, which was moved to the action agenda by the Executive Committee. The unanimous vote to pass all courses was recalled, and after a discussion of Math 103 by Michelle Hollis, another vote took place and all courses (including Math 103) passed unanimously.

##### **c. General Education**

Richard Weigel, Chair of the General Education Committee, moved for approval for the agenda. The items passed unanimously without discussion.

##### **d. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities**

No report was presented.

##### **e. Committee on Academic Quality**

No report was presented.

#### **IV. Old Business**

After a year of diligent and tireless work on behalf of Sharon Mutter and the SITE Committee, the University Senate rejected a proposal to replace our SITE evaluations with ETS' SIR II Evaluation. Lengthy discussion centered on the extra cost (and

uncertainty of where the money would come from to pay for it), length of the SIR II form, and lack of a service by SIR II to type student comments. A vote to call the question by Denise Gravitt was seconded and carried with two in opposition. With a vote of 21 in favor and 32 opposed, the SITES Resolution did not pass.

**V. New Business**

There was no new business.

**VI. Announcements**

The next meeting in November will be at the Faculty House, NOT at Garrett.

**VII. Adjournment**

A motion "that the meeting adjourn" was carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Heidi Pintner, Secretary