

To: Freida Eggleton, Registrar

From: Barbara Burch, Provost

Cc: Dennis George, Lou Stahl-White, Julie Shadoan

Date: November 20, 2008

Re: Approval of Senate Actions on Curriculum

By my signature below, I hereby endorse the actions of the Senate, at its November 20, 2008 meeting, on all curriculum. All other actions of the Senate are subject to my final review.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Barbara G. Burch", written over a horizontal line.

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

WKU UNIVERSITY SENATE MINUTES

November 20, 2008

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the WKU University Senate was called to order Thursday, November 20, 2008, at 3:55 P.M. in the Faculty House by Chair Julie Shadoan. A quorum was present.

The following members were present:

Cathy Abel, Janet Applin, Kristina Arnold, Mark Berry, Scott Bonham, Barbara Burch, Kelly Burch-Regan, Stuart Burris, Terry Dean, Pitt Derryberry, Andrew Eclov, CiCi Edwards, Michele Fiala, Douglas Fugate, Dawn Garrett, Reagan Gilley, Kim Green, Anthony Harkins, Dan Myers, Johnston Njoku, Jane Olmsted, Yvonne Petkus, Heidi Pintner, Beth Plummer, Sherry Powers, Lisa Proctor, Matt Pruitt, Kelly Reames, Jeffrey Samuels, Michelle Hollis, Molly Kerby, Joan Krenzin, Jim Lindsey, Nathan Love, Michael McIntyre, Sharon Mutter, Rachel Neal, Mark Schafer, Roger Scott, Vanessa Scott, Julie Shadoan, Nevil Speer, Shane Spiller, Heather Strode, Louis Strolger, Francesca Sunkin, Luella Teuton, Rico Tyler, Carol Watwood, Richard Weigel, Kenneth Whitley, David Zimmer.

Alternates present were:

Jeff Barefoot for Barbara Brindle, Eric Reed for Dorothea Browder, Kumi Ishii for Holly Payne, Brittany-Ann Wick for Jordan Skylar, Aaron Celestian for Debbie Kreitzer, and Kristi Branham for Paul Markham.

The following members were absent:

Melanie Autin, Mike Binder, John Bonaguro, Kim Botner, Richard Bowker, Audrey Cornell, Mark Doggett, Uma Doraiswamy, Molly Dunkum, Ahmed Emam, Sam Evans, Tim Evans, Blaine Ferrell, Denise Gravitt, Kate Hudepohl, Tom Hunley, Aaron Kindsvatter, David Lee, Qi Li, Kathleen Matthew, Patricia Minter, Timothy Mullin, Roger Murphy, Steve Nagy, Ken Payne, Les Pesterfield, Keith Philips, Mark Pickard, Gary Ransdell, Sherry Reid, Angela Robertson, Kayla Shelton, Sandra Starks, Donald Swoboda, William Tallon, Samanta Thapa, Stacy Wade, Christopher Wagner, Paul Woosley, and Zhonghang Xia.

II. Minutes

The Minutes of the October 16, 2008 meeting were approved as read with no additions or corrections.

III. Reports

a. Chair

Julie Shadoan, Chair of the Senate, reported that she approached Robbin Taylor again about revising the state statute to include instructors in voting. Shadoan also brought this issue up with Taylor last year and intends to continue working on the issue until it is resolved.

Shadoan has gotten some emails regarding the insurance surplus, along with a request to bring this to the benefits committee. A faculty member has suggested that if the state budget is such that faculty will not be afforded at least a cost of living raise this year, that the insurance reserve could be liquidated and paid back to the insurance constituency – faculty and staff.

Shadoan created a resolution to the SITE process that was voted on later in the meeting. The council on academic deans has taken issue on this and Shadoan wants to make sure that the faculty voice is heard.

Shadoan asked the faculty to think about the race and diversity issue on campus and wants to know if the Senate would like to take an active role in this, versus letting various offices and individuals to take care of it.

b. Vice Chair

The Vice-Chair, Denise Gravitt, was absent. There was no report.

c. Faculty Regent

The Faculty Regent, Patricia Minter, addressed the senate about campus safety and the flawed response to the recent incident on campus. Regents Minter, Boles, and Smith requested a meeting with the administration about the fact that this did not go smoothly. As representatives of the students, faculty, and staff, they met with Ransdell, Taylor, and others, to talk about what went well, what didn't go well, and how we can do it better in the future. Minter assured the senate that she will not rest until the faculty, staff, and students know where they are supposed to be and know what to do in each building.

Minter thanked the people who stood outside the Board of Regents meeting to protest the parking garage. It passed, but she is proud that the faculty, staff, and student regents, along with Forrest Roberts, voted against it. The board voted 7-4 on the parking garage. Some issues that were raised included damage to the campus, practical issues about the shuttle, etc. The Board of Regents see this parking garage as a bridge to the business community. Minter feels that we need to make a difference between wants and needs.

Regarding the SITE vote, even people who voted "no" on the resolution still want something to happen. Minter encouraged the faculty to use their voice to say what they don't like and what they want to happen.

Minter stated that she is done with being told something without having a voice.

The next Board of Regents meeting is January 30th.

d. Provost

The Provost, Barbara Burch, stated that the council of deans did not vote to take action on the SITE without faculty consideration. She knows that we can do better than the SITE and some hard decisions will cause something to be done. Burch wants faculty and administrators to both have a voice. The deans voted to support making changes to the SITE and to consider a change of instrument later.

Regarding energy conservation, John Osborne said that we will be \$657,000 short on utilities this year if we do everything exactly the same. He presented ideas to the administrative council and the deans on energy conservation. Burch stated that turning the utilities off in the winter break and during the summer break to do data tracking will be a one-time occurrence. Implications will be dealt with in the next week or so. During the three-week period at Christmas, the registrar will be open, and one or more computer lab locations will be open. J-term enrollments are important for the academic budget. Holds on campus can be taken care of online so students can enroll. Textbooks for J-term will be available. Year-round international students in Pearce-Ford tower will have accommodations. IT will be up the entire time and help will be available. We will have access to our offices and things will be safe, but the heat will be on very low. Summer will have some significant challenges. The first summer term is four weeks instead of five. Campus-wide notes about provisions will go out during this trial period.

The budget situation is 3.5-4 times worse statewide this time. We will get to keep our carry-forward. In professional development and unit productivity accounts, any money after July 1, 2009 that is left over has 3% against the balance. 97% of the carry forward will be kept.

Jeffrey Samuels stated that he feels it is absurd to close the university at a time when he can be doing professional development and research and he suggested turning off the lights at night, instead. Dr. Burch encouraged him to send the impact of this in writing. She said that the council of deans met four times to discuss this one-time effort.

Bob Ware is allocating one full-time electrician position (effective immediately) that will provide free labor to make the changes. Ransdell wants to send the message that we are threatened. Jeffrey Samuels feels that the community is laughing at us when we pay for parking spaces but have to turn off our utilities.

Dr. Burch wants people to use their professional development accounts because when it is unused, the message is that we don't need it. Sharon Mutter asked if it also applies to direct funds.

Richard Kirchmeyer stated that the initial report from John Osborne dealt with the summer only (not the winter). Patricia Minter and Jeffrey Samuels stated that they feel they have deadlines and work to do and that their work is going to be compromised as a result of the university being closed. Dr. Burch stated that the winter closing will go forward, and in spite of this, she invites the faculty to voice

their concerns. Michele Fiala brought up that musical instruments in FAC could be damaged as they were earlier this year.

Standing Committee Reports

a. University Curriculum Committee

Beth Plummer, Chair of the University Curriculum Committee, made a motion for support and approval of the University Curriculum Committee agenda items for University Senate consideration. The consent agenda passed unanimously with no discussion on the items.

The December 16th UCC meeting is canceled because the university will be closed during that time.

b. General Education

No report was presented.

c. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities

No report was presented. The Faculty Welfare Committee needs a part-time representative on the committee, which will be meeting December 4 at 3:45 in FAC 221.

Julie Shadoan announced that revisions to the Faculty Handbook are almost complete; the committee is waiting for the new job revisions that were created last spring and the handbook will move on without changes in the instructor and faculty level.

d. Committee on Academic Quality

No report was presented.

e. Graduate Council

Sherry Powers, the Chair of the Graduate Council, made a motion for support and approval of the Graduate Council agenda items for University Senate consideration. The consent agenda passed unanimously with no discussion on the items.

IV. Old Business

The University Senate had an opportunity to discuss the revisions to the Senate Charter. Other than some questions about changes in committee membership, there was no discussion. The Senate Charter will be brought back in December for vote.

Dr. Kirchmeyer will do a test run on online voting in the spring.

V. New Business

The Campus Safety Resolution was voted on and was passed unanimously with no discussion.

The SITE Resolution presented by Sharon Mutter was seconded, followed by discussion. Mutter proposed the following amendment to the resolution, which was also seconded: "FURTHER RESOLVED, that the appropriate studies be completed to address the validity and reliability of any instrument developed at WKU before final adoption of the instrument." The resolution passed as amended, with 4 senators opposed. The purpose of this resolution was to preserve the right for the faculty in every department to have input on this issue.

VI. Announcements

There is a December 11th meeting at the Faculty House (3:45 P.M.).

VII. Adjournment

A motion "that the meeting adjourn" was carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Pintner, Secretary