



UNIVERSITY SENATE

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

3:45 p.m. – Faculty House

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the WKU Senate was called to order on Tuesday, May 15, 2012 at 3:45 p.m. in the Faculty House by Chair Kelly Madole. A quorum was present.

The following members were present: Darlene Applegate, Krista Briggs, Charles Borders, Kristi Branham, Amy Cappiccie, Jerry Daday, Tucker Davis, Robert Dietle, Marc Eagle, Karin Egloff, Gordon Emslie, Jim Fulkerson, Becky Gilfillen, John Gottfried, Jennifer Hanley-Walton, Darbi Haynes-Lawrence, Sonya House, Jan Hunt-Shepherd, Angela Jerome, Guy Jordan, Molly Kerby, Randy Kinnersley, Debbie Krietzer, Kelly Madole, Mac McKerral, Andrew Mienaltowski, Patricia Minter, Matt Nee, Yvonne Petkus, Pam Petty, Keith Phillips, Kristin Polk, Matt Pruitt, Beth Pyle, Kelly Reams, Eric Reed, J. Krist Schell, Vernon Sheeley, Fred Stickle, Francesca Sunkin, Janet Tassell, Paula Trafton, John White, Maribeth Wilson, Dawn G. Wright, Mary Wolinski

Alternates present were: Ahmed Khalafallah (Shahnaz Aly), Danita Kelley (John Bonaguro), Tammera Race (Amanda Drost), Jim Kanan (Carrie Trojan)

Absent: Mike Binder, Nathan Bishop, Erika Brady, Ginger Bomar, Diane Carver, Pitt Derryberry, Vladimir Dobrokhotov, Kinchel C Doerner, Joseph Evans, Sam Evans, Ron Gallagher, Dennis George, Brandon Gifford, Peggy Gripshover, Jeffrey Kash, Mikhail Khenner, Ed Kintzel, Joan Krenzin, Suellyn Lathrop, Alex Lebedinsky, David Lee, Ingrid Lilly, Steve Miller, Tracey Moore, Gustava Obeso, Gary Ransdell, Kateri Rhodes, Richard Schugart, Janice Smith, Michael E Smith, Mark Staynings, Cheryl Stevens, Martin Stone, Dana Sullivan, Samanta Thapa, Evelyn Thrasher, Huanjing Wang, Mary Wolinski, Di Wu, David Zimmer

II. Approve April 2012 Minutes

- Dr. Minter - When will recording of debate in March over Colonnade be available? (Response Dr. Madole will put that on Senate webpage).
- April Senate minutes approved.

III. Reports:

1. **Chair** – Kelly Madole – Last senate meeting, happy to have opportunity to serve as Senate Chair and happy to turn the job over to Mac!
2. **Vice Chair** – Francesca Sunkin – Privilege and honor to serve as Vice Chair. Have a great summer!
3. **Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership for Higher Education (COSFL) Representative** – Molly Kerby – no report.

4. Advisory

Faculty Regent – Patti Minter

- Reminder BOR finance committee meeting June 1st. Time not posted yet. That is in advance of the called meeting of full BOR to vote on budget, which will be June 22nd. What is on that agenda? Things of interest – budget includes the 2% raise across board (Faculty and staff) tuition increase of 4.8%, that will be a separate motion. Budget is one major motion. That will be on June 22 if anyone is interested.
- On same subject, wanted to let you know I had a good meeting with President Ransdell about: Faculty salary issue, issue presented later in the agenda about what 5 year plan will be for faculty compensation. Gist is 9 is not enough. Felt he was listening, felt is an issue that does interest him. Talked about strategic plan as it related to faculty staffing and to recap quickly from a white paper for him, must have salary increases and continue to hire faculty of quality. Isn't an issue of either or is appropriate. Pursue and increase compensation and hiring in order to remain competitive. Part of a larger conversation had with him, felt it was a constructive conversation.
- Finally, BOR retreat is July 26 – 27. Strategic plan is major subject of retreat July 26. Other agenda items – coaches contracts, athletic director contract, personnel actions that were not acted upon yet will happen here. Anything you want to say about strategic plan? How do you communicate that? Department heads, senators, and through her. Not a bad idea to communicate all three ways. Everyone working on this would greatly appreciate any input as they work towards deadline. Thank you very much. This is a 12 month job, any concerns – you know where to find her.

Provost – Gordon Emslie

- 6.5 recommendations all approved. Grad council, UCC, Gen-Ed, Course Equivalency Policy (has passed CAD), the revised 02-4R, Study Abroad Compensation Policy – progress made, not sure where it is going just yet, access to educational resources has passed CAD and will be at administrative council next.
- Looking for input on action plan – other than faculty compensation. 16 other initiatives to focus on. Have been listening. Latest draft not ready for circulation yet. He is a fiscal realist – must have dollars in order to provide raises and more faculty. For example, this years CPE proposed budget with performance based budget in it. It did not occur. Will try again in 2 years. Slightly more aggressive expectations of state appropriations – believe with those more aggressive assumptions, we can increase faculty/staff by 15% with new faculty over a six year period, as we include another biennium. Some objectives are worthy and do not require money.

V. Standing Committee Reports:

1. Graduate Council (see attached report) – Nevil Speer

Nevil Speer move for approval. Motion passes.

2. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (see attached report) – John White

- John White – moves approval. Motion passes.

4. General Education Committee (see attached report) – Eric Reed –

- Eric Reed moves filing of the report (See Senate webpage).
- Recommendations (Postponed definitely from March meeting)
- *Discussion points can be found on the senate webpage – see sound clip.*

1. Motion #1: The General Education Committee moves that the WKU Colonnade Program implementation date will be fall semester 2014.

- (Reed moves / Daday Second. Motion passes).

2. Motion #2: The General Education Committee moves that the World Language Proficiency

standard in the WKU Colonnade Program be changed to read:

“Admitted students are expected to demonstrate language proficiency at the ‘novice high’ level before completing 60 hours of coursework. Additional courses may be taken to meet this proficiency.”

- **(Reed moves / Pruitt second). Motion passes.**

3. **Motion #3:** The General Education Committee moves that the WKU Colonnade Program’s “Connections” guidelines that relate to the level of “Connections” courses be changed to read:

“Although they may be counted toward major or minor program degree requirements, Connections courses are classes at the 200-level or above designed for the general student population, and should be taken after students have completed 21 hours of WKU Colonnade Program coursework or achieved junior status.”

- **Reed moves / White second. Motion passes.**

4. **Motion #4:** The General Education Committee moves that the following language be added to the WKU Colonnade Program’s “Connections” guidelines, in order to better define what a “discipline” is:

“Courses selected must be from three different disciplines (usually defined by course prefixes).”

- **Reed moves / White second. Motion passes.**

5. **Motion #5:** The General Education Committee moves that the WKU Colonnade Program rules and program description be changed to indicate that all courses in the WKU Colonnade Program are categorized as General Education coursework.

- **Reed moves / White second. Motion passes.**

Implementation motions - Postponed from March Senate Meeting, Renumbered:

6. **Motion #6:** The General Education Committee moves that the Senate vote to charge the Senate Executive Committee to form a body (“WKU Colonnade Program Implementation Committee”) that will facilitate the implementation of the WKU Colonnade Program and oversee an orderly transition from the current program to the new program.

- **Reed moves / White second. Motion passes.**

7. **Motion #7:** The General Education Committee moves that all currently-approved general education courses, including those that are specified by name in the WKU Colonnade Program, be decertified from automatic inclusion in the WKU Colonnade Program. The WKU Colonnade Program Implementation Committee will devise a process, criteria, and timeline for evaluating courses for inclusion in the new program. All new courses proposed for inclusion in the WKU Colonnade Program will be approved by the appropriate curriculum process (by department and college curriculum committees and the UCC) before being sent to the WKU Colonnade Program Implementation Committee for review.

- **Reed moves / White second. Motion passes.**

8. **Motion #8:** The General Education Committee moves that the current General Education program be closed to new courses or revisions upon approval of the WKU Colonnade Plan by the Board of Regents.

- **Reed moves / Second Pruitt**
 - **Motion to amend – McKerral**, strike, “...by the Board of Regents.” **Second Reams.**
 - **DS motion to amend:** Motion - Kinnersley – “upon *final* approval of WKU Colonnade plan.” Second White.
 - **Kinnersley - Motion passes.**
 - **McKerral – Motion passes.**
9. **Motion #9:** The General Education Committee moves that the Senate recommend that the Provost/VPAA assemble a task force to review Associate Degree general education and, if necessary, propose appropriate revisions.
- **Reed / Second Daday. Motion passes.**
10. **Motion #10:** The General Education Committee moves that the Senate urge the University to provide adequate staffing, funding and training for implementation of the WKU Colonnade Program and that the regional campuses be taken into consideration if new faculty positions are created to meet the demands of the WKU Colonnade Program.
- **Reed / Second Pruitt. Motion passes.**

Randy Kinnersley motion – University Senate recommends Dr. Ransdell take the WKU Colonnade Plan to the BOR meeting for approval at the next meeting. **Second Dietle. Motion passes.**

5. Faculty Welfare & Professional Responsibilities –Mac McKerral

- Report (See Senate website) McKerral – move to file report.
- Resolution – Move **McKerral** (see Senate webpage – University Senate Resolution for Appropriate Emphasis on Academics.) **Second White. Motion passes.**
- Faculty Workload Policy, 1.2090 – **McKerral / Second Borders**
- **DS:** Petty – availability for departments at department meetings. Is it not supposed to be up, by bylaws, a week ahead of time? Was not able to present to faculty since we did not have a current copy. Would like to ask we *postpone definitely until next meeting so we can represent faculty.* (**Motion Petty / Second Jerome. Motion passes.**)

VI. New Business:
Information Item

1) Revisions to Policy 1.4090 Course Equivalency

Action Items

1. **Resolution** Supporting the Preservation of an Open Marketplace of Ideas (See Senate webpage)
 - **Guy Jordan** motion / Second Reed.
 - **Discussion included comments such as:**
 - Exactly what problem are we trying to address, and what do we want Dr. Ransdell to say?
 - In a nut shell, what we want is for administration and president to say freedom of speech is coupled with respect. It’s just enough to say “we embrace freedom of speech in all parties. We are for saying, we are for free speech.
 - Principled statement about what should occur on a campus, in terms of a learning environment, for people to express themselves freely, how system can work in a positive way in terms of outcomes we are talking about. Principled statement that says we operate in an environment where we allow everyone their version of free speech, and where issues of difference can be resolved collegially, because that is the way it’s supposed to work.

- Nee - Resolution does not represent a call to action, but a vague statement. Reword resolution in such a way that it is more specific, and less general, it might be easier for us to discuss.
 - **Dietle – move to close debate. White second. Motion fails.**
 - **Motion / Resolution passes.**
2. **Response to Strategic Plan: Invest in Instruction and Student Achievement**
- **Eric Reed**
 - Would like Senate to send this document to Dr. Ransdell, Dr. Emslie, and BOR for response before the budget is finalized.
 - Would like a reaction to this as well. Presenting for consideration.
 - **Reams – Move Senate endorses and send to Dr. Ransdell, Dr. Emslie, and BOR with a written response from each. Second McKerral.**
 - Discussion included statements like:
 1. Would like to speak in favor of this – faculty on this campus need to feel respected. There is a deep feeling of disrespect. Money is only one portion of it. This is what it is, it says what it says, do you value us or not?
 2. We've been encouraged repeatedly to respond to strategic plan – now we can do that. Other thing – I understand the Provost's position that we want more money, want more hires, got to figure out where it is going to come from. We have reached this point, in terms of faculty compensation and spending on academics. Based on a strategic plan. 6 years prior to now – plan ignored things. We didn't arrive here by accident. Had we been on our guard 6 yrs ago, we may not be having this discussion right now. We didn't land here by accident.
 3. Other benchmarks are doing a better job than WKU with resources, than us! Why can they do it, and we can't? It's due to decisions that have been made. We need to make better decisions! I too am really tired of hearing, -when the president decided to go to 1a football, they never said, what are you going to give up to have that? For instruction and academics, it's, "What are you going to give up?" We are a university. Instruction should be primary, but we are always third or fourth.
 4. Emslie – question – is it appropriate to request a response from the BOR?
 - **Reams – Would like to amend original motion to remove "...response from the BOR." Second Nee.**
 - **Motion to end debate White / Second Haynes-Lawrence. Motion passes.**
 - **Overall motion passes.**
 - **Supporting Documents (See Senate Webpage)**
 - **Benchmark Finances**
 - **Benchmark Salaries**
3. **Retention Task Force Advising Recommendations**
- Move to send to Academic Quality and charge them with responding to Provost.(White / Haynes-Lawrence / Second)
 - Motion passes.

Motion to adjourn White.

Meeting adjourned 5:39 pm

Respectfully submitted by Darbi Haynes-Lawrence, Secretary