



UNIVERSITY SENATE

Thursday, December 15, 2011

3:45 p.m. – Faculty House

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the WKU Senate was called to order on Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 3:45 p.m. in the Faculty House by Chair Kelly Madole. A quorum was present.

The following members were present: Erika Brady, Christa Briggs, Ginger Bomar, John Bonaguro, Charles Borders, Kristi Branham, Amy Cappiccie, Pitt Derryberry, Robert Dietle, Kinchel C. Doerner, Amanda Drost, Marc Eagle, Karin Egloff, Gordon Emslie, Joseph Evans, Jim Fulkerson, Ron Gallagher, Becky Gilfillen, John Gottfired, Peggy Gripshover, Jennifer Hanley-Walton, Sonya House, Jan Hunt-Shephard, Angela Jerome, Guy Jordan, Molly Kerby, Randy Kinnersley, Debra Kreitzer, Kelly Madole, Andrew Mienaltowski, Steve Miller, Patricia Minter, Matt Nee, Yvonne Petkus, Pam petty, Kristin Polk, Matt Pruitt, Beth Pyle, Eric Reed, Krist J. Schell, Aly Shahnaz, Vernon Sheeley, Mark Staynings, Fred Stickle, Martin Stone, Francesca Sunkin, Janet Tassell, Paula Trafton, Carrie Trojan, Maribeth Wilson, Mary Wolinski, Dawn G. Wright, David Zimmer

Absent: Darlene Applegate, Mike Binder, Nathan Bishop, Diane Carver, Jerry Daday, Tucker Davis, Vladimir Dobrokhotov, Sam Evans, Blaine Ferrell, Dennis George, Brandon Gifford, Darbi Haynes-Lawrence, Mikhail Khenner, Ed Kintzel, Joan Krenzin, Suellyn Lathrop, Alex Lebedinsky, David Lee, Ingrid Lily, Tracey Moore, Gustavo Obeso, Gary Ransdell, Kateri Rhodes, Richard Schugart, Janice Smith, Michael E. Smith, Billy Stephens, Dana Sullivan, Samanta Thapa, Evelyn Thrasher, John White,

Alternates present were: Michael Smith (for Keith Phillips), Dale Rigby (Kelly Reams), Zhonghang Xia (for Huanjang Wang), Qi Li (for Di Wu)

II. Approve November, 2011 Minutes

November 2011 Senate minutes were postponed for the next meeting.

III. Reports:

1. **Chair** – Kelly Madole made three announcements. (1) Preliminary proposals for the Ad Hoc Governance Committee, led by Julie Shadoan, will be put on the Senate web page. (2) Connie Foster, Interim Dean of the Libraries, announced the formation of a Campus Library Advisory Council. She wants it to be faculty-based and proactive. The SEC will appoint Senate reps to that committee. (3) The Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities Committee of the Senate will consider work-load policy.
2. **Vice Chair** – Francesca Sunkin - No report
2. **Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership for Higher Education (COSFL) Representative** – Molly Kerby – No report

4. Advisory

- a. **Faculty Regent** – Patti Minter: Open meetings of the Board of Regents will take place on Fri., Dec. 16 from 1:00 PM onwards. She is a voting member of the Academic Affairs and the Student Affairs Committees. The full BOR meeting will take place on Jan. 20. Minter intends to vote against the merit pay raise for Coach Willie Taggart. Citing it as the biggest merit raise in the history of WKU, and noting that there has been no faculty merit pay pool since 2007, she stated that Taggart's raise makes it seem that the academic mission is not important and that it looks like WKU values entertainment over academics. She will instead recommend that the BOR allocate a merit pay pool for faculty.
- b. **Provost** – Gordon Emslie: Over 20 faculty sabbaticals are in process. Concerning 9 recommendations sent to him by the Senate, some were approved, others sent to the SEC, and others are being revised. He announced the formation of a committee to create an application to join the American Association of Museums. He also announced that the SEC can appoint two members to the incipient Campus Library Advisory Council. The next phase of the Action Plan concerns strategies and metrics. Unit heads are passing this to the faculty for feedback on what each unit can do to meet the objectives. Dialogue on it will run through February. A web-site with blog will be set up. A half million dollars was given in one-time funding for classroom and equipment improvements. On Feb. 20 there will be a Grants Workshop on how to write compelling grant proposals. It will broad-based in scope.

Guy Jordan asked why there were no faculty members on the Museum committee. Provost Emslie said they were appointed members.
- c. **SGA President** – Billy Stephens – No report

V. Standing Committee Reports:

1. **Graduate Council** (see attached report) – Nevil Speer
Chair Nevil Speer moved approval of the GC report. The report was approved as posted.
3. **Undergraduate Curriculum Committee** (see attached report) – Wilson , on behalf of John White, moved approval of the UCC report. The report was approved.
3. **General Education Committee** (see attached report) – No report.
4. **Faculty Welfare & Professional Responsibilities** –Mac McKerral – No report
5. **Academic Quality** – No report

VI. University Committee Reports

- a. On behalf of Jerry Daday, Senate Chair Kelly Madole displayed his Powerpoint of activities of the Benefits committee. It is revising the dependent child tuition policy. New members include Brian Strow (Economics), appointed by President Ransdell as an additional discipline-specific member, and Kelly Reames (English), appointed by the SEC. The Health Care Reserve Balance has \$5.5 million.
- b. Daday, also a member of the Athletic Committee, was told that Taggerts's salary was a product of Division 1 football.

VII. Unfinished Business:

1. Masters of Public Health, Ref # 152 (Navitas) Discussion took place among Robert Dietle, Kinchel Doerner, as well as the director of the Navitas program, and John Bonaguro, Dean of CHHS. Deitle was concerned that because Navitas does not admit students based on a national standard in the English language, the students admitted will not be successful academically. The Academic Advisory Council,

with Neville Spear as a member, will prepare a survey tracking the students. Chair Madole asked when this progress report will be available. The Navitas Masters program was approved.

2. Handbook Committee Charter Change (2nd reading) was approved.

VIII. New Business:

Consent Items

1. Revision to Policy 1.1301, Sabbatical Leave was accepted .

Action Items

1. University Senate Resolution Requesting an Increase in Employer Contributions to Health Care Benefits was approved.
2. University Senate Resolution on Variable Employer Contribution for Health Plan Discussion took place among Randy Kinnersley, Patti Minter, and Matt Pruitt. Pruitt presented an amendment that Single employees opting for the standard plan will be covered 100%. The amendment was approved. Molly Kerby presented an amendment to add “other dependents” to spouses and children, and to replace the word “family” with “situation.” The amendment was approved. The amended resolution was approved.
3. Policy 3.1202, Moving Expense Reimbursement Policy Discussion took place between Robert Dietle and Provost Emslie. In answer to Dietle’s question, Provost Emslie stated that the money for moving expenses will come from Academic Affairs. The policy was approved.
4. Policy 1.1990, Pedagogical Track Faculty (1st Reading) Discussion took place among Matt Pruitt, Provost Emslie, Robert Dietle, Pam Petty, Mac McKerral, Kelly Madole, and Andrew McMichael. Concerns were raised about the term “socially responsible,” the reason for having this track, overloading the pedagogical faculty with teaching, the use of the term “pedagogical,” and the creation of a “second-class citizen.” It was pointed out that “socially responsible” is part of WKU’s mission statement, that units are not required to pursue this track, that it would bring quality faculty to the regional campuses, and that non-academic teaching faculty are needed by certain units, such as Journalism. Provost Emslie is open to a change in the term “pedagogical.”
5. Marc Eagle presented the following resolution. The University Senate requests that Guy Jordan and Kristina Arnold be added to the Museum Advisory Committee. The resolution was approved.

Meeting adjourned at about 5:10 PM, Dec. 15, 2011.

Respectfully submitted by Darbi Haynes-Lawrence, Secretary

Notes were taken by Mary Wolinski.

(Many, many thanks to Mary for taking notes for me!!!- Darbi)