

University Senate Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 20, 2014 -- 3:45 p.m.
Faculty House

Call to Order:

- Chair Margaret Crowder called the regular meeting of the WKU Senate to order on Thursday, November 20, 2014 at 3:48 pm in the Faculty House. A quorum was present.

- **Members Present:**
Heidi Álvarez, Shahnaz Aly, Dora Babb, Erika Brady, Imelda Bratton, Barbara Burch, Mike Carini, Yining Chen, Robert Choate, Seth Church, Ismail Civelek, Krisstal Clayton, Thaddeus Reed Crews, Margaret Crowder, Tucker Davis, Martha Day, Laura DeLancey, Karin Egloff, Jody Evans, Joseph Evans, Ann Ferrell, Lloren Foster, Marilyn Gardner, John Gottfried, Frederick Grieve, Jennifer Hanley, Tom Hunley, Michelle Jackson, Jeffrey Kash, Eric Kondratieff, Stephen King, Dominic Lanphier, David Lee, Ching-Yi Lin, Ling Lo, Sean Marstin, Greg McAmis, Doug McElroy, Andrew Micnaltowski, Patricia Minter, Anthony Paquin, Yvonne Petkus, Shura Pollatsek, Beth Pyle, Atilla Por, Nancy Rice, Tiffany Robinson, Janet Nicki Seay Taylor, Julie Shadoan, Jonghee Shim, Beverly Siegrist, Doug Smith, Rebecca Stobaugh Lizabeth Price Sturgeon, Dick Taylor, Rico Tyler, Tamara Van Dyken, Andrew West, Aaron Wichman, Blaireanne Williams, and Elizabeth Winkler.

- **Alternates Present:**
Danita Kelley for John Bonaguro, Patricia Minter for Marko Dumancic, Doug McElroy for Gordon Emslie, Janet Applin for Sam Evans, Michelle Trawick for Jeffrey Katz, Audrey Anton for Bella Mukonyora, Kelly Reames for Jeff Rice, Heather Payne Emerson-Alberna for Adam West, Lance Hahn for Beverly Siegrist, Tonya Bragg-Underwood for Dawn Gannett Wright.

- **Guests Present:**
Gordon Baylis, Molly Dunkum, Dawn Hall, Andrew McMichael, Paul Mooney, Aaron Mudd (WKU Herald), Merrall Price.

- **Members Absent:**
Cathy Abell, Kristi Branham, Jill Brown, Ashley Chance-Fox, Allison Day, Patricia Desrosiers, Richard Dressler, Connie Foster, Dennis George, Jennifer Lynn Howard, Kate Hudepohl, Muhammad Jahan, Angela Jerome, Samantha Johnson, Dean Jordan, Richard Keaster, Hanna Khouryieh, Thomas Kingery, Qi Li, Gayle Mallinger, Alexandria Manglaris, Catherine Martin, Lauren McClain, Richard Miller, Steve Miller, Evelyn Montecal Oregon, Inma Pertusa, Pam Petty, Tammera Race, Gary Ransdell, Julie

Shadoan, Michael Smith, Cheryl Stevens, Dick Taylor, Kevin Thomas, Tanya Vincent, Kristin Wilson, and Zhonghang Zia.

A. Approve October Minutes

- **The October minutes were approved as posted with no corrections.**

B. Reports:

1. Chair – Margaret Crowder

- Changes will be made to health benefits as mentioned over the summer. After speaking with the benefits committee, they do not have anything to add at this point. Please send information to Chair Crowder on your general comments, questions, and concerns (not questions related to HR about how things work, but regarding how the change has taken place of how funding has come from the institution over time) – things related to the larger aspects of benefit at this institution – because we can potentially influence how we move forward in subsequent years. Chair Crowder will collect this information from your departments and put it in a format to merge with other senators. It will be put forth to the benefits committee members so when they come to a future meeting, we can give the comments.
- Jerry Daday's term on the benefits committee ends this year (end of December). We need a replacement who is interested in serving and who has something to bring to the table. In terms of the Budget and Finance Committee that we caucused for, Andrew West is the Chair.
- The results of the caucus are posted. Standing committees are updated on the Senate website. Chairs should check the lists for accuracy and verify with Crowder.
- The election results for PCAL were Turner.
- There was a letter from Dr. Ransdell to the Owensboro mayor regarding the Fairness Ordinance.

2. Vice Chair – Jennifer Hanley (no report)

3. Secretary - Heidi Alvarez (no report – clarified sign-in process)

4. Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership for Higher Education – Molly Kerby (no report)

5. AAUP President - Eric Reed (no report)

6. Advisory:

a. Faculty Regent – Barbara Burch

- Dr. Minter's final report is posted on the Senate website.
- Dr. Burch, the new Faculty Regent, will distribute the Board of Regents report to the secretary one week ahead of time to include in the report.
- The finance committee ignored the 4th Quarterly Report, and urged the Finance Committee to look at enrollment numbers, which are down 1.4% this year (approximately \$550,000). Retention is up, and faculty make retention happen: we are currently at

73.1%, with a goal of 75% for this year. International population is up, Saudi enrollment is up, Brazilian enrollment is up, and the biggest drop in enrollment was represented in graduate studies, part time, and non-traditional numbers. Dr. Burch said that we need a growth environment and urged the faculty to look closely at what choices are being made and to think about what can be done in this area.

- Approved action items included Emerita Faculty and the new Doctorate in Applied Psychology.
- The Clinical Lab downtown will be helpful to the Nursing program
- Dr. Philip Bale, Chair of the Academic Committee, shared his views that for adolescents/young adults, we harm student achievement and attendance because physiologically, they do not function in the hours we have scheduled for classes. He suggested moving them to later times.
- Dr. Burch wants to share what she has been doing and thinking about since the Regent election, and is delighted to be looking at things from a different perspective. She has met with the President and Provost and Dr. Minter and discussed the impact of institutional priority goals and how they align with realities; where you decide to fund priorities makes a huge difference.
- Unintended consequences of priorities need to be considered. We are all glad to get better students; but a trade-off to this good thing is that every year, the numbers have been increasing to the extent that it took \$4 million additional monies in the scholarship pool to fund them. Endowments and gifts to match would be ideal. Even with discussion, no one is pretending this is going to be a miracle of funding in higher education – more diligently, more effectively, but not necessarily new dollars. There will be some – where do we put new dollars? How do we offset the costs of scholarships for students? Controls on tuitions are more diligent and effective but do not solve everything. How do we offset the cost of what it takes in dollars to fund scholarships for students?
- In the Strategic Plan, funding faculty salaries is tied to growth dollars. Funding faculty salaries is front and center, mostly funded with growth dollars that are not there. This does not change the commitment; the Provost and the President are still committed to funding faculty and fostering academic excellence, which reinforces WKU as a destination of choice for faculty and students.
- What do we want and need to do our job the best and to feel like WKU is the university of choice?
- Dr. Burch explained the difference between governance and faculty regent; the Regent works for and represents the university's best interest; this is hard to do if it is not in the best interest of the faculty. Dr. Burch feels like the faculty are the drivers. She needs to know and better understand what will sustain faculty commitment to WKU and enable us to do our jobs. What are the relative priorities? The Provost has a faculty advisory committee to advise him -- The Provost's Advisory Committee and Budget Committee – Regent Burch urges faculty to connect with members of these committees.
- Faculty engagement means working toward transparent questions, to be well informed, and to give input.
- What is more important? Compensation or salary? Both – this is not our choice. The real choice might be to do one thing that can affect the other. Choices have to be real choices. This is increasingly a time for choices for whatever dollars available must be

weighed in the context of something else. How is the faculty voice to be heard making transparent choices?

- Dr. Burch urges the faculty to send ideas on better ways to understand her role as regent so she can figure out how our voices will be heard. She knows priorities will be different in various colleges and departments. Dr. Burch wants to know how to represent the faculty the best to support and enable us to do our job and move WKU forward.
- Chair Crowder said that a copy of Dr. Burch's report containing additional comments and information will be posted online.

b. Provost – Doug McElroy for Gordon Emslie

- Dr. Emslie is at a CPE meeting in Frankfort working on SACS Level 6, number of doctoral programs compliance certificate. The off-site team will be sharing their findings Tuesday in a conference call. The next steps will be identified Tuesday. The QEP is submitted for February. The onsite visit will be in April. Ideas are being prioritized and they will have more to share soon. The assessment pieces look good, and others are in editing mode.
- Dr. McElroy said that Dr. Burch is right; the Provost and the Provost's Office in general have benefited from advisory committees established in the past few months. The space, recognition, benefits, and keys committees have affected thinking and reasoning in decision making.
- The rises and falls in tuition are \$400,000 for the semester. The excess revenue NAVITAS students surplus \$200,000 can be applied toward a one-time shortfall.
- Spring and beyond registration is still ongoing, with a commitment for increased expenditures toward scholarships.
- Performance-based funding models are being discussed. The state budget picture is up in the air.
- There is a bigger first-time degree-seeking cohort number this semester. These students have higher GPA and ACT scores, which are up one point from last fall. This year's is higher. We will benefit from this in Spring retention.
- In Phase 1, there are 30 searches ongoing. Phase 2 is being discussed. The deans met with the Provost's advisory committee regarding a merit raise pool and a need for positions in certain areas.
- The Space Committee has met and has a schedule developed. The next month or two there will be a website showing available space.
- The Recognition Committee is discussing what they want to recognize and how to do that.
- The Keys Committee is making revisions and existing issues have been discussed. In the next month or sooner, decisions will be made regarding the proposed revisions.
- CPE tomorrow
- The CHHS Dean Search is going on with the fourth of four finalists.
- The Society for Lifelong Learning: Laves is looking for additional suggestions for short courses in that area.
- Four recommendations from the previous senate meeting – 2 committee reports – approved colonnade, SITE questions discussed by CAD and sent back to academic quality. The revised statement of purpose – Oct. 31 went before the board and was

approved as written.

c. SGA President – Nicki Taylor

- In student governance, the committee on diversity and global enhancement is up to 30 students and 6 faculty members. There is still room for additional members. Seth Church is the chair of this committee, which is working to expand the resources/size of the resource center on campus.
- There is an emergency food assistance program within the SGA. Remaining balances on an account suspend the WKU ID. This means it suspends the meal pass if the student has an outstanding bill. SGA will distribute 10 Fresh Food meal passes and the WKU Food Pantry.
- SGA passed a resolution supporting a small student fee of \$4 per year for student legal services. This is going through appropriate channels to be approved by the Board of Regents and the CPE.
- There is a debate on whether students support or not a smoking ban on campus. The resolution passed 14/10 SGA Senate but failed in the Executive cabinet. The resolution was vetoed. 5? abstained.
- If there are any questions/concerns, go to Nicki.

C. Standing Committee Reports and Recommendations

1. **Graduate Council: (Report posted; Endorsed by SEC)**

- Lance Hahn, Vice Chair of the Graduate Council, subbing for Beverly Siegrist, made a motion for approval of the Graduate Council report as posted on the website. There was no discussion. The report was approved.

2. **Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: (Report posted; Endorsed by SEC)**

- Andrew Mielenatowski made a motion to approved the UCC report. Krisstal Clayton asked if there is a plan for Psych Sciences to increase the number of 210 section? There are 600 majors in this section, with up to 10 sections per year. Is there a plan to increase staffing for the 210 section for the future? The item was removed from the consent agenda due to the issue of Psych 210. The remainder of the UCC report, minus Psych 210, was considered. There were no comments. The report was approved minus Psych 210. Kelly Madole said that offerings will be increased for the methods course as needed. Clayton – no further discussion. This one item passed unanimously.

3. Academic Quality: No Report

4. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibility: No Report

5. General Education: No Report

6. Colonnade Implementation Committee: (1 Item; Endorsed by SEC)

a. **International students in foreign language (policy revision proposal posted)**

- Molly Dunkum made a motion to approve the International students in foreign language

submission. There was no discussion. The item was approved unanimously.

D. Old Business (none)

E. New Business

1. Colonnade courses for approval (AFAM 190; AFAM 343; EDU 385; ICSR 200; ICSR 300)
 - Molly Dunkum made a motion to approve five more courses for inclusion in the Colonnade Program (2nd Lloren Foster). The motion passed. The courses were approved unanimously.
2. Policy 0.1020 International Travel Registration (Posted)
 - Paul Mooney came to the SEC to discuss this in regard to having additional information about where faculty may be while conducting official WKU business in case of political unrest, natural disaster, etc.. WKU wants to know where you are in case they come into harms way so they can help you and you can be found. Associated with a software package, information does not go to a third party; it is only “in house”. A motion to approve by Kelly Madole (2nd Jennifer Hanley). Shura Polachek asked what constitutes official university business? Are sabbaticals counted? Dr. Baylis said the broadest definition of university business as possible offers university protection; the spirit is about a system to protect from “bad guys”, regulations, etc. Margaret Crowder said that university business is university business. Gordon Baylis suggests if you are doing something for career, then call it “university business unfunded”, because it protects you when you are traveling outside of the country. There was no more discussion. The Policy was approved with a clear majority, with one opposed.
3. Policy 1.2180 Tuition/Fee Reimbursement for Employees Pursuing Doctoral Degrees at Universities other than Kentucky Public Institutions (Posted)
 - A motion to approve by Kelly Madole (2nd Eric Kondratieff) was approved unanimously.
4. Policy 1.1111 Evaluation of Faculty Credentials (-new- Revision Posted)
 - This is a new revision; it was approved, then post-senate revised, and went back through the SEC. The change made post-senate is highlighted in green. The yellow highlights the senate changes. The blue highlighting are the changes made at SEC. It is mostly editing changes, nothing substantive. The wording is the only change “entire semester/term” incorporates all terms at the institution. A motion to approve the revised version by Erika Brady (2nd Doug Smith) passed unanimously.

F. Information items

1. President Ransdell’s letter to Owensboro Mayor regarding a Fairness Ordinance (Posted)
2. University Academic Complaint Committee election results (Posted)

3. Budget and Finance Committee caucus results (Posted); Andrew West selected as Chair
4. Provost's Advisory Committee on Space – replacement PCAL member chosen via lot-draw by SEC: Joel Turner, Department of Political Science

Margaret Crowder asked the senate if the projector is needed at the meetings. The discussion resulted in a decision to do away with the projector at the senate meetings.

The meeting concluded at 4:42 PM, followed by a motion to adjourn by J. Hanley (2nd H. Álvarez).

Respectfully Submitted,

Heidi Álvarez, Secretary