

**MINUTES
UNIVERSITY SENATE
FEBRUARY 15, 2001
GARRETT BALLROOM**

Vice-Chair Claus Ernst called the meeting to order in the absence of Chair Patricia Minter at 3:35 p.m. The following members were absent without alternate representation: Karen Adams, Jeff Baynham, Jim Becker, Michael Binder, Erika Brady, David Coffey, William Davis, Thomas Green, Jennifer Hall, Martin Houston, Dan Jackson, Robert Jefferson, Wilma King-Jones, Michael Klein, David Lee, Jim Martin, Mary Ellen Miller, John Moore, Tony Norman, Rich Patterson, Lester Pesterfield, Gary Ransdell, Loren Ruff, Thomas Schandling, Ed Wolfe, Edward Yager. Alternates in attendance were Douglas Smith for Kathryn Abbott, Mark Ross for Joel Philhours, Jeff Hackett for James Skrabacz.

The minutes of January 18, 2001 were approved as presented.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Dr. Ernst said the Executive Committee is continuing to look for suggestions to amend the Charter. Amendments will be presented to the Senate in March or April. Dr. Ernst invited Senators to send suggested amendments to Dr. Minter. Next, Dr. Ernst reported that the SGA President, Cassie Martin, has emailed all Senators a proposal for Faculty Evaluations which will be conducted by the SGA. Dr. Ernst asked that Senators look at the outline and make comments or suggestions to any member of the Executive Committee before its next meeting. Dr. Ernst noted that the new evaluation process will be web-based and that this process is very different than that approved earlier by the Senate.

NEW BUSINESS

REPORTS FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE

REPORT FROM THE GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Robert Dietle offered a correction to the minutes of the October 12 meeting of the General Education Committee. At that meeting, members approved ANTH 343 for inclusion in Category F. This item was inadvertently left out of the committee minutes. Members approved the correction.

The chair also reported on the implementation of the new General Education Requirements. The Provost's Office has accepted the suggestion of the General Education Committee that the new requirements do not need to be voted on by the Board of Regents. The logic behind this decision is that the new requirements are a revision of an existing program and such revisions are normally sent to the BOR as an information item. The new requirements start with the summer 2001 term.

In the near future, the Provost will invite interested WKU faculty to apply for the position of Coordinator of General Education. The position will carry a 6-hour load reduction in teaching.

At 3:45 Dr. Richard Kirchmeyer spoke briefly to the committee, asking if it would read and comment on the Five-Year Strategic and Operations Plan for Information

Technology. The members agreed and will give their responses at the committee's March 8 meeting.

The Committee continued its discussion of UC 101. Members compiled a list of questions to be sent to Dr. Luther Hughes, who will attend the committee's March 8 meeting. The committee also agreed that the chair should send faculty and staff an email requesting information and opinions concerning UC 101. The committee plans to present its recommendation on UC 101 at the March meeting of the University Senate.

REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Dr. Darlene Applegate passed out the consent agenda noting that the suspension of Program #064, M.A. in Economics had been added to the agenda. Dr. Applegate then moved approval of the consent agenda. The Chair presented each item separately and invited Senators to remove any item being presented from consent to action. Action items are denoted by an asterisk (*).

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. CREATION OF NEW COURSES *

COMM 571	Computer-Mediated Communication in Organizations
COMM 581	Applied Organizational Communication
EDU 601	Seminar: Advanced Professional Development Plan
MATH 275	Introductory Topics in Mathematics
PH 584	Principles of Environmental Health
PH 591	Health Program Evaluation

II. REVISION OF PROGRAMS *

Program #149	M.S. in Nursing
Program #152	M.P.H. Master of Public Health
Program #480	Minor in Speech
Program #514	B.F.A. in Fine Arts
Program #562	B.S. in Family and Consumer Sciences Education

III. EXCEPTIONS TO UNIVERSITY POLICY *

Program #152	M.P.H. Master of Public Health
Program #153	M.P.A. Master of Health Administration

IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF DEPARTMENTAL POLICY *

Awarding CLEP Credit for MATH 126 Calculus and Analytic Geometry I

V. REVISION OF COURSES

ANTH 436/436G	Public Archaeology
ANTH 495/495G	Directed Study
CFS 381	Materials and Methods in Home Economics Education *
CFS 382	Communication Techniques in Home Economics *
NURS 508	Advanced Issues in Professional Nursing *
SCOM 345	Advanced Public Speaking
Change of prefix from SCOM or BCOM to COMM on the following courses:	
BCOM 401G	History of Broadcasting in America
SCOM 142	Forensic Practicum I
SCOM 144	Forensic Practicum II
SCOM 145	Fundamentals of Public Speaking
SCOM 148	Interpersonal Communication
SCOM 161	Business and Professional Speaking
SCOM 240	Critical Listening
SCOM 242	Forensic Practicum III
SCOM 244	Forensic Practicum IV
SCOM 245	Argumentation and Debate
SCOM 247	Voice and Diction
SCOM 249	Interpretation of Literature
SCOM 263	Fundamentals of Communication and Culture
SCOM 340	Parliamentary Procedure
SCOM 341	Theories of Communication
SCOM 342	Forensic Practicum V
SCOM 343	Speech Analysis and Speech Writing
SCOM 344	Forensic Practicum VI
SCOM 345	Advanced Public Speaking
SCOM 346	Persuasion
SCOM 349	Group Decision Making
SCOM 363	Interracial Communication
SCOM 369	Cooperative Education in Speech Communication
SCOM 401G	History of Broadcasting in America
SCOM 442	Forensic Practicum VII
SCOM 443/443G	Persuasion in Contemporary Society
SCOM 444	Forensic Practicum VIII
SCOM 447	Studies in Public Communication
SCOM 460	Organizational Interviewing
SCOM 461/461G	Organizational Communication
SCOM 463/463G	Intercultural Communication
SCOM 474	Gender Differences in Communication
SCOM 489	Cooperative Education in Communication

SCOM 494	Capstone in Communication
SCOM 495	Independent Study in Communication
SCOM 501	Qualitative Methods of Communication Research
SCOM 502	Survey Research Methods in Communication
SCOM 503	Foundations of Communication Concepts
SCOM 510	Strategies for Teaching Speech Communication
SCOM 522	Seminar in Mass Communication
SCOM 542	Practicum in Communication Consulting
SCOM 544	Persuasive Communication
SCOM 561	Multinational Business Communication
SCOM 562	Special Topics in Intercultural Communication
SCOM 563	Issue Management
SCOM 564	Crisis Communication
SCOM 565	Communication and Conflict
SCOM 569	Values and Leadership in Organizational Communication
SCOM 572	Nonverbal Communication
SCOM 576	Principles of Group Communication
SCOM 578	Seminar in Interpersonal Communication
SCOM 586	Processes of Group Communication
SCOM 595	Independent Study in Communication
SCOM 599	Thesis Research and Writing
SCOM 600	Maintaining Matriculation

VI. SUSPENSION OF PROGRAMS

Program #515	B.F.A. in Graphic Design – Commercial Art
Program #064	M.A. in Economics

The motion carried.

REPORT FROM THE FACULTY WELFARE AND PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES COMMITTEE

Dr. Katrina Phelps reported that last month the FWPRC drafted two proposals for policy change which were in the minutes of last month's meeting; they have now gone to the Executive Committee where they were approved. Dr. Phelps presented the proposals and moved approval:

Policy Recommendations from the Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities Committee (2/01)

EMERITUS/A STATUS

Western Kentucky University will honor select faculty members, upon retirement, as emeritus/a faculty. These individuals will be granted certain rights and privileges in recognition of their honored role in the university community and their ongoing potential for contributions to the intellectual and cultural life of the university.

To be awarded emeritus/a status, faculty must have served the university for at least 10 years. Faculty should have attained the rank of Professor, Associate Professor or Assistant Professor (under exceptional circumstances Instructors may be considered). Recommendation for the emeritus/a appointment will originate in the home department and proceed through administrative channels to the President, who will make recommendations to the Board of Regents for action. Such recommendations will be based on the record of achievement and service of the faculty member during his/her career at the University. Candidates must apply for emeritus/a status and be endorsed by a majority vote of tenured faculty in their home department.

If the recipient is a male faculty member, the title Emeritus will follow his rank upon retirement (e.g., Professor of History, Emeritus); if the recipient is a female faculty member, the title Emerita will follow her rank upon retirement (e.g., Professor of History, Emerita).

Emeritus/a faculty will be eligible for the benefits from the university accorded to retired faculty members, including such things as a university identification card, library privileges, computing services, an email account, a parking permit, access to university recreational facilities, the campus dental and outpatient medical services available to other faculty members, purchase of tickets to academic and athletic events at the prevailing faculty rate, enrollment in university classes under the faculty-staff scholarship plan, purchase of items at the University Bookstore at the prevailing prices for faculty and staff, eligibility to apply for internal research grants, and continued use of the university as an agent for external grant applications. Emeritus/a Professors may attend meetings of the University Senate, may participate in university academic processions and ceremonial events, and are eligible to have their names included on the faculty lists in the University Catalog Issues.

The motion carried

MACEBEARER

- (1) The individual must be a current member of the University faculty. Retired or optionally retired individuals are not eligible.
- (2) The faculty member with the most years of full-time service at Western Kentucky University will carry the mace. The years of service need not be consecutive, but must have been in a full-time, paid position. Unpaid leaves of absence do not count towards years of service.
- (3) In the event that two or more individuals are eligible and willing to serve, then the designation of who shall carry the mace shall be determined by mutual agreement or by lottery for each commencement ceremony.

The motion carried

Dr. Phelps next reported that the current focus of the FWPRC is the strategic goal of recruiting and retaining high-quality faculty and whether or not the University is doing

everything possible to meet these two goals. One way the Committee thought it might address this question is to develop a survey that will go out to faculty members who have been here 10 years or less. The survey would include questions that focus on what the University should do to support faculty, what benefits make high quality faculty want to stay at WKU, and what the University should do to encourage faculty to become a part of the academic community. This survey would be administered in tandem with a department head survey that would look at the hiring and retention rate from the administrative standpoint; i.e. how many new positions have opened, how many potential faculty members were interviewed, how many accepted the position, whether they stayed in the position or left, and other job trend information. The committee will ask Institutional Research to help with the statistical aspects of the survey. The committee's goal is to develop the survey during this semester. Dr. Phelps welcomed suggestions and help.

REPORT FROM THE SENATE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

Dr. Ernst reported that the ad hoc Senate Elections committee had drafted a By-Law for a special election. He noted that the election procedure outlined in the Charter requires that all senators come up for reelection at the same time. If the majority are reelected, they could not be reelected to a third term and would have step down in 2004. Thus, the current election procedure raises the possibility that the Senate will lose a substantial number of experienced members at a single instance. The new rule will make this less likely. By this rule, a special election for departmental senators will be held in the spring of 2001 (1 year earlier than the 2-year term spelled out in the Charter). The departmental senators elected at this time will then serve for the normal 2-year term and can run for one additional term. This will effectively split the election of departmental and at-large senators into odd and even years, respectively. This split was chosen for two reasons:

1. It doesn't single out one college over another.
2. If a departmental senator explains to his/her department the circumstances of this early election and if the departmental senator expresses a wish to be reelected, he or she probably will be reelected.

An at-large senator has much less control over whether he or she will be reelected.

BY-LAW I

(supplementing II.A.4. and II.C.4. of the Charter of the University Senate)

The election of departmental senators will be conducted during odd years (2001, 2003...). The election of at-large senators will be conducted during even years (2002, 2004...). To make this possible, the departmental senators will have a one-year term for the 2000/2001 academic year and a special election will be conducted for departmental senators during the spring of 2001. This one-year term will not be counted towards successive terms and any reelected departmental senator will be eligible for a second consecutive term of two years. This would give a departmental senator elected in 2000 the possibility of three terms in office (one term of one year and two terms of two years for a total of five years in office).

After the spring 2001 elections, all senators will have two-year terms as described in the charter.

The Chair then opened the floor for discussion. After discussion, Chair Ernst moved approval of the by-law as presented.

The motion carried.

REPORT FROM THE BUDGET COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Dr. Robert Dietle, Dr. Mel Borland, and Marshall Gray reported on recent actions of the Budget Committee. Dr. Dietle referred to the recent memo sent out by President Ransdell that summarized many of the recommendations from the University Council. Dr. Dietle said there were several items in the memo he felt needed clarification. He also expressed concern that the budget salary pool only allows 2% for faculty salaries and noted that the large fee increase for athletics made it impossible to recommend any meaningful increase in tuition to cover university expenses. Dr. Dietle noted that the university should construct its budget differently. Dr. Borland reported that the \$6.5 million discretionary monies is very small given that utilities and other fixed expenditures come from this amount. This leaves little decision making abilities for the balance. Dr. Borland suggested that budgetary rules need to be established. He also expressed concern for carry-over monies. Dr. Burch noted that concerns have been expressed for the carry-over monies the budget year is closing in April this year because due to the implementation of the new Banner financial system. She said the President has offered his assurance that the carry-over monies will be in place. She also said that in our biennial budget we have carried students for whom we are not funded, but that in the next biennial there will be funding for those student. Therefore the President has been very specific in saying that next year's top priority will be salaries. Dr. Burch said she is very optimistic this will occur.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion. It was the consensus of the Senate that an ad hoc Budget Oversight Committee to investigate the budget disbursements should be established by the Executive Committee. A motion to this effect was made, seconded, and unanimously approved. It was pointed out that the members of this committee should have some knowledge of and interest in financial matters and that members would not be limited to members of the Senate, but would be a cross section of faculty.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Arvin Vos said that one issue that has been part of the discussion of the Tuition and Fees Committee is whether it is a good policy to roll tuition and fees into one. Dr. Vos said the Committee is still investigating different strategies for pricing structures.

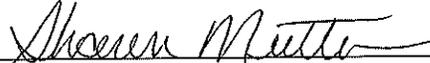
Next the Chair referred to the email sent out by Len Kogut regarding suggestions and health care plan designs for the next year. Dr. Ernst said the Health Care Committee is looking at all suggestions and invited everyone to submit comments and suggestions to the Health Care Committee. Decisions about health care insurance will be made within the next two months.

The Chair then recognized Dr. Alton Little. Dr. Little expressed concern about campus alcohol consumption. He then pointed out that Western is advertising that alcohol can be served in the sky-booths in Diddle Arena, if it is purchased from Armark. He suggested that the Senate should take issue with this policy and investigate whether it creates a liability issue for the University.

Next, Dr. Carl Kell expressed his concern for class attendance and how it impacts our campus.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon Mutter, Secretary



Lou Stahl, Recorder