

**AGENDA
UNIVERSITY SENATE
GARRETT BALLROOM
MARCH 15, 2001
3:30 P.M.**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Disposition of the Minutes**
- III. Report from the Chair**
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - A. FISCAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**
 - B. REPORT FROM THE SENATE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**
- V. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. REPORTS FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE**
 - 1. General Education Committee**
 - 2. University Curriculum Committee**
 - 3. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities Committee**
- VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

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

Chair Patricia Minter called the meeting to order 3:35 p.m. The following members were absent without alternate representation: Karen Adams, Jeff Baynham, Jim Becker, Michael Binder, Catherine Carey, David Coffey, William Davis, Thomas Green, Michelle Jackson, Dan Jackson, Robert Jefferson, Wilma King-Jones, David Lee, John Moore, Tony Norman, Jane Olmsted, Lester Pesterfield, Gary Ransdell, Loren Ruff, Thomas Schandling, James Skrabacz, Brian Sullivan. Alternates in attendance were. Douglas Smith for Kathryn Abbott, Rose Davis for Linda Allan, Kacy Harris for Linda Clark, Cynthia Mason for Bill Greenwalt, Blaine Ferrell for Martin Houston, Alvin Bedel for Jim Martin, Rich Weigel for Fred Murphy, Joan Krenzin for Matt Pruitt, Jan Peeler for Dale Smith, Art Shindhelm for Uta Ziegler.

The minutes of February 15, 2001 were approved as presented.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Dr. Minter spoke on funding priorities that the University Executive Committee will address. Chair Minter spoke on salaries for part-time and full-time faculty, and adjustments to faculty workload. Also how to make the University competitive. Dr. Minter said that the Faculty Welfare and Responsibilities Committee is working on these issues and these topics will continue to be a mission of the University Senate as it moves into the new academic year. The Chair said that the Faculty Welfare and Responsibilities committee will send out surveys, she urged members to fill these out. The Chair stressed that the University Senate has a strong voice and impact if it speaks and makes it a strong voice and that responding to the survey will be one way to achieve this mission. Next the Chair said that next month's meeting of the University Senate will be the last meeting for this academic year, and elections will be held in each college for the next academic year membership. Each college will caucus after next month's meeting to elect their representation to the various committees.

OLD BUSINESS

BUDGET COUNCIL

Robert Dietle reported that the Executive Committee would establish a shadow committee (oversight committee) which will consist of seven members: 5 members (not restricted to Senate members) and 2 ex-officio members representing the Budget Council. Dr. Dietle then moved approval to establish this committee.

The motion carried.

ELECTION COMMITTEE

Vice Chair Claus Ernst reported on the election process, Dr. Clause said this month the Departments will hold their elections for US membership representation, and once these selections are made, the departments should communicate the names to him as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS

REPORTS FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE

REPORT FROM THE GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Robert Dietle reported on the March 8, 2001 General Education Committee meeting. He said that the committee has also held a special meeting to discuss the UC 101 review. Dr. Dietle moved approval of the following motion:

After several months of reviewing UC 101, the General Education Committee has concluded that neither the university nor the committee has the information necessary to make sound and specific recommendations concerning the future of UC 101 and its role in student retention. Much of the available data is ambiguous and there are several areas in which the university has either not collected data or has not carried out the appropriate analysis. The Committee strongly recommends that the university adopt a more rigorous approach to curricular decisions, especially ones of the magnitude of a required freshman seminar.

Therefore, the General Education Committee of the University Senate recommends:

UCC 101 (Freshman Seminar) will be given a one-year extension, contingent upon the university providing adequate research grants to allow faculty with the necessary expertise to collect and analyze appropriate data. These grants will be awarded and supervised jointly by the General Education Committee and the Provost. The General Education Committee will use the results of these studies to make specific recommendations on the future of UC 101 in the Spring 2002 semester.

The Chair opened the floor for discussions: Dr. Barbara Burch concluded the discussion by saying that funding will be provided for enabling faculty who have an interest and the expertise to be involved in the analysis of the large amount of data that has been gathered to determine the future of UC 101.

The Chair called for a vote on the motion as stated to extend the for one year extension for UC 101, contingent upon the University providing adequate research grants to allow faculty with expertise to collect and analyze data.

The motion carried.

REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Dr. Darlene Applegate presented the report and moved approval of the following:

The University Curriculum Committee presents the following motions from our February 22, 2001 meeting for approval by the University Senate. (* Denotes action items of the UCC)

I. CREATION OF NEW COURSE *

HED 247C Contemporary Healthcare Issues

II. DELETION OF PROGRAM *

Program #193 Aviation Certificate Program

III. CREATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE EQUIVALENCY *

DENG 051C English as a Second Language

The motion carried.

Next Dr. Applegate requested feedback from the University Senate regarding updating curricular proposal formats which an ad-hoc committee of the University Curriculum Committee is presently updating. Dr. Applegate said the revised formats should include information to insure adequate communication among all units of the University in which the new proposals will have an impact upon, i.e. new course or program proposals etc. Dr. Applegate said the feedback should concern how much communication should occur, how

they could best monitor that the communication occur without micromanaging and she welcomed all suggestions to be forwarded to her.

REPORT FROM THE FACULTY WELFARE AND PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES COMMITTEE

Dr. Katrina Phelps reported that last month the FWPRC met and discussed Part-Time Faculty Stipends. Dr. Phelps asked Dr. Joel Philhours to respond to questions, and the floor was opened for discussion.

Report Prepared by Faculty Welfare Committee

The history of WKU's part-time faculty stipend for a three-hour course is summarized below:

<u>Period</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Average</u>
Prior to 1/1/99	\$ 990-1,360	\$1,175
Effective 1/1/99	1,100-1,500	1,300
Effective 8/16/00	1,210-1,650	1,430

According to the provost's office, the increase on 1/1/99 was "the first in a long, long time." The two increases were approximately 10 percent each.

WKU conducted a survey of the benchmark universities in Fall 1996 to assess the level of stipends. The \$1,799 median stipend of our benchmark universities was 153 percent of WKU's \$1,175 average.

How has WKU fared in the period from 1996 to 2001 and relative to the new group of benchmark universities? We did a survey of our listed benchmark universities to make a current comparison. We received 14 responses; no responses were received from Northern Michigan University, Western Carolina University, and Youngstown University. The table below lists the respondents in the order of their average stipend amount for a three-hour course.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Average Range</u>	<u>% of WKU of Range</u>	<u>Average</u>
1	West Chester U. (PA)	\$ N/A	\$ 4,848	339%
2	Western Illinois U.	3,500-5,000	4,250	297%
3	Bowling Green St. U.	3,000-5,000	4,000	278%
4	Cal. St. U., Fresno	N/A	3,720	259%
5	Illinois St. U.	3,000-3,600	3,300	231%
6	U. Northern Iowa	2,800-3,400	3,100	217%
7	Eastern Michigan U.	N/A	3,000	210%
	MEDIAN	N/A	2,800	196%
8	Appalachian St. U.	2,448-2,754	2,601	182%
9	Central MO St. U.	2,100-2,700	2,400	168%
10	Eastern Illinois U.	N/A	2,400	168%
11	Southeast MO St. U.	1,993-2,410	2,202	154%
12	Western Carolina U.	N/A	2,100	147%
13	Ball St. U.	1,800-2,400	2,100	147%
14	Indiana St. U.	N/A	1,800	126%
	Western Kentucky U.	1,210-1,650	1,430	100%

WKU ranks last among our benchmarks. The median stipend of our benchmarks is almost twice that of WKU's stipend. In 1996, the median stipend of our benchmarks was 153 percent of WKU's stipend. In 2001, the median stipend of our benchmarks is 196% of WKU's stipend. In a five-year period, WKU has fallen farther behind.

The approximate number of courses taught by part-time faculty (but not including optional retirees) is summarized below by college and academic year.

<u>College</u>	<u>Academic Year</u>					
	<u>94-95</u>	<u>95-96</u>	<u>96-97</u>	<u>97-98</u>	<u>98-99</u>	<u>99-00</u>
Education	156	155	175	206	190	242
Business	1	4	2	36	34	43
Science	114	96	87	119	150	106
Potter Arts	<u>241</u>	<u>277</u>	<u>272</u>	<u>301</u>	<u>303</u>	<u>285</u>
Subtotal	512	532	536	662	677	676
Communit	196	162	172	167	159	225
Extend. /Nontrad.	<u>457</u>	<u>456</u>	<u>488</u>	<u>512</u>	<u>528</u>	<u>535</u>
Total	<u>1,165</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>1,196</u>	<u>1,341</u>	<u>1,364</u>	<u>1,436</u>

Note: This table was prepared from data of total part-time salaries paid (data supplied by the provost's office). Those total salaries were divided by the WKU average stipend for each year to estimate the number of courses.

The number of courses taught by part-time faculty has increased by 23 percent over the five years shown. Although the stipend paid by WKU has lost ground to our benchmarks, WKU has been successful in offering more courses that are taught by part-time faculty

After considerable discussion, the Chair called for a vote on the following (2) Resolutions:

RESOLUTION

Whereas, Performance Indicator 3d of Western Kentucky University's Strategic Plan is to: "Achieve average salary levels for part-time faculty and full-time faculty (by rank) that are at least equal to the average salaries at benchmark institutions;"

And whereas the March 2001 report on part-time faculty stipends indicates Western not only has failed to achieve this goal, but continues to fall farther behind relative to our benchmarks;

Be it resolved that by the end of the current Strategic Plan cycle, Western achieve the stated Performance Indicator 3d standard.

RESOLUTION

Be it resolved that funds to increase part-time salaries to benchmark over the next three years should not impact negatively on the existing funding structure for academics, including new monies, but must come from a reallocation of existing non-academic funds.

The motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Robert Dietle said that the private contractor who was awarded the project for building the WKU Student Health Service Center has taken bankruptcy, therefore means for this project must be provided for WKU to adequately finance the project. Dr. Dietle said that in order to prevent the monies from coming from the academic budget, the following Resolution was drafted. There were 2 amendments made and accepted to the original Resolution. The amended Resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION

SGA has passed a resolution asking that the shortfall in funding for student health services be covered by reallocating money from WKU's instructional equipment fund. While the University Senate agrees that, for the coming academic year, students should not be charged an increased fee for health services, we strongly disagree with SGA's proposed solution, which would reduce WKU's already inadequate funding for instructional equipment.

The University Senate is concerned by the continuing erosion of funding for academics at Western Kentucky University. Although education is our primary mission, the academic budget is often raided to provide funds for non-instructional purposes. We urge the President and the Board of Regents to aid us in our mission by protecting money designated for the academic budget.

Therefore the University Senate requests that for the next fiscal year the shortfall in funding for Student Health Services be covered by redistributing a sufficient amount from non-academic budgets such as the Athletics, Diddle Arena Renovation and Student Parking Fee.

This fee has been collected from all students since January 2001. To date, there have been no expenses in debt service for the Diddle Arena renovation nor has WKU incurred major expenses in providing a new student parking lot. The short-term reallocation of a portion of these funds will allow WKU to honor its responsibilities toward student health concerns without damaging the educational mission of WKU.

The Chair called for a vote on the Resolution as amended.

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 P.M

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Mutter, Secretary

Lou Stahl, Recorder