Call to Order

The third meeting of the Senate XVII was called to order by Chair Dietle at 3:32 p.m. Robert Simpson substituted for Joyce Wilder, Doug Schutte substituted for Sansom Karen, and Marshall Scott substituted for David Kelsey. Absent without alternates were Mary Codd, Chris Hamilton, Terry Leeper, Bill Meadors, Patricia Lockett, Shula Ramsay, Carol Stavropoulos, Samantha Thapa, and Bart White.

Considerations of the Minutes

The minutes for the September 9th meeting were approved without any corrections.

Committee Reports

Report from the Executive Committee (by Robert Dietle)

The executive committee met with President Meredith on October 12, 1993 and with the chairs of the subcommittees of the Senate on October 5, 1993. A few resolutions come from the executive committee; one dealing with a faculty committee to revise Western XXI and another concerning a faculty oversight committee for the libraries.

Report from the Committee on Faculty Status and Welfare (by Marvin Leavy)

The committee met to share concerns that faculty might feel and started on a number of items. The first is the status of the part-time faculty at WKU. Charles Bussey will contact the chairs of the Faculty Senates at the other regional universities to ask 1) about the salary ranges/schedules of the part-time faculty and 2) whether the part-time faculty is represented in the Faculty Senate at those institutions. The committee also started to plan for the annual faculty survey. Glenn Lohr, Barbara Kacer, Goble Cordan, and Marvin Leavy will work on this primarily. They hope to have this finished for the December or at the latest for the January meeting. The committee is eager to have input from senators as to what issues should be considered.

Report from the Committee of Academic Affairs (by David Neal)

The committee met to decide on issues which might be important. A short questionnaire was passed out to assess the need for a change of a) the admissions policy, b) the drop-date policy, and c) the class attendance policy. The committee wants to know how the senators feel about these and other issues concerning the academic policies at WKU.

Report from the Faculty Regent (Ray Mendel)

The Faculty Regent shared information about the agenda of the board meeting scheduled for October 22, 1993. The agenda calls for the approval of the 1994/1995 budget priorities. President Meredith has recommended three priorities: 1) faculty and staff compensation (the progress made through last year's salary increase was smaller than expected, since NKU and EKU raised salaries by more than estimated); 2) minority recruitment and retention; 3) continued funding of technology and networking. The board is asked to reinstate the position of the director of the office of sponsored programs which has been vacant for a couple of years. The position will be funded by using 20% of the university share of the money. Approval of the board for a 1-year waver from the EEO requirement imposed by the Council on Higher Education is sought. (The goals that have been established ask that WKU has a higher student minority representation than is available in the area from which we draw students.) Other business at the meeting includes: approval of the elimination of the MA in Philosophy and Religious Studies (those programs have been inactive since the late 70's); approval of the suspension the MBA of the Business College which have been inactive for several years (the Business College wants to focus on the MA in Accountancy and Economics); review of the first quarter financial statement; accept an audit that has been conducted of federally sponsored programs; approve a number of expenditures; budget revisions due to increased funds in sponsored programs.
Old Business

The resolution below was brought to the floor for a second reading.

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate encourages the Chair of Western Kentucky University's Board of Regents to reconsider the committee assignment of Faculty Regent Ray Mendel by assigning Dr. Mendel to the Financial Committee of the Board of Regents.

The resolution failed.

New Business

Senator Newhart offered the following resolution for consideration:

Whereas: In April 1993 the Faculty Senate of Western Kentucky University approved a resolution calling for the participation of full-time faculty in any future revision of Western XXI;
Whereas: Western Kentucky University is in the midst of a three-year salary plan which may require restructuring of the university;
Whereas: The Governor's Commission on Higher Education may make demands upon WKU which also require a restructuring of the university;
The Faculty Senate of Western Kentucky University resolves:
1. To create a committee of full-time faculty to begin a review of Western XXI.
2. Each college shall be represented by one assistant professor, one associate professor, and one full professor, none of whom have administrative responsibilities.
3. The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate will receive nominations for this committee until November 2. On that date the Executive Committee will review nominations and select the faculty to serve on the committee.
4. The committee to review Western XXI will hold its organizational meeting on Monday, November 8, 1993. The Chair of the Faculty Senate will preside at the organizational meeting.

Senator Lohr moved to reword 2 to include the sentence "Each department will be represented on the final committee to review Western XXI." The amendment failed. Senator Ziegler moved to add the following sentence to 2: "No department may have more than one representative on the committee." The amendment passed. Questions were raised about the exact goal and duties of the committee. Those questions can be addressed by the Faculty Senate at a later time or can be decided by the committee. President Meredith explained that Western XXI is not up for review until 1996. Currently an assessment is underway to determine the progress made by the departments. The original motion passed.

Senator Dorman offered the following resolution for consideration:

Whereas, the University libraries perform service functions that affect the academic role of the entire University, and
Whereas, the University-wide oversight committee for the libraries established during the presidency of Dr. Donald Zacharias, which reported directly to the Vice President of Academic Affairs, no longer exists, and
Whereas, such a committee would be as beneficial in helping the libraries to fulfill their service functions now as it was in the past, therefore

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate urges President Meredith to re-establish a University library oversight committee, reporting directly to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, to be composed of one faculty member from each of the four Colleges, elected by the
departmental library representatives of that College, one faculty member from the University Libraries, elected by the University Library Faculty Committee, one faculty member representing the Faculty Senate, elected by the Senate, with the College deans and the Dean of Libraries as ex-officio members, this committee serving the same function with respect the library decision that the Academic Council serves with respect to curricular decisions.

Chair Dietle decided the motion needs two readings. The next reading will be at the November meeting of the Faculty Senate.

Announcements
There will be a general faculty meeting on Governor Jones’ Commission on Higher Education. The executive committee decided it would be good to meet with the local representatives, Nick Kafoglis, BillyRay Smith, and Jody Richards. The meeting will be on Monday, October 15 at 3:30 p.m. in Van Meter. A letter will be sent to all the faculty and President Meredith and the Chair of the Board of Regents, Burns Mercer.

Senator Traugott was appreciative of the new seating arrangement.

Senator Lohr asked for a report of the Benefits committee at the next meeting of the Faculty Senate.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 4:32.

Respectfully submitted by Uta Ziegler