Faculty Senate Minutes  
Western Kentucky University Faculty Senate XVIII  
Tuesday, November 8, 1994  
Garrett Conference Center Ballroom

Call to Order
The faculty Senate meeting was called to order by chair Marvin Leavy at 3:31 pm. Jeanette Askins substituted for Mary Cobb, John Petersen for Robert Haynes, and Patricia Minter for Fred Murphy. Absent without alternates were Jim Brown, Catherine Carey, Matthew Dettman, Ed Dorman, Dorsey Grice, Charles Hays, Bill Howard, Barbara Kacer, Jeff Kent, Ray Mendel, Wieb Van Der Meer, and Eileen Williams.

Consideration of the Minutes
The minutes from the October 13 were approved as distributed.

Announcements
Chair Leavy announced that faculty would have an opportunity later this month to review the draft of the final plan that the university-wide committee will make regarding the Moving to a New Level document. The Academic Affairs Committee and the Professional Responsibilities committees will be reviewing the Vice-presidents response and investigate the consistency between the reports from the deans, the vice-president, and the final draft.

Old Business
There was no old business.

New Business
A. Introductory comments:
Parliamentarian Joan Krenzin moved that the Senate go into informal session for the purpose of hearing about and discussing the WKU Foundation. Motion seconded and passed. Senate entered informal session.
Leavy stated that the formation of the WKU Foundation has stirred the interest of the university. Because of the structure and importance of this foundation and its fund-raising role, the Senate has invited Steve Catron, Chair of the Board of Directors for the WKU Foundation, and Robert Rutledge, Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the WKU Foundation, to address the Senate.

B. Remarks from President Meredith:
President Thomas Meredith has asked for an opportunity to address the Senate concerning this Foundation. Meredith commented on the University's ability to raise money for the Preston Center, in spite of expressed concern by the Herald and others that the University couldn't raise large sums of money. He also mentioned that up to now, several groups have approached potential donors without a unified plan. A third motivation for
establishing the Foundation was a recognition that the state will be providing less money for higher education in Kentucky. He encouraged Senators to attend forums that will be conducted by Vice President Rutledge over the next several days.

C. Introduction of Mr. Steve Catron, Chair of the Board of Directors of the WKU Foundation:
Leavy explained the format of the meeting. Mr. Catron will speak for 20-25 minutes to address the questions originally given to him by the Fiscal Affairs Committee. Then Senator David Keeling, Chair of the Fiscal Affairs Committee will accept additional questions for Mr. Catron.

Steve Catron, a Bowling Green lawyer for more than 20 years, is a former Regent of Western Kentucky University.

D. Presentation addressing faculty concerns regarding the WKU Foundation, Inc.

Mr. Catron apologized for changing the date of this meeting and thanked the Senate for this opportunity to address the Senate.

Catron emphasized the role of the Foundation is to raise large amounts of money for the University. It is a long-range program unlike any seen before at WKU for major fund-raising efforts. Spending money is not the purpose of this Foundation; that is the responsibility of the University. Because of this role, public confidence is essential, as well as public audits and fiscal responsibility, and an investment policy, which will be carried out by PNC Bank of Louisville in the role of investment manager. Time has proven that the best type is a private, non-stock, non-affiliated foundation similar to the structure of the College Heights Foundation, although there are many other choices which could have been chosen; but this is the structure that will be used for fund-raising purposes.

Catron mentioned that the University has been largely dormant, with some exceptions, in the area of fund-raising. He expressed frustration concerning the controversy surrounding the organization of the Foundation and his concern that well-qualified candidates for the Board will be discouraged from participation. He commended the members of the Foundation's Board, pointing out that they do not benefit personally from their role, and emphasized the need to continue to recruit the very best possible members for the Board of Trustees.

Catron addressed several of the questions that were submitted to him. His responses did not deviate substantially from the written responses that he provided for the Senate and which are attached. The complete text of his prepared remarks as well as his responses to questions from the floor have been taped and are available through the Faculty Senate office.

He closed by stating that he is passionate in his feelings that the Foundation is a great cause that will carry WKU into the next century as an important leader, and that the University will not prosper in the same manner without this Foundation.
E. Questions submitted in Senate meeting:
Senator Keeling, Chair of the Fiscal Affairs Committee, served as moderator for this portion of the meeting. Questions were submitted by those in attendance at the Senate meeting. Steve Catron responded to each of them. A typed record of the dialogue and an audiotape of the entire meeting are available in the Senate Office as a supplement to these minutes.

F. Comments by Vice President Robert Rutledge:
A series of forums will be held, beginning tomorrow, to explain succinctly the concept of major gift solicitation and major gift campaigns. He will explain from a mechanical standpoint how an individual who is supposed to benefit from a donation will be informed about that donation and about that account.
Rutledge indicated a willingness to come before the Senate on a routine basis or otherwise be available for communication.

G. Adjournment.
William Traugott moved for adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 4:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sylvia Clark Pulliam