CALL TO ORDER
The faculty senate was called to order by Chair Arvin Vos at 3:37 p.m. Absent without representation were: President Gary Ransdell, John Barnum, Erika Brady, Martha Jenkins, Katrina Phelps, Rick Shannon, Charlie Smith, Murat Tirakiougli, Moosa Valinezhad, John White, Sharon Whitlock, Carol Wilson. Kaveh Khatir substituted for Joel Lenoir, Sheryl Venable for Dean May, S. Reza Ahsan for Michael May, Karen Westbrooks for Donald Nims, and John H. Petersen for Provost Barbara Burch. Faculty Regent Ray Mendel, Mike Dale, and Vice-President Tom Hiles were in attendance.

Chair Vos announced Linda Parry is the new Senator for Management and Information Systems. Substitutes introduced themselves.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES
The minutes of the October 15 meeting were accepted with the following 2 corrections: Senator Droddy was present and a correct remarks from the Provost: ... WKU programs selected were speech language pathology, counseling ...

Remarks from the Faculty Regent
Thanked everyone for his re-election. Most substitutive issue at last Board meeting was the President’s position on athletics and his response to the Athletic Review. There was very brief discussion. Board Chair agreed to revisit the President’s comments at the next Board meeting. Increase of athletics fees needs to be carefully reviewed. The Review ignores the fact that those most interested in intercollegiate athletics should bear the most of the cost. Serious questions need to be asked. Mendel commented on the issue of Summer Stipends. He is convinced that the issue will be addressed, but there is concerned that unless compensations are addressed as a package we are just moving money around and not making progress.

Remarks from the Provost - Dr. John Petersen
Progress on completion on the Post Tenure Review policy is in its final review stages. Further reactions or comments are to be directed to Dr. Petersen.

Chair Vos also shared comments from Dr. Burch concerning summer stipends, following up on the meeting she had with Regent Mendel, Senator Philhous, and Chair Vos. Plans are expected to be announced that will increase summer pay next summer and raise summer teaching salaries to at least the level of our benchmark institutions within the next three years, which is the same time frame we are working within to get faculty salaries and adjustments to part-time salaries at least to benchmark institution level.

Mike Dale added that the Strategic Plan calls for part-time and full time salaries by rank to reach at least the average of benchmarks by 2003. Dr. Burch is aware of the status of salaries of part-time and full time and has a plan to present addressing these issues. Dr. Burch has had a Dean’s task force meeting to address these concerns.

Development Update - Dr. Tom Hiles, Vice-President for Development And Alumni Relations
Discussed the impact of a successful campaign, the significance of fundraising on campus, and how it impacts faculty. To get ready for a campaign, Development is working with the. Alumni Relations, the Strategic Plan and Dean’s wish lists to plan the direction of the campaign. It looks like the campaign will most likely be in the $50 million dollar range.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Academic Affairs - Lyn Miller
No report.
By-laws, Amendments, and Elections - Donna Parker
Faculty Regent election College participation results: University Libraries, 56%, Education, 50%, Ogden, 43%, Potter and Business combined, 44% (individual tallies not available); highest percentage by Department, 20 or less faculty - Consumer and Family Science, 71%; 20 + faculty - Psychology and Mathematics, 74% each; overall faculty participation 44-45%. There were some Departments with low turnout.

Senator David Lenoir will conduct a special election to fill two vacant positions for Potter At-large.

Faculty Status and Welfare - Carl Kell
Faculty Salary survey study has begun. Faculty-Staff Tuition waiver will be addressed in New Business.

Senator Philhours gave an update on the summer stipend issue. We have 10 new benchmarks which show a salary average of 15.7% for 1998, teaching 2 summer courses. Ours is 15%. Only one benchmark has a cap, $7500. He will be emailing this updated report to the faculty.

Fiscal Affairs - Claus Ernst
No issues at this time.

Professional Responsibilities and Concerns - Chair Vos for Don Nims
No report.

Senate Communications - Senator Kiefer
Made a plea for articles for the newsletter.

Executive Committee - Arvin Vos
A University Budget committee is being formed. Make up to be representatives: Senate - 1, Staff Council - 1, Dean’s - 1, Department Heads - 1, 1 faculty from each College including the Community College faculty to make 5 faculty. Senator Claus Ernst has been appointed to represent the Senate. Secretary Davis questioned representation for University Libraries. Secretary Davis will contact Budget Director, Ann Mead, for clarification.

Chair Vos discussed the initial workings of the Committee of Faculty Governance, of which he is a member.

Regent Mendel reported on the October COSFL meeting. One of the most significant changes that we may be facing is that in the past the Legislature has established levels of tuition for the institutions and tuition for each of the regionals is identical. Gordon Davies, head of CPE, is lobbying very hard for deregulating tuition, which means we will have control over tuition in much the same way we now have control over fees.

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution presented by Senator Otto:

Whereas, the Western xx and Fisher report comment on the drain on academic resources by athletics and

Whereas, Western spends less on instruction as a percentage than its peer institutions,

Be it resolved, that the university not increase revenues from the university budget for athletics.

Senator Otto withdrew his original motion and presented the following substitution:

Whereas academics is a priority in Western’s Mission Statement, but funding of the instructional portion of the Educational and General Budget remains below that of our benchmarks, and

Whereas athletics is not an institutional priority in Western’s Mission Statement, but athletic funding is at our benchmark level (based on Consultant’s Report)
Be it resolved,
That institutional support for athletics not be increased until we reach benchmark levels in our funding of academics.

Resolution passed.

Senator Ernst presented a following resolution on tuition waiver which has been coordinated with the Staff Council:
Faculty and Staff Tuition Waiver Program

In the current policy it reads:

2. This program applies to all courses offered for credit except non-credit continuing or community education courses, courses offered through overseas programs and audited courses. Correspondence and bi-term courses are included in this policy.

Recommendation is to change to read:

2. This program applies to all courses offered for credit except non-credit continuing or community education courses and courses offered through overseas programs. Correspondence and bi-term courses are included in this policy. An employee can apply this program also to an audited course.

Motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
None.

Meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Davis
Secretary/Treasurer