



UNIVERSITY SENATE

Thursday, March 18, 2010

3:45 p.m. – Faculty House

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the WKU University Senate was called to order on Thursday, March 18, 2010, at 3:45 pm in the Faculty House by Chair Paul Markham. A quorum was present.

The following members were present:

Darlene Applegate, Janet Applin, Greg Arbuckle, Kristina Arnold, Melanie Autin, Mark Berry, Lauren Bland, Barbara Burch, Barbara Bush, Aaron Celestian, Audrey Cornell, Mark Doggett, Uma Doraiswamy, Melanie Duke, Molly Dunkum, Nikolai Endres, Andrea Grapko, Anthony Harkins, Darbi Haynes-Lawrence, Kate Hudepohl, Stuart Kenderes, Molly Kerby, Randy Kinnersley, Joan Krenzin, Alex Lebedinsky, Qi Li, Nathan Love, Kelly Madole, Paul Markham, Mac McKerral, Vicki Metzgar, Steve Miller, Patricia Minter, Ivan Novikov, Holly Payne, Yvonne Petkus, Keith Phillips, Heidi Pintner, Beth Plummer, Lisa Proctor, Mark Schafer, Gary Schallert, Roger Scott, Kevin Smiley, Nevil Speer, Mark Staynings, Heather Strode, Francesca Sunkin, Tadayuki Suzuki, Adrian Switzer, Justin Thurman, Dave Vickery, Carol Watwood, Richard Weigel, Kenneth Whitley, Dawn Garrett Wright

Alternates present were:

Dana Sullivan for Eileen Arnold, Chunmei Du for Dorothea Browder, Tammy Shaffer for Jill Duba, Andrew Ernest for Blaine Ferrell, Larry Snyder for David Lee, John Musalia for Kumiko Nemoto, Nancy Richey for Christy Spurlock

The following members were absent:

Bruce Battles, Mike Binder, John Bonaguro, Scott Bonham, Kim Botner, Richard Bowker, Kelly Burch-Regan, Pitt Derryberry, Scott Droege, Ahmed Emam, Sam Evans, Douglas Fugate, Dennis George, Jim Lindsey, Michael McIntyre, Roger Murphy, Steve Nagy, Johnston Njoku, Les Pesterfield, Mark Pickard, Sherry Powers, Gary Ransdell, Kelly Reames, Sherry Reid, Angela Robertson, Richard Schugart, Liz Sturgeon, Donald Swoboda, William Tallon, Samanta Thapa, Megan Thompson, David Zimmer

II. Approve February 2010 Minutes

February 18, 2010 Senate meeting minutes were approved as posted.

III. Reports:

A. Chair – Paul Markham

Chair Markham reported three items:

- The remaining candidates for the provost search include Lee, DeCastro and Emslie. The search committee will meet soon to provide final assessments of each candidate for President Ransdell's consideration.
- Senate officers have scheduled a brown bag lunch on Tuesday February 23rd at the senate office in Garrett for anyone interested in serving as a senate officer or senate standing committee chair in 2010/11.
- The ad hoc committee charged with reviewing procedural issues related to how the SEC may handle standing committee reports will have their final report available at the April senate meeting.

B. Vice Chair – Holly Payne

Vice-Chair Payne reported that, with regard to at-large senator elections, several colleges have not nominated enough candidates for the number of available positions.

She also noted that she needs to identify tenured faculty willing to serve on the faculty grievance and continuance committee from August 1 – July 31.

C. Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership for Higher Education (COSFL)

Representative – Molly Kerby

No report.

D. Advisory

1. Faculty Regent – Patti Minter

Dr. Minter stated that she has no formal report this month but she did announce that the Board of Regent committees are scheduled to meet Friday, April 3. She also shared the news that the Benefits Committee voted 6 to 8 against implementing domestic partner (other qualified dependent) benefits. She noted that the Senate and the SGA have both expressed official support for other qualified dependent benefits, and she wondered whether structural issues affecting the composition of the benefits committee are affecting its ability to represent the interests of governing boards on campus.

2. Provost – Barbara Burch

No report.

3. SGA President – Kevin Smiley

SGA President Smiley shared the following:

- scholar development grants and organizational aid deadlines are April 16, 2010
- students can pick up bluebooks and scantrons from the SGA office between 10-6
- SGA will host a roundtable to discuss fair housing standards in Bowling Green with WKU administrators and Bowling Green city commissioners
- SGA elections are in less than two weeks
- SGA is working to secure implementation of domestic partner benefits (other qualified dependent benefits)

E Standing Committee Reports:

1. Graduate Council - Nevil Speer (see attached report)

GC Chair Nevil Speer moved approval of the GC report. The report was approved as posted.

2. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee – Beth Plummer (see attached report)

UCC Chair Beth Plummer moved approval of the UCC report with following changes:

- pulled from the BGCC, the Office Systems Certificate and the Information Systems Certificate
- moved to the action agenda for separate consideration two items:
 - CD 230 Medical Interpreting Skills
 - Certificate in Cross Cultural Communication and Healthcare

Senator Keith Phillips asked to pull for additional discussion the following:

- Program Reference #273, Associate of Science in Nursing to discuss the removal of a course requirement (BIO 208C, a microbiology lab) from the program

The remaining UCC agenda was approved as posted.

The three items removed for further discussion were discussed and resolved as follows:

- After some discussion Program Reference #273 Associate of Science in Nursing was approved as posted in the original UCC report.
- UCC Chair Plummer noted the following friendly amendment to CD 230:
on Page 45, section 1.6, *"Prerequisites: Medical Terminology AH 290, score of "intermediate-high" or above on the American Council on Teaching Foreign Language (ACTFL) Language Certified Oral Proficiency Interview in both English and the target language. Information regarding this test and associated fees can be found at www.actfl.org."*
CD 230 was approved with the friendly amendment.
- UCC Chair Plummer noted the following friendly amendment to the Certificate in Cross Cultural Communication in Healthcare:
On p. 47, section 1.3, the last sentences were changed to: *"As a prerequisite, bilingual students in the medical interpreting track must pass the American Council on Teaching Foreign Language (ACTFL) Certified Oral Proficiency Interview with a score of "intermediate-high" or above, in both English and the target language. Information regarding this test and associated fees can be found at www.actfl.org."*
The certificate was approved with the friendly amendment.

3. General Education Committee – Richard Weigel (no report)

No report.

4. Faculty Welfare & Professional Responsibilities - Jim Fulkerson and Vicki Metzgar (no report posted)

FWPR Co-Chair Vicki Metzgar mentioned that an electronic survey regarding creating a smoke-free campus would soon be sent to the campus community. She also announced that the faculty welfare survey will soon be available and she asked senators to encourage their colleagues to participate in it. Co-Chair Metzgar also noted that the committee is trying to write a new maternity/paternity leave policy and is planning to do a survey about salary compression. In conclusion, she noted that the faculty handbook is still under review.

5. Academic Quality – Tony Harkins (no report)

AQ Chair Tony Harkins stated that he had no report but that he did have a concern about SITEs. He stated that he has been asked by faculty about apparent changes to questions on the SITE survey.

Bob Cobb stated that SITEs are under the authority of CAD and had been changed between July and September of 2009 to align questions administered to web-based and classroom-based courses. Faculty were not officially consulted or notified about this change.

Provost Burch added that it is not quite accurate to say that SITEs belong to CAD, and she reinforced the statement that changes made related to aligning questions administered to web-based and classroom-based courses. Provost Burch acknowledged that faculty and department heads should have been notified.

D. Old Business:

1. Faculty Regent Legislation (Robbin Taylor)

Chair Markham stated that he would explain the change in legislation because Robbin Taylor was in Frankfort. HB 374, which has passed the house and has passed in committee in senate, states that all full-time faculty (including instructors) may vote for faculty regent. However, only tenure-track and tenured faculty may run for that position.

2. Report from ad-hoc committee on insurance reserve fund (Alex Lebedinsky)

Ad hoc committee Chair Lebedinsky summarized the findings of his committee (see report included in the Senate agenda). Issues identified by his committee include:

- Lack of clarity as to who has, and who should have, authority over the reserve fund
 - money moved without notification
 - members of the Benefit Committee not notified, even a year later
- No guidelines about how to invest the fund
- No clear benchmarks about how much money to maintain in the reserve
- A misunderstanding exists between the Benefits Committee and the administration about who can take money out of the fund (and for what purpose)

Conclusions and recommendations of the ad hoc committee:

- Supports new allocation
- Establish clearly articulated investment strategy for the reserve linked to the purpose of the reserve
- Establish clearly stated set of rules regarding use of money in the reserve
- Applauds the work of Benefits Committee
- Urges the Benefits Committee to attract members with a financial background
- Improve inclusive representation on the Benefits Committee
- Recommends term limits for Benefits Committee members

Ad hoc Chair Lebedinsky moved, on behalf of the committee, that the Senate accept the report, forward it to the Benefits Committee, and ask for their comment by the next regularly scheduled Senate meeting on April 15, 2010. Some discussion followed. The motion passed.

E. New Business:

No new business.

Meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kate Hudepohl, Secretary