DRAFT MINUTES
UNIVERSITY SENATE
Senate Executive Committee

Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2012
3:15 p.m. – WAB 239

I. Call to Order
The regular session of the WKU Senate Executive Committee was called to order on Tuesday, September 4, 2012 at 3:15 p.m. in the Wetherby Administration Building by Vice-Chair Jennifer Hanley. A quorum was present.

The following members were present:

II. Approve August Special Meeting Minutes
Minutes approved as posted

III. Reports:
A. Chair: No report
B. Vice-Chair: will chair this meeting
C. Secretary: No report
D. Committee Chairs
   1. Academic Quality Committee (Guy Jordan, Interim Chair)
      • Still seeking new chair for Academic Quality
   2. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibility Committee
      • No report
   3. General Education Curriculum Committee (Amanda Drost, Chair)
      • Will meet with Colonnade Implementation Committee soon
   4. Graduate Council (Kirk Atkinson, alt.)
      • See accompanying reports
      • Revision: one course pulled (ENVE 525, Educating for Sustainability)
      • SEC approved report
   5. University Curriculum Committee
      • No report
E. Advisory Reports

1. Faculty Regent (Regent Minter)
   - Board of Regents Budget Meeting (June 22)
     - 5-percent tuition increase overall, and full-time students will now pay the same fee for distance classes that part-time students pay
     - Concern: higher tuition and fees may result in lower enrollment
     - Decline in state support for public institutions funding down 6.4 percent; Faculty Regent encourages everyone to contact legislators directly
     - Link to minutes BOR: http://wku.edu/regents/documents/bor_minutes_06_22_12_approved.pdf
   - Bi-Term Proposal: Provost Emslie met with Faculty Regent Minter and Student Regent Dodds to discuss; highly productive meeting

2. Academic Affairs (Provost Emslie)
   - Enrollment
     - So far increased tuition and fees don’t seem to be impacting enrollment
     - Enrollment in summer classes up
     - Retention is an important concern
     - Numbers too changeable for any real conclusions
     - Overall just 34 undergrads short of last year
   - Bi-term program—Provost Emslie would like to meet with Academic Quality Committee about this program
     - Vice-Chair notes that this should be assigned through SEC
   - Online SITE evaluation
     - Will try optional extra mid-term evaluation using existing SITE questions, but deliver online
     - Instructor administers online evaluation, then may choose whether or not to submit to Department Head
     - Question to Provost: Can we mandate student participation in evaluations?
       - Response: Using what incentive? Can’t withhold grades permanently; students have paid for credits
     - Question to Provost: What if faculty don’t use the midterm, what will happen to them?
       - Nothing will happen
     - Comment: Concern that departments that rely solely on SITE evaluations for faculty assessment will pressure faculty members
     - Comment to Provost: Should we just change the questions and the delivery method at the same time, rather than create confusion again in the future?
       - Response: Provost believes it is best to just change mode of delivery but not questions, then do the questions later to isolate variables
     - Academic Quality chair reminded meeting of some of the results of the review carried out by AQ last semester — indicated that participation in online evaluations will dip initially, but will recover
   - Provost Emslie, Questions to SEC:
     - Faculty handbook Committee: When will it meet?
       - Response: Faculty Senate is still sorting this out
     - When is the Colonnade Implementation Committee meeting?
       - Response: Committee is formed but hasn’t met
       - Provost: need to move forward; has implications for recruiting
Will there be a Faculty Senate vote on the Workload policy?
- Response: will check with Faculty Senate Chair
- HB265: calls for establishment of Commonwealth College Program
  - Provost interested in the sense of the senate on this issue

IV. New Business:

1. Proposal: Concurrent Degrees (see documents)
   - Comments:
     - Looks like we're just coming in line with other higher education institutions in Kentucky
     - Provost Emslie described issues faced by students pursuing multiple degrees, which caused many to exceed six years of study
   - Assigned to Academic Quality Committee for review

2. Policy: Honorary Doctorates (see documents)
   - Question: Why limit to four honorary degrees per year?
   - Provost Emslie: originally wanted two per year, so one person wouldn't have to give speeches at more than 3 commencements, but they do not have to be given out at commencements
   - Question: what entity awards the degree? University? Colleges?
   - Provost: University awards degree but Dean of College can do hooding
   - Comment: This is just codifying procedures currently in place, more or less
   - SEC approves for Faculty Senate vote

3. Nominations from GFCB - University Athletics Committee: Dr. Brian Goff, University Distinguished Prof. of Economics; Dr. Patricia Todd, Assoc. Prof. of Marketing; Dr. Dennis Wilson, Assoc. Prof. of Economics; and Dr. Paula Potter, Assoc. Prof. of Management
   - Vice-Chair...send to Senate for vote, and ask candidates for 100-150-word introduction/justification
   - Note from chair: These names go directly to the president and he will choose. The Senate does not vote. These are SEC recommendations to the president.

4. Nomination for At-Large Committee Appointment: Melanie Asriel, psychology instructor, Glasgow regional campus, FWPRC
   - Chair appoints Asriel

5. Colonnade Implementation Committee – At-Large representative: Dr. Amy Krull, Sociology, and Dr. Ellen Bonaguro, Academic Advising
   - Nominations will be forwarded to Faculty Senate Chair

6. SEC Meeting Time: Proposal to change meeting time
   - After discussion motion was withdrawn

V. Information Items:
- Response: Senate Resolution on an Appropriate Emphasis for Academics
  - Chair will assign to Faculty Welfare Committee for response
  - Note from Chair: Assigned to Academic Quality
VI. Other announcements

- **Vice Provost Richard Miller**: seeking nominations from Deans for Student Complaint Committees—will go up for vote at Faculty Senate

Motion to adjourn passed

Respectfully submitted by John Gottfried, Secretary