



UNIVERSITY SENATE

Thursday, February 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, February 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, Melanie Autin, Bruce Battles, Mark Berry, Dorothea Browder, Pitt Derryberry, Mark Doggett, Uma Doraiswamy, Molly Dunkum, Nikolai Endres, Andrea Grapko, Anthony Harkins, Darbi Haynes-Lawrence, Kate Hudepohl, Molly Kerby, Randy Kinnersley, Joan Krenzin, Alex Lebedinsky, Qi Li, Nathan Love, Kelly Madole, Paul Markham, Michael McIntyre, Mac McKerral, Steve Miller, Patricia Minter, Holly Payne, Yvonne Petkus, Keith Phillips, Beth Plummer, Lisa Proctor, Kelly Reames, Mark Schafer, Gary Schallert, Richard Schugart, Kevin Smiley, Christy Spurlock, Heather Strode, Francesca Sunkin, Tadayuki Suzuki, Adrian Switzer, Justin Thurman, Dave Vickery, Carol Watwood, Richard Weigel, Kenneth Whitley, Dawn Wright

Alternates present were:

Dana Sullivan for Eileen Arnold, Sylvia Gaiko for Barbara Burch, Daltrey Tyree for Melanie Duke, Andrew Ernest for Blaine Ferrell, Colton Jessie for Stuart Kenderes, Rico Tyler for Vicki Metzgar

The following members were absent:

Kristina Arnold, Mike Binder, Lauren Bland, John Bonaguro, Scott Bonham, Kim Botner, Richard Bowker, Kelly Burch-Regan, Barbara Bush, Aaron Celestian, Audrey Cornell, Scott Droege, Jill Duba, Ahmed Emam, Sam Evans, Douglas Fugate, Dennis George, Johnston Njoku, David Lee, Jim Lindsey, Roger Murphy, Steve Nagy, Kumiko Nemoto, Ivan Novikov, Les Pesterfield, Mark Pickard, Heidi Pintner, Sherry Powers, Gary Ransdell, Sherry Reid, Angela Robertson, Roger Scott, Nevil Speer, Mark Staynings, Liz Sturgeon, Donald Swoboda, William Tallon, Samanta Thapa, Megan Thompson, David Zimmer

II. Minutes

January 21, 2010 Senate meeting minutes approved as posted.

III. Reports:

A. Chair – Paul Markham

Chair Markham announced that senators have time reserved to meet with the provost candidates at 2:30 on the first day of their campus visits. Details can be found on the senate website.

Chair Markham announced that senate elections are coming up soon and that the officers are planning to have a brown bag lunch with anyone interested in being a senate officer or standing committee chair. He encouraged senior tenured faculty to consider assuming officer and chair positions. An e-mail will be sent out notifying senators about the time and location of the brown bag lunch(es).

B. Vice Chair – Holly Payne

Vice Chair Payne reiterated that elections are fast approaching. At-large elections will take place in March and an e-mail will be sent out with details about the process. She noted that departmental senators will need to facilitate the nomination process for at-large nominees. Each department can nominate up to three full-time faculty members to run in the election. She is currently working with IT to see about conducting election electronically.

Vice Chair Payne announced that two additional committees need to be staffed:

- Continuance and Grievance Committee
 - departments need to nominate tenured faculty member to go into the pool
- University Academic Complaint Committee for student complaint issues
 - names of all of college-level student grievance committees will be collected and then some chosen to serve at university level

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

Representative – Molly Kerby

Dr. Kerby announced that HB 160 passed the House. At the most recent COSFL meeting, members reviewed the bill line-by-line with CPE President King in order to identify and discuss items of concern. The bill is now in the Senate but not apparently under consideration at present. Dr. Kerby noted that a link to the COSFL website will be available on the WKU Senate website.

D. Advisory

1. Faculty Regent – Patti Minter

Regent Minter noted that the WKU Board of Regents met on January 27, 2010. She encouraged senators to listen to the podcast, especially the section about the finance and budget committee. She stated that news reports about the meeting were accurate but incomplete. Dr. Minter provided some background from the meeting:

- At the previous meeting in October:
 - Regent Chair Meyer tabled Wood Selig's raise
 - Discussion of Dean Kahler's raise was moved to closed session
- College Heights Herald live blog feed indicated that Regent Minter held the floor for four minutes in order to describe the impact of these proposed raises, raises for a select few administrators when employees are being told there are no funds for raises for anyone, on faculty and staff morale
- Regent Minter reminded regents of the petition signed by faculty and staff in October in objection to the proposed raises
- Regent Minter shared with regents a document comparing WKU faculty salaries with benchmark institutions and illustrating what portion of gross salary is dedicated to the health plan premium for administrators, faculty and staff (see document posted to Senate website)
- Several regents attempted to close debate/discussion
- Regent Minter noted that the episode reminded her of the IA football debate

- Regent Minter stated that every board member has a right to be heard without being subject to bullying tactics to create a false image of unity; it is not acceptable to dismiss all dissent as personal
- See low morale manifested on campus in various ways including low attendance at various forums (provost candidate forums, parking forums, etc.)
- Regent Minter encouraged faculty to continue participating even when it seems that others are not listening because our absence does nothing to further our cause and our voices do matter

2. **Provost** – Dr. Sylvia Gaiko for Provost Barbara Burch

Dr. Burch asked that Dr. Gaiko share the following information:

- CPE board approved two new programs for College of Education and Behavioral Sciences
 - BS in Military Leadership
 - MS in Instructional Design
- After that meeting, the Chief Academic Officers had a lengthy meeting; CPE is clearly asking us to develop common learning outcomes based on LEAP; they also talked about transfer and HB 160
- As soon as Dr. Burch returned to campus from that meeting, WKU was asked to report how many programs – associate or baccalaureate – that require more than 60 or 120 credit hours respectively; only 27 of 172 programs are above those levels (just 15%); WKU is not sure how that information might be used
- WKU has posted several new programs for approval through CPE this year and they have received substantial scrutiny

3. **SGA President** – Kevin Smiley

SGA President Smiley shared information about the following SGA activities and programs:

- Organizational aid process: have spent 75% of funds; please encourage groups to apply soon
- Scholarship programs: study abroad and scholar development both have a rolling deadline but please encourage individuals to apply for these soon
- Rally for higher education: postponed until Tuesday, February 23; excited about going to Frankfort and having a chance to influence legislators on various matters including HB 160
- SGA election process: moving forward earlier this year with applications being accepted starting February 24th and elections occurring at the end of March
- Board of regents meeting: agreed with Dr. Minter’s “looking forward” comments regarding showing up and participating in campus activities

E. Standing Committee Reports:

1. **Graduate Council** (no report posted) – Nevil Speer

No report.

2. **Undergraduate Curriculum Committee** (see report) - Beth Plummer

Chair Beth Plummer moved approval of UCC report.

Dr. Shane Palmquist, Civil Engineering Coordinator, asked to make a friendly amendment to himself and withdraw one item from the Proposal to Revise a Program, Civil Engineering Program (Ref. # 534). They are planning to make changes to the freshman experience course, and so would like to strike the following phrase (found on p. 81 of the UCC report submitted to Senate) from the proposal:

“UC 175 (2 hours) may be taken instead of CE 175 (2 hours).”

UCC report, including friendly amendment, passed without further discussion.

3. General Education Committee (see report) – Richard Weigel

Chair Rich Weigel announced that the report this time is really just a clarification of existing policy. Chair Weigel noted that there is a typo in section 2 – strike the first “either” before ENG 100 and 300 should be struck.

The General Education Committee report, including the friendly amendment, passed without further discussion.

4. Faculty Welfare & Professional Responsibilities – Jim Fulkerson and Vicki Metzgar

No report.

5. Academic Quality – Anthony Harkins

No report.

IV. Old Business:

No old business.

V. New Business:

1. Revision of Asian Religions and Cultures major program proposal

UCC Chair Plummer, made a motion to remove the following language from section 2.4 of the course proposal for the newly created Asian Religions and Cultures major – *“students currently completing the Asian Studies Minor are not allowed to combine it with the new major in ARC...”*

UCC Chair Plummer provided context for the proposed change, which included some of the following points:

- Some question about whether someone could have ARC major and Asian Studies Minor
- Not something that can be traced through ICAP
- Not against academic policy as it now exists (Option III covers this); as long as have 54 unduplicated hours it’s not an issue
- Should be dealt with as an advising issue
- Not desired by the proponent but agreed to in order to get program through the curricular process
- Proponent has decided to pursue a different course of action with changes to the Asian Studies minor than those described at the January senate meeting so the revision no longer makes sense

Motion passed without discussion.

2. Academic Quality Resolution (AQ Chair – Tony Harkins)

Academic Quality Chair Tony Harkins presented a resolution brought forth by the Academic Quality Committee (see document posted to Senate website). AQ Chair Harkins provided some background to the resolution:

- SEC charged AQ to create a resolution regarding HB160
- Created the resolution as a statement of principles

Resolution passed without discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 4:29p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kate Hudepohl, Secretary