

UNIVERSITY SENATE

April 21, 2011

Report from the Chair

1. **New parliamentarian:** We will be in need of a new parliamentarian for the 2011-2012 academic year. If you have, or someone you know has, the skill and interest, please let one of the officers know. The parliamentarian need not be a senator.
2. **Guidelines to policies on AA webpage:** There are a number of “Academic Guidelines” which may, or may not, deserve the status of “policy”. Please look these over and suggest revisions to a member of the SEC (<http://www.wku.edu/aa/AcadAdministrativeHandbook.htm>)
3. **Special called meeting of Senate:** We are committed to having a new version of the Faculty Handbook in place before new faculty start their appointments. Approval will require a special called meeting of the University Senate (current departmental and at-large senators) for a second reading. I am proposing Tuesday, June 7. If this represents a major conflict of which I am unaware, please let me know (sorry, I guess summer break does not qualify as a major conflict)
4. **UCC at large representatives (not necessarily senators):** Having a full complement of UCC members ready for business at the start of the new academic year is always problematic. In addition to the Senate college representatives and the college curriculum committee representatives, we will need three at-large representatives to the UCC. Please send suggestions to Pam Petty or to the Senate Chair.
5. **Advisory Committees Pool:** Every other year, the University Senate is charged with facilitating the establishment of the pool from which faculty are selected to serve on the Advisory Committee on Continuance and Tenure and the Advisory Committee on Faculty Grievance. This pool is composed of one tenured faculty member from each department. According to the Faculty Handbook, each department elects the faculty member (by secret ballot) who will serve in the pool. All faculty holding academic rank may vote, but the candidates must be tenured. From this pool, 5 individuals will be selected (by lot) for each advisory committee; the remainder will serve as alternates. Thus, election to the pool does not guarantee that the elected individuals will serve on either advisory committee.

I contacted department heads, requesting that they forward to me the names of the elected faculty members. Please help facilitate this process. These are obviously extremely important committees.

6. **President’s response to resolution:** President Ransdell responded to our resolution. See posted response: <http://www.wku.edu/senate/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/PresRansdellReplytoResolution.pdf>
7. **Diversity Plan:** The Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) Statewide Diversity Policy requires that each postsecondary public educational institution establish its own Diversity Plan. The WKU Diversity Enhancement Committee workgroups were tasked with the responsibility of drafting a Diversity Plan. The plan is now posted on the Senate blog for comment and feedback. Because of miscommunication, the University Senate representatives, Aaron Wichman and Betsy Shoenfelt were not included in the process. I have asked them to provide feedback on the plan. I will incorporate their feedback and any other comments I receive into a Senate response that will be reviewed by the Senate Executive Committee.