



UNIVERSITY SENATE

Thursday, January 20, 2011

3:45 p.m. – Faculty House

I. Call to Order

The following members were present: Kristina Arnold, Lauren Bland, Barbara Bush, Robert Dietle, Marc Eagle, Gordon Emslie, Charlie Harris, Sonya House, Jan Hunt-Shepherd, Colton Jessie, Mikhail Khenner, Debra Kreitzer, Kelly Madole, Michael McIntyre, Patricia Minter, Jane Olmsted, Holly Payne, Yvonne Petkus, Keith Phillips, Eric Reed, March Schafer, Garry Schallert, Vernon Sheeley, Mark Staynings, Martin Stone, Heather Strode, Liz Sturgeon, Adrian Switzer, Huanjing Wang, Richard Weigel, Mary Wolinski, Dawn G. Wright

Alternates present were: Angela Jones, Andy Ernest, Kristi Branham, Paul Markham, Patricia Desrasieri, Paul Shively, Mark Revels, Unreadable (alternate for Greg Arbuckle), Unreadable (alternate for Maribeth Wilson),

The following members were absent: Darlene Applegate, Greg Arbuckle, Eileen Arnold, Mike Binder, Nathan Bishop, John Bonaguro, Richard Bowker, Erika brady, Pitt Derryberry, Vladimir Dobrokhoto, Uma Doraiswamy, Scott Droege, Jill Duba, Melanie Duke, Karin Egloff, Sam Evans, Nathan Fisher, Dennis George, Andrea Grapko, Peggy Gripshover, Darbi Haynes-Lawrence, Molly Kerby, Randy Kinnersley, Joan Krenzin, Alex Lebedinsky, David Lee, Nathan Love, Mac McKerral, Vicki Metzgar, Andrew Mienaltowski, Steve Miller, Roger Murphy, Steve Nagy, Kumiko Nemoto, Ivan Novikov, Pam Petty, Mark Pickard, Matt Pruitt, Gary Ransdell, Angela Robertson, Richard Schugart, Michael E Smith, Christy Spurlock, Dana Sullivan, Francesca Sunkin, Donald Swoboda, Travis Taylor, Samanta Thapa, Megan Thompson, Evelyn Thrasher, Carol Watwood, Maribeth Wilson, Di Wu, David Zimmer

II. Approve December 2010 Minutes

Approval: December 2010 Senate minutes approved as posted.

III. Reports:

A. Chair – Kelly Madole

Chair Madole reported the following:

- Steve Haggbloom with the Office of Sponsored Programs will present at the February Senate meeting to discuss the Research and Creative Activities Program (RCAP).
- In response to questions from senators regarding IT issues and privacy, Bob Owen, VP for Information Technology is working to clarify the policies and will make them available soon.
- In response to questions regarding a rationale for changes to the Discretionary Funding Policies, Jim Cummings and Paula Jarboe have added a new level of approval in the policy due to abuse.

- Lou Stahl expresses her thanks for the December resolution in her honor. She was overwhelmed with joy.

B. Vice Chair – Molly Kerby (No report)

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

Representative – Molly Kerby (No report)

D. Advisory

1. Faculty Regent – Patti Minter

Regent Minter reported the following:

- The new BOR policy requiring a rationale for salary increases over \$5,000 has been implemented. This policy provides fiscal oversight and accountability and requires those bringing forward increases to provide a defensible rationale in a public forum.
- The Board will discuss amendments to the fiscal budget. Included in this is the Honors/International Center building. Just as Regent Minter voted against the Colonial Court project, she does not approve of using money for brick and mortar projects when more funding needs to be used to meet the academic mission. Nonessential projects should be set aside.
- Regent Minter asks the Senate to give input when asked and to feel free to accept, reject, or reshape what comes before us. Speak even when you think no one is listening. It is our university. Best wishes for the new semester.

2. Provost – Gordon Emslie

Provost Emslie reported the following:

- Four recommendations/reports were received by the Senate, three were approved. The Provost asked that the Exception to an Academic Policy by Architectural and Manufacturing Sciences regarding the number of hours earned in upper level courses be reexamined. He will present on this topic to the UCC.
- Provost Emslie would like to reexamine the timeline for faculty promotion and tenure review and would like the changes made to the faculty handbook. He suggests February 1 as the Provost's deadline to inform the faculty member and President Ransdell. All letters for this year have been sent out.
- The 5-year review by SACS is underway where there is an assessment of the QEP. The internal review/report is due by the end of March and he would like to have the first draft ready one month ahead.
- February 4 at 3:00 in MMTH, Drs. Emslie and Baylis will hold a forum to report back on their listening tour. Transcripts of the presentation will be presented and there will be time allotted for questions and answers.

3. SGA President – Colton Jessie

President Jessie reported the following:

- The student senate has tabled the resolution the renovation of DUC while they solicit more feedback. Nine students and administrators toured recently built/renovated student centers including facilities at NKU, Ohio State, Ohio Dominican, Ohio University, and IUPUI. They were also able to ask questions of students and administrators to see how students dealt with the increase in fees used to fund the projects.
- March 1 is the Rally for Higher Education in Frankfort. SGA representatives will be in attendance.

E. Guest speaker: Richard Sutton, Executive Director, International Programs

Dr. Sutton presented to the Senate on liability coverage for faculty study abroad:

- The first and primary protection for faculty lies with sovereign immunity. In 2009 a supplemental policy was added that only covers faculty who lead students abroad. If we're going to carry supplemental coverage, he would like to broaden this coverage to include

faculty traveling on university business and domestic projects. Other elements of protection include a student authorization form, risk management and training for faculty, and the completion of faculty/staff travel authorization forms.

- In response to questions by various senators, Dr. Sutton explained that in the event of a claim, faculty members would be represented by university council and in more serious cases, the attorney general. Other statements regarding liability coverage in addition to Deborah Wilkins statement are forthcoming to the website. Provost Emslie stated that we do have a faculty/staff travel authorization form through Jim Cummings office. Regent Minter pointed out that this level of coverage is exactly what the original subcommittee was looking for when formed five years ago. This coverage is important because sovereign immunity does not always hold as evidenced in recent cases.

IV. Standing Committee Reports:

A. Senate Executive Committee (Information items)

- Codification of existing Academic Affairs policies:
- Academic Affairs policies are being written up (with no changes) and posted to the website: <http://www.wku.edu/Dept/Support/AcadAffairs/AcadAdministrativeHandbook.htm>
If you see a specific change needed, please contact Kelly Madole
- A textbook policy was brought to the SEC for feedback. Dr. Emslie is working with John Osborne to amend.

B. Graduate Council (see attached report) – Nevil Speer

- Chair Nevil Speer moved approval of the GC report.
- The Graduate Council Report Passes.

C. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (see attached report)

- Senator Eric Reed moved approval of the UCC report.
- Senator Jan Shepherd made a motion to move the Health Information Management Program Revision to the action agenda. The motion passes.
- The UCC Report Passes.
- Senator Shepherd asks to change the implementation date on the HIS proposal to Fall 2011 from Fall 2012. This was a typo that was not corrected prior to approval.
- The proposal was approved.

D. General Education Committee

- Chair Richard Weigel moved approval of the general education report.
- The General Education Report Passes.

E. Faculty Welfare & Professional Responsibilities) – Eric Reed

Chair Reed had no formal item for the Senate, but gave an update on the proposal for new faculty tracks. Discussion is underway, but the committee has given no formal recommendation. They will meet with Drs. Emslie and Baylis to discuss the details of the proposed positions. They hope to have a report for the Senate by April. He emphasizes that faculty must be co-authors of these policies, so please contribute your input and suggestions.

F. Academic Quality – no report

G. Ad hoc Committee on Curriculum and Governance

Nevil Speer presented the results of the Governance Survey (see results on the Senate website). The committee's mission involves reviewing curriculum and governance at WKU. Dr. Speer felt the written comments were rich and called for a fresh look at our processes and procedures. Based on these survey results the committee will put together a list of recommendations.

V. University Committee Reports

A. Athletics Committee – no report

B. Benefits Committee – no report

VI. Unfinished Business:

A. Charter Revision: Senate procedures for University Policies (see document; second reading)

- Senator Payne suggested a friendly amendment to clarify what happens when a policy is not approved by the Senate and returned to the SEC (V.3.ii.). The following sentence was added to the end of V.3.ii.: “The Senate Executive Committee would then proceed as in A.2.”
- Charter revision passes.

VII. New Business:

A. Policy 1.1301 University Distinguished Professor Selection and Appointment (see document)

There was no discussion of the revised policy.

Motion passes.

Motion to adjourn (Motion carried)

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Darbi Haynes-Lawrence