

Western Kentucky University
University Senate Meeting
Thursday, January 21, 2016 -- 3:45 p.m.
Faculty House

A regular meeting of the WKU University Senate was called to order by Chair Kate Hudepohl on Thursday, January 21, 2016 at 3:45pm in the Faculty House.

A quorum was present:

Members present:

Cathy Abell, Jim Berger, Barbara Brindle, Thaddeus Crews, Susann Davis, Richard Dressler, Barbara Burch, Laura DeLancey, Lisa Duffin, Loretta Dye, Claus Ernst, Travis Esslinger, Ann Ferrell, Said Ghezal, Frederik Grieve, Timothy Hawkins, Kate Hudepohl, Tom Hunley, Grace Hunt, Michelle Jackson, Molly Kerby, Soleiman Kiastapour, Stephen King, Eric Kondratieff, Dominic Lanphier, David Lee, Fenghelen Liang, Ching Yi Lin, Jeremy Maddox, Kelly Madole, Sean Marston, Lauren McClain, Andrew Mienaltowski, Megan Miller, Patricia Minter, Anthony Paquin, Julie Shadoan, Beverly Siegrist, Melloney Simerly, Michael Smith, Sandy Staebell, Rebecca Stobaugh, Heather Strone, Elizabeth Sturgeon, Dick Taylor, Rico Tyler, Tamara Van Dyken, Adam West, Aaron Wichman, Dawn Garrett Wright

Substitutes present:

Mary Wolinski for Heidi Alvarez, Michael Carini for Andrew Keith, Michael May for Jill Brown, Danita Kelley for Neale Chumbler, Michelle Trawick for Jeffrey Katz, Julie Lyn Barber for Shura Pollatsek

Guests present who signed in:

Eric Reed, Channon Vaughan, Ann Floresca

Members absent:

Dora Babb, Erika Brady, Martha Day, Patricia Desrosiers, Robert Dietle, Marko Dumancic, Sam Evans, Connie Foster, Marilyn Gardner, Dennis George, Barrell Greenwell, Anne Heintzman, Don Hoover, Muhammad Jahan, Dean Jordan, Pam Jukes, Hanna Khouryieh, Thomas Kingery, James Line, Ling Lo, Gayle Mallinger, Joshua Marble, Doug McElroy, Nolan Miles, Richard Millet, Bella Mukonyora, Kurt Neelly, Evelyn Oregon, Katherine Pennavaria, Yvonne Petkus, Gary Ransdell, Bryan Reaka, Jeffrey Rice, Nancy Ayers Rice, Jay Todd Richey, Tiffany Robinson, Jonghee Shim, Douglas Smith, Larry Snyder, Cheryl Stevens, Kevin Thomas, Tanya Vincent, Blairanne Williams, Elizabeth Winkley, Zhonghang Xia

A. Approve December Minutes

A motion to approve the December minutes was made by Molly Kirby, and seconded by Dick Taylor.

There was no discussion.

The minutes stand approved unanimously as posted.

B. Reports:

1. Chair – Kate Hudepohl

- Chair Hudepohl attached a copy under Information Items of the WKU Confucius Institute 2015 annual report, which they submitted to the Board of Regents at their Dec meeting. The copy posted is blurry, but she will try to make a better copy and repost it with this agenda.
- At the last Senate meeting, Chair Hudepohl brought up the importance of identifying our spending priorities. She said it is important to decide now if we want to take action, or what actions we may take, so that we don't scramble in May to make a resolution. Any suggestions or ideas are welcome. It is important for us to put forth our priorities, so other bodies on campus can't later say they were not aware of them.
- Update on the motion regarding SITES from the Oct 15th meeting. The motion asked that Senate and SEC discuss SITES, with the possibility of referring it to Academic Quality. The motion was made at SEC to refer it to Academic Quality. The motion was directed: focused on the timing of SITES, recommendations on how to use and interpret them for Promotion and Tenure (making sure people are aware of the information already out there, as there is some concern that SITES are being used inappropriately), and to review the formatting of the report (some of the information from the print report is not present on the electronic report)

2. Vice Chair – Julie Shadoan – no report

3. Secretary – Heidi Alvarez – no report

4. Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership for Higher Education – Molly Kerby – no report

5. AAUP President - Margaret Crowder – no report

6. Advisory:

a. Faculty Regent – Barbara Burch

- The Board of Regents met before Christmas, and the President announced he had obtained \$500,000 to furnish the Confucius Institute building and additional teachers. He has not yet resolved the issue of Maintenance and Operations.
- The report from the Board of Regents Finance Committee chair was circulated, and is on the agenda for the next BOR meeting. The assumption is that compensation is a priority.
- There was an extensive closed session, but the topics and details can't be shared now.

b. Provost – David Lee

- This morning's Student Success Summit was a marvelous coming together to discuss an important issue. It is important not just for financial reasons, but because it's part of who we are. Student success is a core conversation.
- As we head into Spring, enrollment is down a few hundred. It's hard to say exactly, because yesterday's and Friday's ATPs were cancelled (due to weather).

This means that Monday and Tuesday will be a little more hectic, as these students will not yet have registered electronically.

- School closure: the decision about Friday will be made by 5:30am Friday morning.

c. SGA President – Jay Todd Richey

- Jay Todd Richey was not present, but Chair Hudepohl read a statement on his behalf: Due to weather, Richey was not in Frankfurt (lobbying the legislature to give lottery revenue to higher education) as anticipated, but he will provide an update at the next Senate meeting. He looks forward to continue serving as SGA President and Student Regent.

C. Committee Reports and Recommendations

1. Graduate Council: Kurt Neelly (Report posted; Endorsed by SEC)

Shannon Vaughan (vice chair of grad council) made a motion to approve the Graduate Council report. A second was not required, and it was approved unanimously without discussion.

2. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Liz Sturgeon (Report posted; Endorsed by SEC)

Liz Sturgeon made a motion to approve the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee report. A second was not required, and it was approved unanimously without discussion.

3. Colonnade General Education Committee: Marko Dumancic (Report posted; Endorsed by SEC)

Chris Irvin (vice chair) made a motion to approve the Colonnade General Education Committee report. A second was not required, and it was approved unanimously without discussion.

4. Academic Quality: Jeremy Maddox (No Report)

6. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibility: Patti Minter (No Report)

D. Old Business

E. New Business

1. Policy 1.4021 Academic Program Review

Kelly Madole made a motion to approve Policy 1.4021, seconded by Molly Kerby.

Michael Smith asked why the statement about having a committee chair was removed.

David Lee explained that the Chair's role was to assemble and order materials, which was no longer necessary as the process had moved online to Blackboard. This policy was approved unanimously.

2. Policy 1.4201, Policy 9.4031 Textbook Adoption Policy

Dick Taylor made a motion to approve the Textbook Adoption Policy, seconded by Molly Kerby.

Kelly Madole asked why there was no longer an option to select that an instructor or textbook was not yet assigned.

Ann Floresca said that it removes an extra step, as the default will be "not yet selected."

Kelly Madole asked for clarification about the date for when textbook adoption information would be made available on the store website.

Ann Floresca explained that this information would be available at the start of class registration.

Kelly Madole stated that the policy was unclear or possibly contradictory when stating that textbook information would be made available at the time of registration, as this might not be the case if students register early.

Ann Floresca stated that the intent of the policy was so that students would have information about textbooks available at the time of registration.

David Lee added that he thinks Ann has worked very hard to improve communication between the bookstore and faculty.

F. Motion to Adjourn

A motion to adjourn by Molly Kerby was seconded by Dick Taylor.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20pm.

Minutes submitted by Laura Delancey.