

University Senate Meeting
Thursday, August 24, 2017 -- 3:45 p.m.
Faculty House
Called to order 3:48 pm

Copy of Agenda

Welcome and thanks from the chair
Still committee openings—check with Liz

A. Approve May 11, 2017 Minutes

First: Patti Minter

Second: Marilyn Gardiner

No discussion

Unanimous approval

Attendees: Lori Alexander, Audrey Anton (Ben Lennertz), Babb D'Lee, Laura Bain-Selbo, Gordon Bayliss, David Bell, Jim Berger, Scott Bonham (Sanju Gupta), Tim Brotherton, Pamela Chandler, Dan Clark, Jerry Daday, Aquesha Daniels, Janet Applin, Susann Davis, Pitt Derryberry (Sarah E. Ochs), Marko Dumancic, Michelle Dvoskin, Kari Esslinger, Travis Esslinger, Colin Farrell, Jim Fulkerson, Dominique Gumirakiza, Jennifer Walton-Hanley, Elizabeth Gish, Lawrence Hill, Kate Hudepohl, Andrea Jenkins, Jarrett Johnson, Guy Jordan, Eric Kondratieff, Mac MacKerral, Patricia Minter, Richard Miller, Nurcheshmeh Morteza, April Murphy, Sharon Mutter, Elizabeth Norris, Veletta Ogaz, Heather Emerson-Payne, Leslie Plumlee, Matt Pruitt, Beth Pyle, Dianna Ransdell, Mark Revels, Ron Rhoades, Jo Shackelford, Matt Shake, Joe Shankweiler, Christy Spurlock, Ajay Srivastava, Heather Strode, Lizabeth Price Sturgeon, Carol Watwood, Maribeth Wilson, Mary Wolinski, Allison Youngbood, Kandy Smith, Kara Lowry, Andi Dahmer, Molly Kerby, Sylvia Gaiko, Barbara Burch, David Lee, Eric Reed, Amber Scott Belt, Beth Laves

B. Reports - part I (non-standing committee and advisory in section F)

1. Chair – Eric Kondratieff

- Continuation of senate budget—same \$5885
- Very little carry over Kate used budget to pay for new senate room in Helm
- Audio Visual equipment purchased
- Room available for committee meetings
- Kate Hudepohl, Patti Minter, Eric Kondratieff had a meeting with President Caboni re: faculty welfare survey, Patti Minter will discuss when she gives the Faculty Welfare report
- President Caboni seems committed to faculty, ie re-issuance of the employee spouse tuition benefit
- Keep an eye on incremental changes coming forward
- Senate reception was well attended at President Caboni's house, Eric Kondratieff stated that he appreciated people showing up—successful and showed the strength of the faculty senate
- Staff council chair Greg Hackbarth, Staff Regent Tamela Smith met with Eric Kondratieff and Patti Minter to discuss developing practical initiatives to improve the WKU community; Andie Dahmer—Student Government Association president also met with Eric Kondratieff to discuss joint initiatives to increase inclusivity of students and to improve retention

2. Vice Chair – Liz Sturgeon

- Filling slots in subcommittees
- Needs to replace Mac McKerral's at-large seat in PCAL
- Faculty Welfare— still has regional campus and part time seats, drawing names from a hat at the next Senate Executive Committee
- College of Education and Behavioral Science needs two at-large senators— they have 4 seats, only 2 filled
- First committee meetings let Liz Sturgeon know who is elected as chair
- Faculty Regent election, don't have a lot of time, letters to faculty in progress
- Department faculty senators to look for the list for who can run and vote for the position
- Eligible faculty list coming soon, please look for errors and omissions
- Regent election guidelines are in the faculty handbook, senators have 24 hours to make corrections
- Elections mid-October no later than October 15
- Please check campus mail to see who is qualified to run

3. Secretary – Jen Hanley

- Use microphone
- State name
- Sign in

C. Committee Reports and Recommendations

1. Academic Quality: Kirk Atkinson (No report)

2. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities (FWPRC): Patti Minter (No report)

Patti Minter: No formal report, will hold first meeting in September

- Faculty Work Life Results: No confidential comments shared with faculty as per usual custom
- Reports on Senate website
- Very good meeting with President Caboni and outgoing President Gary Ransdell; shared the comments about Pres. Ransdell with Pres. Caboni
- New president is using the welfare survey as a roadmap moving forward and survey results provided the basis of a very good conversation
- Spousal tuition discount a good faith effort on the part of President Caboni, demonstrates he is listening to faculty
- Faculty have spoken loudly and clearly about their assessment of WKU
- Comment box on the survey is being used by FWPRC; will be using comments in the box to assess what faculty see needs to be done at WKU.
- FWPRC will be tasking out areas of concern to committees and various officials to have conversations about the survey
- New president is listening to us

3. Budget and Finance Committee: Claus Ernst - Immediate past chair, and Lauren McClain (Report posted; Endorsed by SEC)

First: Dan Clark

Second: Susann Davis

Voting Results: Unanimous

Notes:

Claus Ernst: Study done at the end of last year, 25% of faculty responded, 50% of respondents felt there were workspace comfort issues

- End of the report: 4 specific recommendations—where should they go? President is not the right place; senate needs to see where to send these recommendations
- Widespread dissatisfaction with current heating / cooling policy

McClain: in addition to what's posted, there are comments at the end of the survey—written down building by building

- Which buildings are the worst to help make strategic decisions moving forward
- McClain met with President Caboni yesterday—brought up the survey and results
- President Caboni—is willing to get a conversation going
- President Caboni is receptive to the fact that workspace is important
- Questions regarding the survey, ie methodology, etc., ask Lauren

a. [Report on Faculty Satisfaction Regarding Heating and Cooling of Facilities](#)

b. [Qualtrics Results on Heating and Cooling \(Faculty Survey\)](#)

4. Colonnade General Education Committee: Marko Dumancic - Immediate past chair (Report posted; Endorsed by SEC)

Marko Dumancic

- Summer committee to deal with transparency issues
- Addressing faculty concerns—new website—faculty resources page with applications and examples
- Meeting schedule and committee lists
- Re-designed to be more user friendly to students, parents, high school counselors
- Rack card and brochure to explain message and purpose more clear

First: Dumancic

Voting Results: Unanimous yes (No second needed because committee report)

Discussion:

a. [Report](#)

b. [Colonnade program brochure](#)

c. [Colonnade rack card](#)

5. [Graduate Council: Kristin Wilson \(Report posted; Endorsed by SEC\)](#)

Kirk Atkinson standing in for Kristin Wilson

Move to approve

Discussion none

Voting—unanimous ayes, no oppose

6. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Liz Sturgeon - Immediate past chair (No report)

7. Faculty Handbook Committee: Kate Hudepohl (No report)

D. Old Business

-Fully funding the senate, discussion deferred to Provost Lee; keeping track of older business

E. New Business

First: Kirk Atkinson

Second: Maribeth Wilson

Unanimous yes

1. [Policy 1.4034 Engagement Requirements for Hour of Credit](#)
2. [Policy 1.4130 Course Section Delivery Mode Definitions and Relationship to Distance](#)

F. Report - part II

1. Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership for Higher Education – Molly Kerby

Molly Kerby: COSFL advisory board for CPE, chair of senate, at-large, Board of Regents, 4 voting members per university

- Leadership committee, webmaster
- 12 years with COSFL
- Governor's conference 11-12 Sept in Louisville

-Anyone interested in COSFL let Molly know

- Festive conference—anyone who wants to join can talk to Molly

2. AAUP representative - Margaret Crowder—no report

3. Advisory:

- a. Faculty Regent – Barbara Burch

- Update, Board of Regents (BOR) has met regularly –summer retreat, emphasis on the president's address
- Noted the challenges of student and success and retention
- New officers—good things; Andi Dahmer new student regent
- BOR has studied and looked into professional development
- Wants more shared governance—president and board
- Board officers—Bale chair, Gil Johnson Vice Chair, Chair Finance, Freddie Higdon—Secretary, John Ridley—academic committee chair, passionate about academics, Julie Henson—Student Affairs
- Faculty Regent— is on the finance, academic committee, presumably the next faculty regent will also be on those committees, good opportunity to have faculty on finance committee
- President Caboni and shared governance, listener and works hard—committed to shared governance
- President Caboni wants to amend the process where traditionally you write resolutions and wait for responses from the president's office—not his definition of shared governance, more effective communication style, faculty leadership and senate
- Find resources to make the university better, talk with President Caboni and see what we can do
- Opportunity for the senate to begin to help define and re-define ways to engage with BOR, president, etc. to effectively achieve what we want
- Enhance communication

- b. Provost – David Lee

- Echoes the positive first impressions of President Caboni, off to an excellent start
Previously, provost-president relationship was mostly through the occasional phone call and e-mail
- President Caboni was praised for his effort to get outside the hierarchy

- Get new opinions, get acquainted with folks
 - Provost Lee and President Caboni— are having regular 1-hour meeting on Mondays at 11.
 - Change with Ransdell lots of meetings together but chance meetings
 - President Caboni more structured, more emails from Ransdell, more Tweets from President Caboni
 - Approachable and engaging
 - Good Ideas about the future of the institution
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- Numbers: meetings we are starting with 62 new full time faculty, not all tenure eligible, last year 41,
 - Number changed until last week
 - Enrollments—2 weeks ago they looked better, last 10 days not as good
 - Might be down 425-450 students
 - Returns are still coming in
 - No definite number or census data until the end of October
 - Down first time full time students—down 40 last year up about 70—numbers constantly in flux
 - Senate had asked for provost office to provide support for senate activities, Jessica Steenbergen has agreed to help out with university curriculum committee and grad curriculum and grad committee—good tech skills and efficient

c. SGA President – Andi Dahmer

- New student body president and regent
- Multiple meetings, 2 BOR meetings and BOR retreat
- Met with President Caboni—promoting more communication with students than President Ransdell in previous years
- Monthly SGA meetings with Caboni and more meetings with Provost Lee
- Wants to develop Collaboration between staff council, SGA, and Senate
- Deep conversations with faculty and staff pre-passing resolutions, promote shared governance
- Student persistence, retention and graduation the main theme of SGA
- SGA senate—sustainability and diversity—currently a sustainable bag program
- SGA absences because committee assignments have not been made

G. Information Items

***** Doug Smith Parliamentarian—Guest**

Motion to adjourn:

First: Marko Dumancic

Second: Liz Sturgeon

Time: 4:25 pm